

THE 2ND EDITION OF  
**EASTERN NIGERIA  
INTERNATIONAL  
FILM ENUGU 2021  
FESTIVAL**

The logo of the College of Immaculate Conception (CIC) is a shield-shaped emblem. The top left section contains a palm tree, the top right is white, and the bottom section is blue with a white dove in flight. A banner at the bottom of the shield reads "SEMPER FIDELIS".

The Film Club Alumni of the College of Immaculate Conception (CIC Enugu) wish ENIFF a successful 2nd Edition. The CIC Alumni are committed to improve education by building sustainable projects and supporting creative initiatives.

We look forward to a long term partnership with ENIFF.

Signed

**Nnamdi Maduekwe**

President, CIC Old Boys Association



# Thank You





# EASTERN NIGERIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

**50 FILMS**



15 COUNTRIES. 4 DAYS



**MASTERCLASSES**



WORKSHOPS



**6 INDUSTRY EXPERTS**



# Special Thank You

We would like to thank  
the following individuals  
for their donations and  
contributions to our  
festival

Chief Pete Edochie, MON | Amobi Agu | Uchegbune Temple Chinedum  
Amaechi Isaac Obiekwe | Emmanuel Okafor | Christal O  
Ubile Charity Lawson | Chike Okoye | MVP Benson Ejindu | Pascal Ike  
Nwachukwu Okeke | Nnamdi Maduekwe | Chief Chizoba Ojielo  
Ken Chigbo | Leo Edochie | Prince Ugo Orji | Chris Egejuru  
Alex Ibezi-Enendu | AVM Mike Iloenyos | Okey Ayola Obinwa  
Nelson Ifediora Iwegbu | Okey Nwokeabia | Ezekwugo John Amobi  
Oliver Nnona | Obinna Maduekwe | Barr. G.E.Ezeuko SAN | Ikem Ezeoba



# EASTERN NIGERIA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

## MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDERS

We warmly welcome you to the second edition of the Eastern Nigeria International Film Festival (ENIFF).

ENIFF is a non-profit event organized by the Eastern Nigeria Film & Arts Initiative. It is an annual gathering of storytellers, film lovers, producers, and creatives from all over the globe. We are inspired by the long history that the east of Nigeria has with Nollywood and the African Storytelling industry.

We established ENIFF to fill a void in the Southern region of Nigeria. We believe that Nigeria is too diverse with dynamic qualities and temperaments to settle for a centralized creative spot, which will all know is in Lagos State. Establishing a creative hub and engagements in the Eastern region will help foster a more robust entertainment sector across Nigeria and foster growth and development.

Our goal as founders is to create an incubation space to foster and grow young people in film and arts. The core of ENIFF's existence is to establish systems through which continuing creative training or education are sustained. This year, we are debuting ENIFF SCHOOL CLUB (ENSC). ENSC is a first of its kind. It is a secondary school initiative that brings basic film/arts modules and conversations to public schools.

ENIFF is debuting this program by facilitating workshop and film screening in a selected secondary school, the College of the Immaculate Conception (CIC) Enugu. We believe that a child's formative years are significant. Arts is proven to help young people broaden their worldview as well as improve social and community development skills.

We are setting up film clubs in select secondary schools starting with CIC and will include another school in February. We have already developed a robust curriculum, and we look forward to facilitating these conversations.

As we aim to strengthen our community through entertainment and educational content, we ask that you stay with us.

This year's edition will not be possible without our sponsors and well-wishers. We appreciate you. To the filmmakers that made it to our official selection, we say congratulations! Keep making those films and healing the world through your gifts.

Finally, the Eastern Nigeria International Film Festival (ENIFF) is yours just as much as ours, and we invite you to grow with us. The future is one of promise and possibility, and there is enough for us to share in it together.

Thank you, and stay safe.



## Ujuaku Akukwe-Nwakalor

Founder/Festival Director



@ujuakuakukwe

Ujuaku Akukwe is an international award-winning documentary filmmaker. Her working experience spans over 14 years in social work, documentation, and filmmaking. She is a recipient of the California State Legislature Assembly, the USA for her use of film in community engagement, and the Nigeria Women Entrepreneur Award for her commitment to parent education. She is a TEDx speaker and has spoken on different platforms both locally and internationally. Ujuaku is an alumna of the University of Nigeria, pan Atlantic University, and the New York Film Academy. Ujuaku's interest lies in building the identity of Africans through stories and culture.

