

## Ellis Oyekola (Nigeria)

I was born in 1954 to a family of Yoruba wood carvers called AJIBOGUNDE in the western part of Nigeria, Ogbomosho. I had my elementary and part of my secondary education in Ghana, between 1966 and 1969. I came to Nigeria in 1970 to further my secondary and tertiary education. I am currently a painting lecturer in the department of art, design and printing technology, The Polytechnic, Ibadan Oyo State, Nigeria. I bagged my first degree in Painting from The Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria in 1985 and a master's degree in African studies (visual art) from The University of Ibadan in 1991, Ph.D in Art History from The Commonwealth Open University, British Virgin Islands, U.K. in 2013. I was the pioneer art teacher at the Local Authority Teachers College, Osogbo, before I joined the Polytechnic, where I am now a Senior Principal lecturer of painting and Art History. I was made a justice of Peace of Oyo State in 2000.

Between 1999 and 2001, 2007, 2009-12, I was the Head of Department. In 2006, I participated in art workshop in Egypt and in 2006 was artist in residence at Air Le Parc, Pampellon, France.

I have participated in different art exhibitions, art fairs and biennale such as PANAFEST

1997 AND 1999 and SIAO in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso 1998 and 2000. I have many articles in academic journals, twenty group exhibitions and six solo. I was in Atlanta, Georgia for artist in residence programme in 2009/10 and in Zambia for art workshop in 2010 (Insarkartists Workshop, Livingstone) My works are seen in private and public places which include World Bank Washington DC, USA. I am a fellow of Hambidge Centre for the creative arts and Virginia Centre for the Creative Arts all in USA. I am the Executive Director of Centre for Afrikan Art and Designs, Awotan-Apete Ibadan. I am happily married and blessed with children.