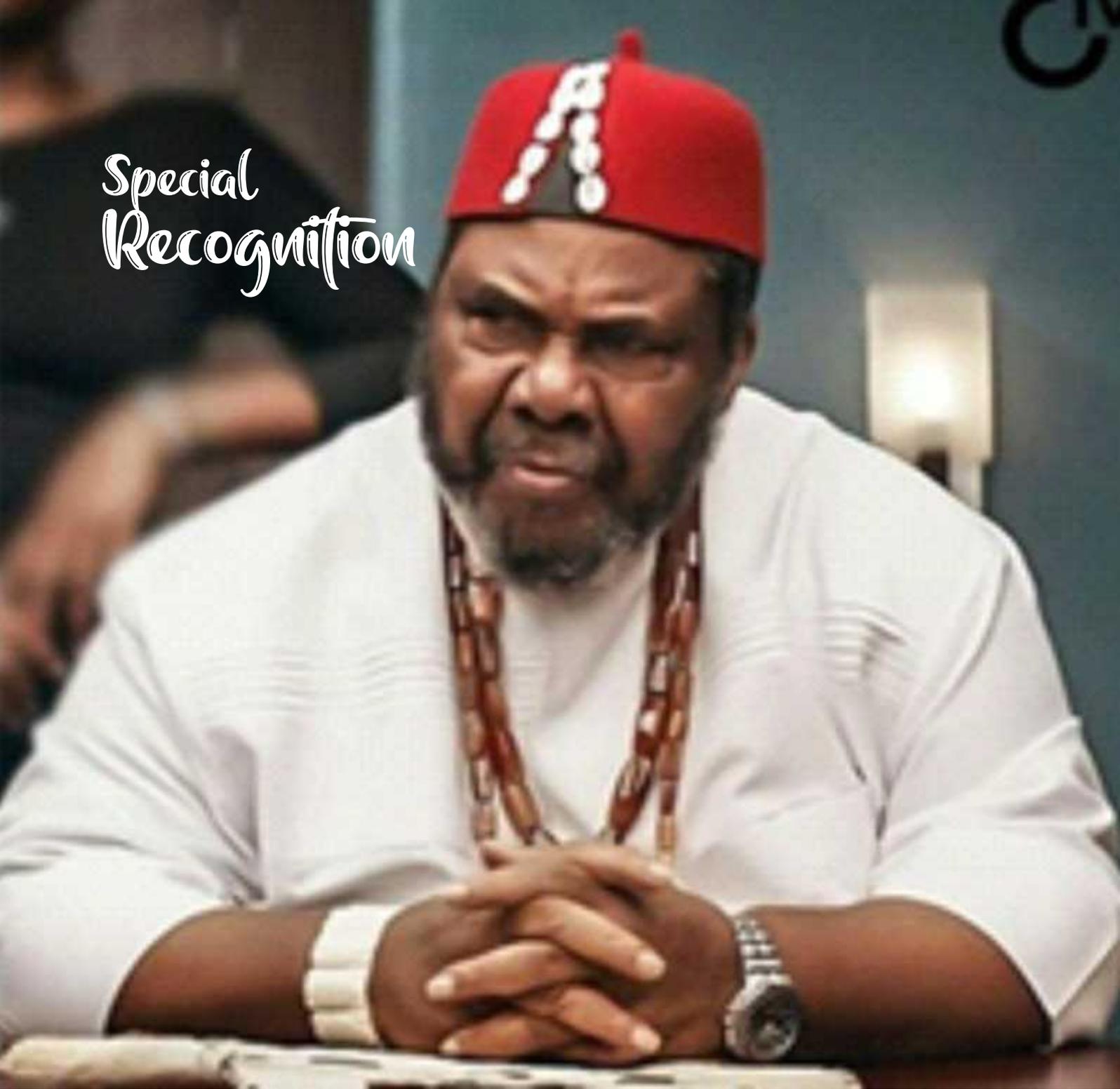


## Chris Odili

Co-Founder/ED

Chris is an experienced and multifaceted person with integrity. A pioneer student of the University of Nigeria English language (Drama stress), he has made his mark in the entertainment industry from 1985 to date. In 2003, Chris moved back to the UK and joined the world-famous Groucho club. In the Groucho he was key to the annual Gong show which was an array of artistes who performed for charity, and also a member of the Film club which preview films and provide constructive criticism. Currently, he is the operations manager, Control Risks Limited and has two documentaries and a Short film to his credit.

Special  
Recognition

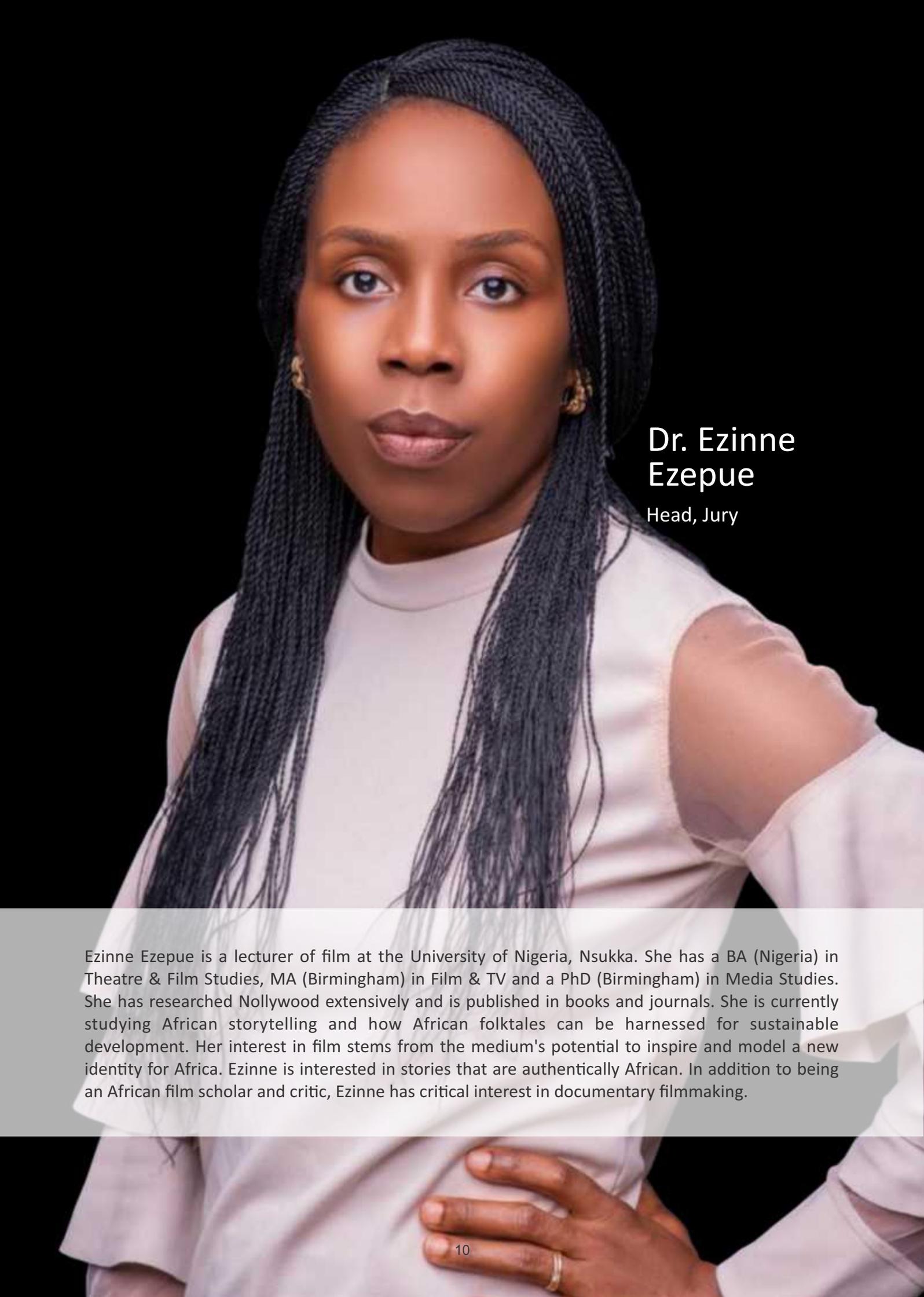


## Chief Pete Edochie, MON

Chief Pete Edochie, MON is a Nigerian actor. He is one of Africa's most talented actors, being honoured with an Industry Merit Award by Africa magic, Lifeme Achievement by Africa Film Academy, and many more awards. He was also honoured as a Member of the Order of the Niger (MON) by a former Nigeria president. Although a seasoned administrator and broadcaster, he came into prominence in the 1980s when he played the lead role of Okonkwo in an Nigeria Television Authority (NTA) adaptaon of Chinua Achebe's all-time best selling novel, Things Fall Apart.



# Meet the Team

A portrait of Dr. Ezinne Ezepue, a Black woman with long, dark braided hair, wearing a white, off-the-shoulder top. She is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The background is black.

## Dr. Ezinne Ezepue

Head, Jury

Ezinne Ezepue is a lecturer of film at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. She has a BA (Nigeria) in Theatre & Film Studies, MA (Birmingham) in Film & TV and a PhD (Birmingham) in Media Studies. She has researched Nollywood extensively and is published in books and journals. She is currently studying African storytelling and how African folktales can be harnessed for sustainable development. Her interest in film stems from the medium's potential to inspire and model a new identity for Africa. Ezinne is interested in stories that are authentically African. In addition to being an African film scholar and critic, Ezinne has critical interest in documentary filmmaking.



## Oba Kosi Nwoba

Project Co-Ordinator

Oba Kosi Nwoba is a documentarian and a cultural tub-thumper. He is the founder of Ozunu Films (a film and talent management company), serves as the managing partner of Filming Africa. He has worked with The Nollywood Factory (TNF) for years on different Film projects including the first Nigerian series on Netflix (Crazy,Lovely,Cool). His documentary film “Iko Ndu: the palmwine story” was nominated as the best Nollywood documentary at the 4th Toronto International Nollywood Film Festival. He has also worked on the translations of the 1900s documents/recordings by Northcote Thomas across Nigeria for the British Library.



## Dumebi Akukwe

Social Media Manager

Dumebi is a student and student ambassador of the Marist College, New York, United States. She is currently a junior pursuing a double major, Bachelor of Science degree in Economics and International business.



## Lorenzo Menakaya

Festival Manager

Lorenzo Menakaya is an award winning Nigerian on-air personality, actor, event host, filmmaker and singer. Lorenzo's powerful vocal presence earned him nominations for the On-Air Personality (OAP) of the year at The Future Awards Africa (TFA) 2011 and 2012; in 2016, he won the Nigerian Broadcasters Merit Awards for Best Radio Presenter (Midday Show) and Nigerian Fashion & Style Awards for Radio Personality of the year.

Lorenzo has starred in several Nollywood films and television series including a major role in "Crazy, Lovely, Cool" a TV series currently on Netflix produced by Trace TV and directed by Obi Emelonye. He produced his debut feature film titled "Ordinary Fellows" in 2019 and it has been screened in over twenty film festivals around the world winning Best Director award at the African World Film Festival in Michigan, USA. In 2021, he produced a feature film titled 'Other Side of History', a film that focuses on the life of Chukwuemeka Ojukwu between 1954 and 1960 before Nigeria's independence.

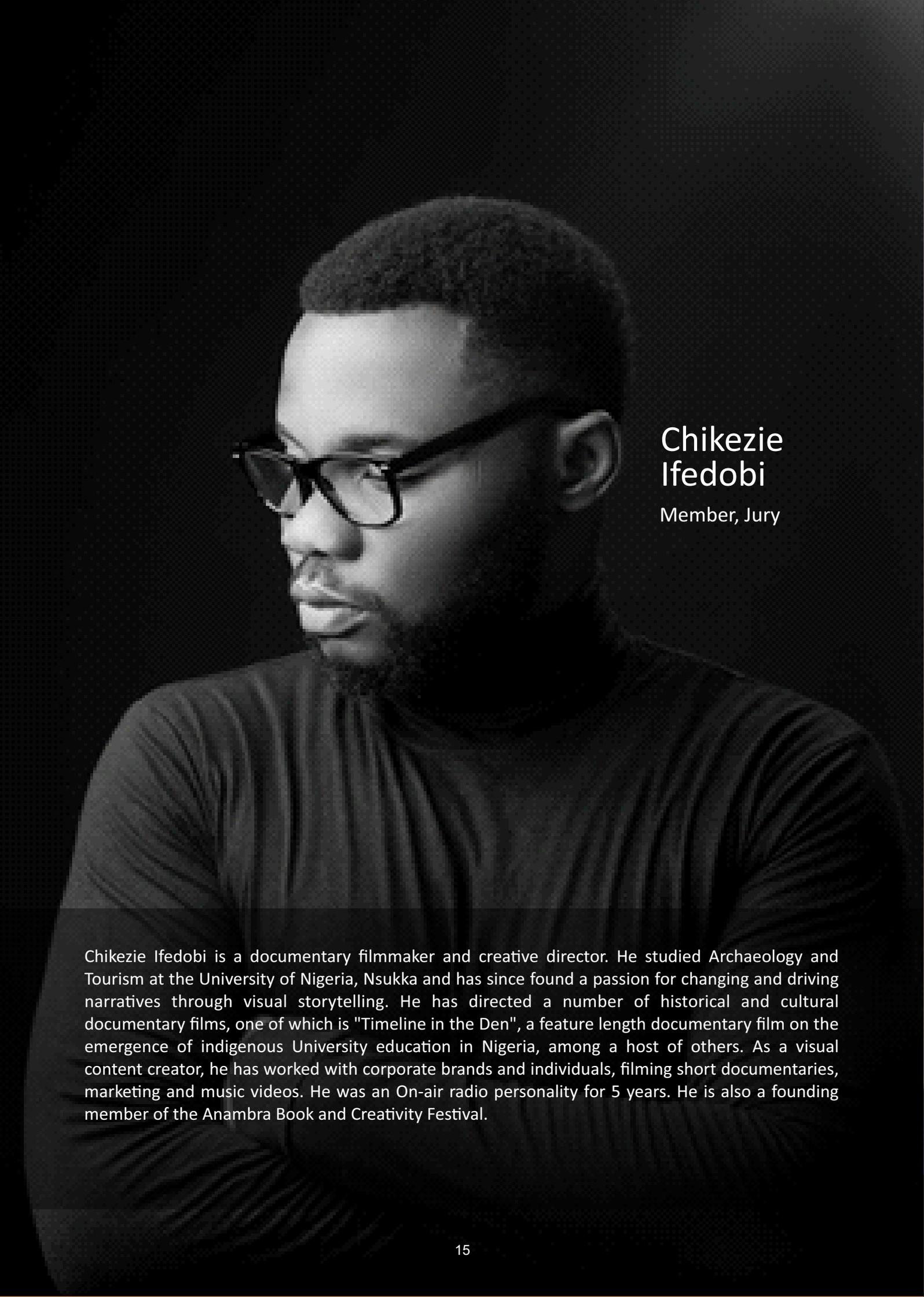
Lorenzo hosted the Africa Movie Academy Awards (AMAA) in 2019 and 2020. He is also a visiting lecturer with emphasis on Afrobeat and Afrobeats at the "Introduction to World Musics" class of the Department of Music at Spelman College, Atlanta, USA.



**Christal O**  
(Christal the G.A.W)

With an undergraduate degree in Journalism, and a Juris Doctorate in Law, Christal has managed to carve out a life for herself that embraces both her intellectual and her artistic gifts. She is the Chief Operating Officer & Chief Information Officer of the Charles Winnsboro Group, a legal & consulting firm at the forefront of enabling access to education, healthcare and financial services utilizing blockchain - across Africa, and especially in Nigeria.

With a passion for communications, Christal also utilizes her artistic talents as a voice over artiste, and works as an On Air Personality (OAP) with Dream 92.5 FM in Enugu, Nigeria, where she provides sociopolitical commentary on matters of interest to America, Nigeria, and sub-Saharan Africa.



## Chikezie Ifedobi

Member, Jury

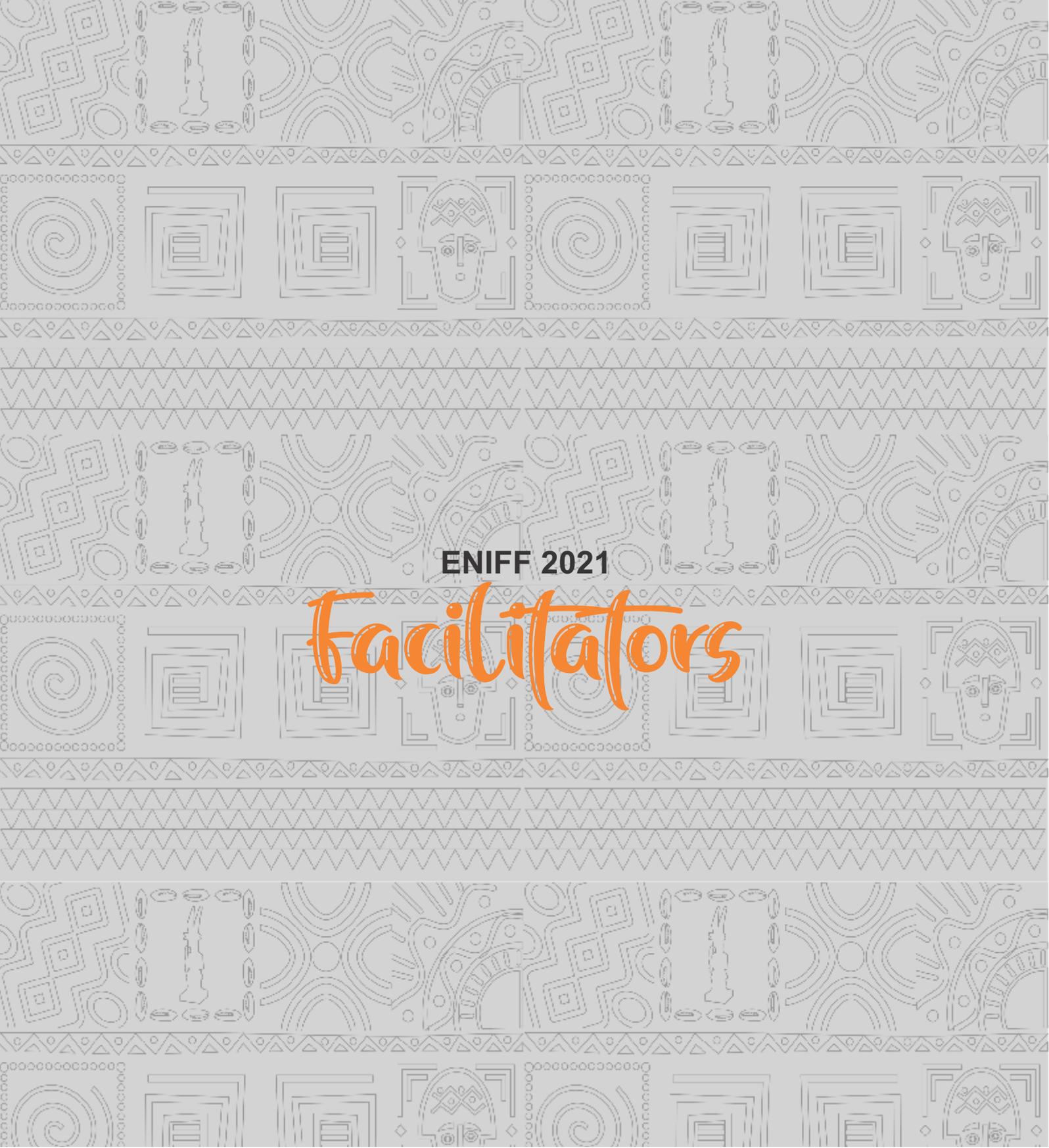
Chikezie Ifedobi is a documentary filmmaker and creative director. He studied Archaeology and Tourism at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka and has since found a passion for changing and driving narratives through visual storytelling. He has directed a number of historical and cultural documentary films, one of which is "Timeline in the Den", a feature length documentary film on the emergence of indigenous University education in Nigeria, among a host of others. As a visual content creator, he has worked with corporate brands and individuals, filming short documentaries, marketing and music videos. He was an On-air radio personality for 5 years. He is also a founding member of the Anambra Book and Creativity Festival.



**Olutoyin  
Aluko**

Member, Jury





ENIFF 2021

# Facilitators



**Teaching is the highest form of understanding.**

Aristotle



## Imoh Umoren

**Topic: FILMMAKING:  
AN ENTREPRENEURIAL MINDSET**

Imoh Umoren is an AMVCA-winning Film Director and TV Producer. He is listed as one of the leaders of the new generation of Filmmakers in Nigeria. He recently Produced launch shows for the new DSTV channel, Honey (Wawu, That's the Dress and Hoot Cook Go!). And is known for his critically-acclaimed Children of Mud which was nominated multiple times at the AMVCA. His Film Dear Bayo won 13 awards in various film festivals round the world in 2019. And his films have been a mainstay in festivals including Durban, Australia International Film Festival, American Black Film Festival and so many more. A daring filmmaker, Imoh made period piece The Herbert Macaulay Affair which was one of the headline films in the just concluded Nollywood Week, Paris and has been recently optioned by NBC/Universal. His new series Channel 77 has just recently been licensed exclusively by Glo for new platform. He has also concluded a new season of a gameshow for Supersport called Celebrity Fans Challenge

Imoh Umoren's credits include several commercials, reality shows like Project Fame, Who Wants to be a Millionaire, Malta Guinness Street Dance, Don't Forget the Lyrics etc and films like Lagos: Sex, Lies and Traffic (An Mnet Original), The Coffin Salesman, Club, The Happyness Limited etc. A thoroughbred professional, Imoh is known for his dedication and intensity when it comes to work.

# Amaka Anioji

**Topic: ACTING FOR TV/SCREEN & SCREEN WRITING-THE FUNDAMENTALS**

Amaka Anioji is a multiple award winning actress, a screen writer, content developer, producer and director. As an actress, Amaka has graced the big and small screens. She won the best actress in-short film festival 2012 and the Most outstanding actress Abuja International film festival, 2012. As a filmmaker she has worked with notable stars in the industry and has written produced and directed contents for: Lagos State Government, MTN, BAT, Abelinis LTD, Ebony life TV, Multi-choice/African magic, Expera Global, Wema Bank, Bedmate Furniture Nigeria, etc. She has written over 50 Screenplays. Enugu State Born Amaka Anioji is a graduate of Integrated Marketing communications from The Institute of Integrated Marketing Communications Nigeria, she holds a BA in History and International relations from Lagos State University and A professional content development and writing certificate for TV and Films. A few years ago Amaka Anioji toured several states in the USA as one of the Five Outstanding Women Entrepreneurs invited by the Department of State to participate in the International Visitor's Leadership Program. She is the Co-Founder and Creative Director of Acclaim Universal Studios (ACUV) a leading Film and TV production Studio based in Lagos Nigeria.





## Dr. Aaron Carter-Enyi

**Topic: Grant Writing for Creatives**

Aaron Carter-Enyi teaches at Morehouse College and Spelman College, two HBCUs in Atlanta, GA. He holds a PhD from Ohio State University (2016), was a Fulbright Scholar to Nigeria in 2013 and 2019, and is a 2017 fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). Recent scholarship appears or is forthcoming in *Africa*, *Ethnomusicology*, *Frontiers of Psychology*, *ISMIR Proceedings*, *Music Theory Online*, *Performance Research*, *Sounding Out!*, and *Tonal Aspects of Languages*. He is the director of the interdisciplinary *Africana Digital Ethnography Project (ADEPt, <[www.adept.africa](http://www.adept.africa)>)*, which has recently opened a center at the University of Nigeria, and he is currently developing an open source music visualization software, *ATAVizM (<[atavizm.org](http://atavizm.org)>)*. Aaron has completed four documentaries on Nigerian music that have been screened at international conferences including the International Council of Traditional Music, the Society for Ethnomusicology and the Society for MusicTheory.



## Barr. Ifeoma Onuike

**Topic: Intellectual Property/Copyright For Creatives**

Ifeoma Chinenye Onuike is an Associate with G. E. Ezeuko (SAN) & Co., a law firm in Nigeria with expertise in providing solutions in diverse areas of Law.

She is a research and intellectual property enthusiast, with focus on the legal framework and implementation of intellectual property laws/rights in Nigeria. She has consulted, advised and handled intellectual property briefs for topnotch creative and corporate organizations as well as individuals. She also has an interest in corporate/commercial, corporate governance and project finance.

She is a graduate of the prestigious Grine American University Cyprus, where she obtained her LLB with distinction and was outstanding as the best graduating student and Valedictorian of her set. She went ahead to achieve same feat from the same institution as the overall best graduating student in her masters degree program. Upon her return to Nigeria, she was called to the Nigerian Bar and has since been practicing and discharging projects in her area of focus and interest.

## Dr. Ezinne Ezepue

**TOPIC:**  
**African Folktales: Confronting Stereotypes  
and Deconstructing Black Identity**



## Ujuaku Akukwe-Nwakalor

**Topic:**  
**Documenting Historical & Cultural Stories**





MEET OUR  
*Filmmakers*



**Filmmaking is a chance to live many lifetimes**

— Robert Altman



Olivia Dazelle  
Almagro

**ALICITA: UNITED STATES**

Olivia Almagro is an Afro-Cuban-American and based in Miami, Florida, where she is principal owner of O+ Media Group. She is a public relations consultant, writer, digital content producer, and an adjunct professor. She has been recognized for several awards, including an Outstanding Women of America Award, Hartford Courant's Best Letters to the Editor of the Year Award 2008, and an Unsung Hero Award. Olivia Almagro is co-producer for 70 Years of Blackness: The Untangling of Race and Adoption, which was awarded and nominated for best documentary short in various film festivals. She also serves as advisors to the creators of Lil Ron Ron Animated Series on YouTube. She holds a B.A. in Mass Media Arts from Morris Brown College in Georgia, and a M.S. in Management from Albertus Magnus College in Connecticut.

**Director Statement**

I am elated to introduce Alicita to the film festival circuit. I think an animation short like Alicita is much needed in today's climate. Little girls and boys, particularly of color deserve to be empowered by images and characters that they can see themselves in.

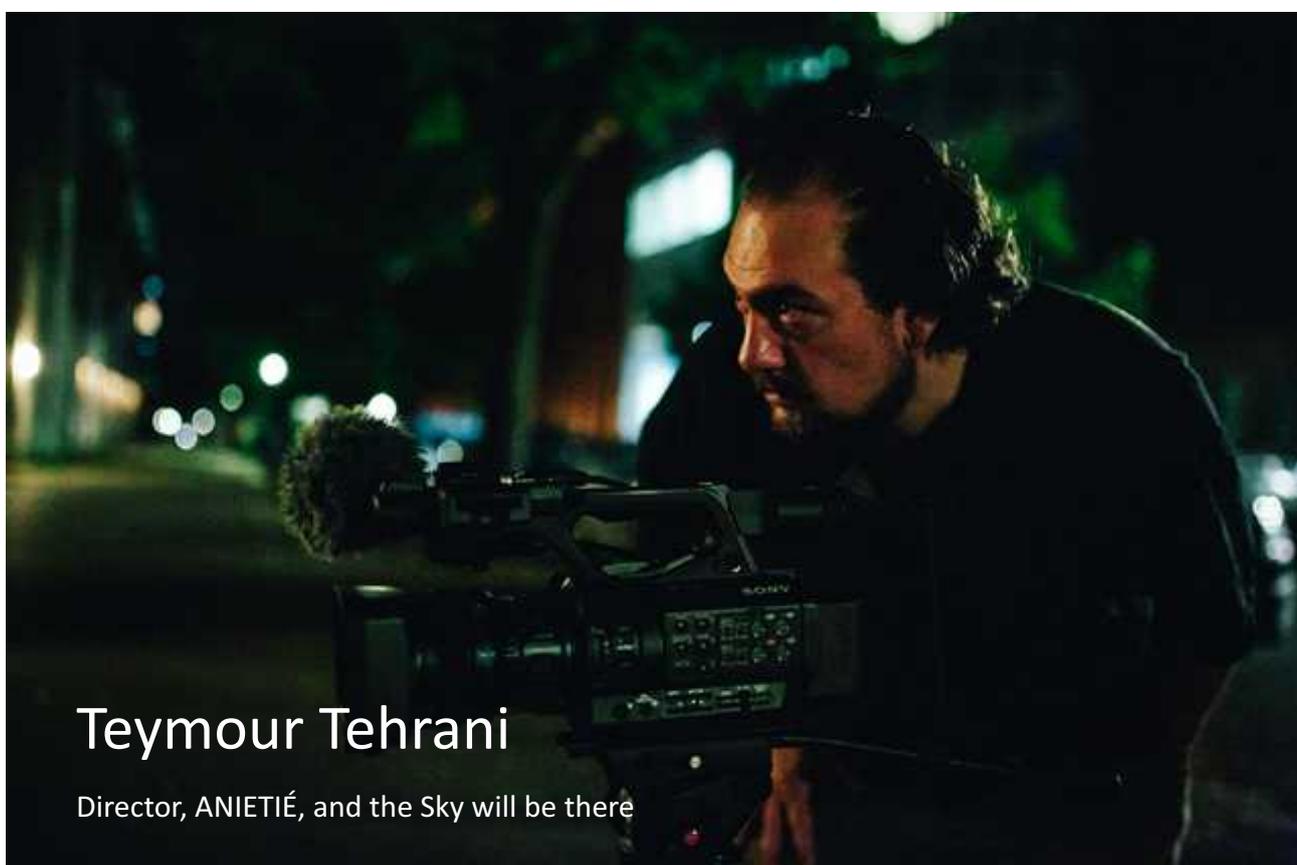


Cécile  
LENNE

Emeline  
ANNE

**ANAM:** FRANCE

Both 2nd year student at Rubika Animation (Supinfocom), Cécile and Emeline present here their first short movie.



Teymour Tehrani

Director, ANIETIÉ, and the Sky will be there



Angela  
Onuora

**THE FIRST CALL: CANADA**

Family dynamics can be as complex as the individuals who make up any given family. This film is about family dynamics but more importantly, it is about the paramount importance of mental wellness and finding the delicate balance between self-love and family.

Bringing this film to life required drawing from both lived (mine) and learned (others) experiences from childhood and adulthood in Nigeria. It is my desire that my audience connects with the story on a personal level and find encouragement to seek mental wellness and self-care above all else.

On behalf of the entire staff of Solotone Global Ventures Limited, we extend a hearty congratulations to Rotarian Steady Onome Idisi on his appointment as the 4th President of the Rotary Club of Portharcourt



**Solotone**  
GLOBAL VENTURES LIMITED

**OUR MISSION**

SOLOTONE is dedicated to providing the highest quality on electricity, mechanical and HVAC services at the best reasonable cost



**VISION**

To become the most reliable company within our field bringing satisfaction to its numerous clients

Solotone Global Ventures Limited specialises in Electrical, Mechanical, HVAC services and procurement. Our emphasis in the Oil and Gas region. Our company has over 20 years experience and we have earned a reputation for client satisfaction. Signed Leo Edochie CEO



Ane Siderman

**VERONA: BRAZIL**

Ane Siderman (1984) was born in Uruguaiana, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. In 2000 she moved to Florianópolis, where in 2002, begun the college of Cinema and Vídeo at Unisul University. In 2005 she went to Buenos Aires to study at the Universidad del Cine, where she made 2 curses: Tecnicatura and Licenciatura in Dirección Cinematográfica.

In 2011 she moved to Porto Alegre where started to work as producer and assistant director on several Production Companies.

Filmography: Ane Siderman has directed 14 short films, stand out: "Abelardo" (2012) won best documentary at Mecal Chile Film Festival and 39a Jornada Internacional de Cinema da Bahia, went to 40 festivals in 10 countries. "Drops of Smoke" won 32 awards and have been screened on more than 100 film festivals around the world. Also, has worked as coach/or/assistant director at the feature films: "Lord of Wars" by Tabajara Ruas, "Little Secret" by David Schurmann, "The pink Apron" by Jayme Monjardim, "Contretemps" by Edson Celulari; "World's West End", "Shadow's Surface" and "Your world isn't for my eyes" by Paulo Nascimento. As a producer she worked on several projects for cinema and TV, was executive producer of the feature film "Beyond us" by Rogério Rodrigues.

More information at [www.anesiderman.com](http://www.anesiderman.com)



Candice Onyeama

**BORN AGAIN & ONCE AN OLD LADY SAT ON MY CHEST: UNITED KINGDOM**

Candice is an award-winning Nigerian-British screenwriter and filmmaker. Her shorts have screened at film festivals around the world, digital platforms and television. Her most recent short film *BORN AGAIN* received an honourable mention at academy award qualifying Atlanta film festival and was a winner of Shooting People's New Shoots awards, with acclaimed director Sarah Gavron praising it as 'a beautifully directed film'. *BORN AGAIN* is listed on Mubi and positively reviewed on Letterboxed, it is also included in Film London's 2021 showreel. Candice's previous short *ONCE AN OLD LADY SAT ON MY CHEST* is currently screening on BFI player.

Candice recently wrapped directing 2nd Unit on BBC drama *SAS Rogue Heroes*. She is currently working on her debut feature *ANOTHER I*. She is represented by Casarotto Ramsay.



Frederick Hawthorne

#### **9 WIVES: UNITED STATES**

Emmy Nominated & Pan African Film Festival Award Winner, Along with Winning well over 10 Film Festival & being accepted into over 30 film festivals



Jan Beyen

#### **THE MONKEY BUSINESS: BELGIUM**

Belgian nationality Born in Ostend (Belgium) on 5th of May 1959

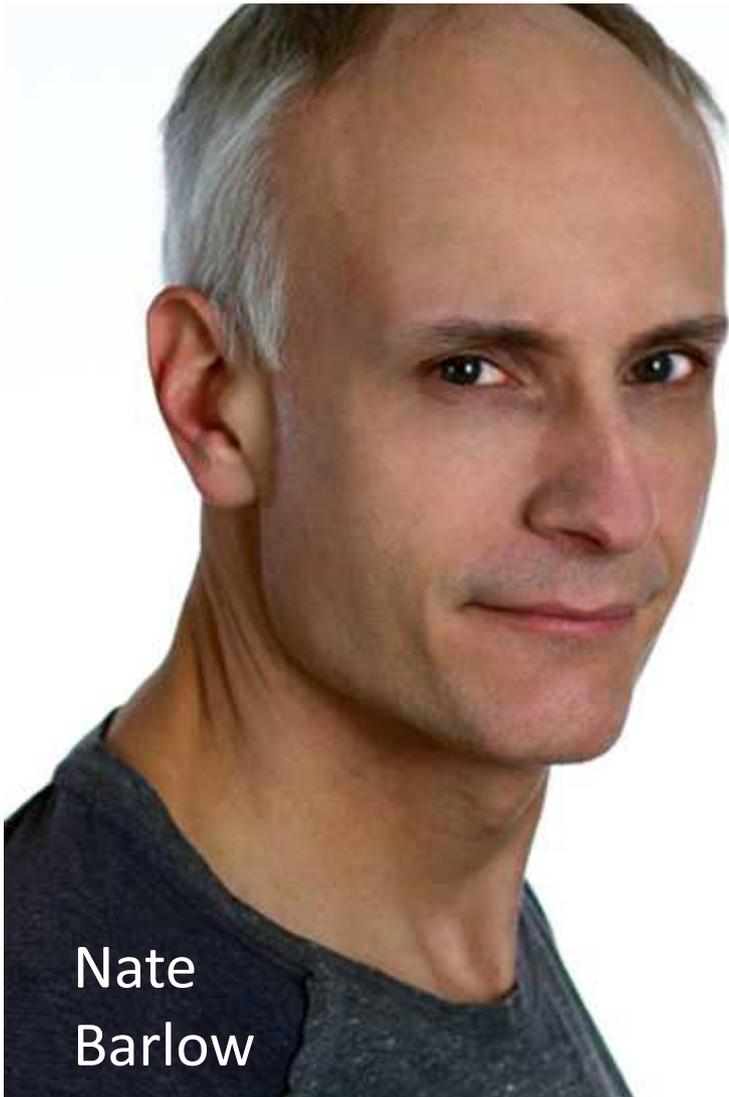
The director is a senior geographer at the Belgian National Geographical Institute, but he started his career as an immigration officer. He is married with a Latina woman and father of two children.

Filmography 2 social critiques in the form of animated shorts

1. Immigration (June 2016) : had 23 selections, 2 awards
2. Monkey Business (April 2021) : intends to do better

#### **Director Statement**

A thing of beauty is a joy forever (Keats)



Nate  
Barlow

#### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF HOLLYWOOD: UNITED STATES**

Nate graduated from Carnegie Mellon University with a degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering, but quickly rejected an engineering career to be a filmmaker in Los Angeles. He has since worn many hats in entertainment, from producer to writer, actor, director, and executive. Most recently he directed the experimental documentary "A Brief History of Hollywood," currently playing the festival circuit, and co-produced the feature documentary "The Water of Life" about the craft of scotch whisky. Previously he wrote the Meghan Markle-starrer "Random Encounters" and produced & directed "Tales From Beyond" starring Adam West, which won several awards on the film festival circuit.

#### **Director Statement**

When I first moved to Los Angeles, the Hollywood Sign meant very little to me: a sign and nothing more. I remained unimpressed until the first time I viewed the sign from within the Hollywoodland development for which it was initially built. Suddenly the sheer scale of the towering letters seized focus and I became fascinated with it. My subsequent research into the sign's history eventually inspired me to tell the tale of the Hollywood Sign in a truly unique manner that also encapsulates the industry and city it has come to represent. The sign truly is Hollywood's most famous resident.



Durotimi Akinkugbe

**ARTIFACT; NIGERIA**

Durotimi Akinkugbe, or DT for short, was born in Lagos, Nigeria; and is a young 3D Artist and Animator. He also finds writing in the 3rd person to be slightly uncomfortable.

**Director Statement**

I hope to create work that is both visually compelling, and provides others with food for thought. It is my aim that my films not only entertains, but provokes discussion, particularly on existential matters.



Obi-Eke Spurgeon

**BLIND DATE: NIGERIA**

Obi-Eke Spurgeon Chukwudi is 20 years old. A student in the university of Nigeria Nsukka. Has been an independent filmmaker since 2017 and has made few short films including BLIND DATE and one feature film KILL ME. Though they were all shot on a low budget he wishes to present the best to the world



## Thomas Ceulemans

### **Djibril's Forest: BELGIUM**

Thomas works both as a documentary filmmaker and as a film director. As he already filmed several human interest documentaries in countries like Tanzania, Myanmar, Brazil, Ghana, Honduras and even Papua New Guinea, the non-fiction world no longer has any secrets for him. In the world of fiction films, his experience ranges from the making of exceptional short films, video clips and even a feature animation film. For his most recent project - "La Forêt de Djibril", he collaborated with the Burkinabese organization 'Hommes et Terre'. This resulted in a captivating short film about the problem of desertification in West Africa.

### **Director Statement**

As a filmmaker I look for stories that can change the world. Since 8 years I am working on a trilogy about the importance of nature for mankind. First I made a feature-length animated film about a girl who has to save nature from its extinction. Then I filmed a documentary about the indigenous people of Brazil who are fighting not only for their own survival, but for the lives of everyone on this earth. With the fiction-short film 'La Fôret de Djibril', I end this trilogy with a very relevant contemporary film.

### **SCENARIO**

What really appeals to me about the story of 'La Fôret de Djibril' is that it gives a surprising insight into how the disastrous flows of refugees towards Europe originate. We start at the source of this problem, a small village in the Sahel, and go all the way to where the story ends catastrophically for many, in the Mediterranean Sea. This story, however, is not just an accusation as it provides answers to how these dramatic human flows can be overcome. It is a hopeful and positive story about a difficult and painful subject.

# DOLAPO IS FINE

A STORY BY  
JOAN IYIOLA & CHIBUNDU ONUZO



THE BUMBLE FEMALE FILM FORCE & WDW ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT AN APATAN PRODUCTION DOLAPO IS FINE  
DOYIN AJIBOYE, KATIE FRIEDLI WALTON, JOAN IYIOLA, LUKE GASPER, THAMILVANI UMAIPALAN WITH PAMELA NOMVETE, JOSEPH MYDELL, GINA MCKEE  
CINEMATOGRAPHER YINKA EDWARD EDITOR XANNA WARD DIXON PRODUCTION DESIGN ELAINE XU COMPOSER CHIBUNDU ONUZO COSTUME MARTELLE HUNT  
PRODUCED BY JOAN IYIOLA, MILLIE MARSH, CHIBUNDU ONUZO & JOSEPH BELL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ELISABETH HOPPER & AMY DOWD  
SCREENPLAY BY JOAN IYIOLA & CHIBUNDU ONUZO DIRECTED BY ETHOSHEIA HYLTON



APATAN  
PRODUCTIONS



Ethosheia  
Hylton

#### **DŌLÁPŌ IS FINE: UNITED KINGDOM**

London born actor, writer and director, Ethosheia Hylton is known for her work on *In the Silence* (2019), *Brixton Rock* (2018), *Lia* (2015), *Cutting Edge* (2014) and *Small World* (2013). In 2018 Ethosheia was presented the inaugural European Academy Gold Fellowship For Women. The award, sponsored by Swarovski, offered a year-long mentorship scheme from the Academy.

Driven by stories from untold voices and about community and culture, Ethosheia's work *Brixton Rock*, an adaptation of award winning author Alex Wheatle's book of the same name, is being turned into a feature film. She is currently directing *Ackley Bridge* (TV Series on Channel 4).

#### **BIOGRAPHIE DE ETHOSHEIA HYLTON**

Née à Londres, Ethosheia Hylton est connue pour son travail sur *“In the Silence”* (2019), *“Brixton Rock”* (2018), *Lia* (2015), *“Cutting Edge”* (2014) et *“Small World”* (2013). En 2018, Ethosheia reçoit la première European Academy Gold Fellowship For Women. Ce prix, sponsorisé par Swarovski, offre un programme de mentorat d'un an au sein de l'Académie. Ethosheia adapte actuellement en long-métrage *“Brighton Rock”*, le roman éponyme d'Alex Wheatle, inspiré par les récits de voix opprimées. Elle réalise actuellement *Ackley Bridge* (Série télévisée sur la *“Channel 4”* au Royaume-Uni).



Joan  
Iyiola

#### **DQ̄LÁPQ̄ IS FINE: UNITED KINGDOM**

Joan Iyiola is an actress, writer and producer.

Joan is co-founder of Apatan Productions, a Film and TV production company based in London and set up in 2018. Joan co-wrote, produced and featured in DQ̄LÁPQ̄ IS FINE, which was shot under Bumble's Female Film Force Fund. The film was delivered in Jan 2020 and premiered at American Black Film Festival where it won the 2020 HBO Short Film Competition. The short was recently seen at 64th BFI LFF, along with a range of festivals worldwide. DQ̄LÁPQ̄ IS FINE has been acquired by Netflix and HBO. TV projects in development include TALAWA, THIS IS NOT MY EXPERIENCE and WHATEVER HAPPENED TO INTERRACIAL LOVE and feature film BLUE EYED SOUL.

As an actress, Joan's credits span film, television and theatre including roles in Enterprise S1&2 (BBC), Black Earth Rising (BBC/NETFLIX), New Blood (BBC/NETFLIX), Tree (Young Vic, Kwame Kwei-Armah and Idris Elba) and the title role of The Duchess in The Duchess of Malfi for The Royal Shakespeare Company.

Joan was recently named as one of Digital Spy's 30 Black British Stars of Tomorrow. Joan is Co-Founder of The Mono Box, a non-profit organisation supporting emerging artists in theatre and film. Joan is represented by Olivia Gray at Independent Talent for writing and by Ikki El-Amriti at IAG for acting.



Carla Zickfeld

### **Dust and Dignity - African Lessons: ITALY**

Carla Zickfeld is a civil engaged artist, cultural operator and specialist in German Literature Science. Since 1987 she is engaged in interdisciplinary and international cultural projects and collaborates with Stefan Karkow, likewise a civil engaged sculpture with formation in Fine Arts and Visual Communication. In Italy, the German artist couple has founded the international and interdisciplinary cultural project "Progetto Civitella d'Agliano" and directed for 20 years (1986 - 2006) - a European Center for the Integration and Communication of the Arts – awarded by the European Commission with the Price "Europe of Culture" - [www.progettotuscia.org](http://www.progettotuscia.org) - Active involved since 2009 in initiatives for the people of the sea – has been created in the same year by the initiative of Carla Zickfeld the project "Mare Nostrum - Space for Dialogue and Diversity - People of the Sea in Times of Change and Uncertainty" with exemplary field-researches in West Africa and especially in Senegal - about the culture of the people of the sea, transmitted until today essentially only in oral manor, that is highly threatened by globalization, the crisis of fisheries, and not least by emigration - [www.marnostrum.net](http://www.marnostrum.net)

### **Director Statement**

The presented documentary is a synthesis of the journey, that happened in the context of the "Mare Nostrum Project", a project that aims to strengthen cultural identities. Very soon our investigations had focused on women in fisheries and their role in society. In the traditional fishing communities, women to this day hold not only the family and so the social community, but can be seen also as the key to economic development, thanks to the matrilineal model, which is inherent in this society next to the patriarchal and ancestral one. So we have to develop a holistic vision on the substance of their society to understand their role.



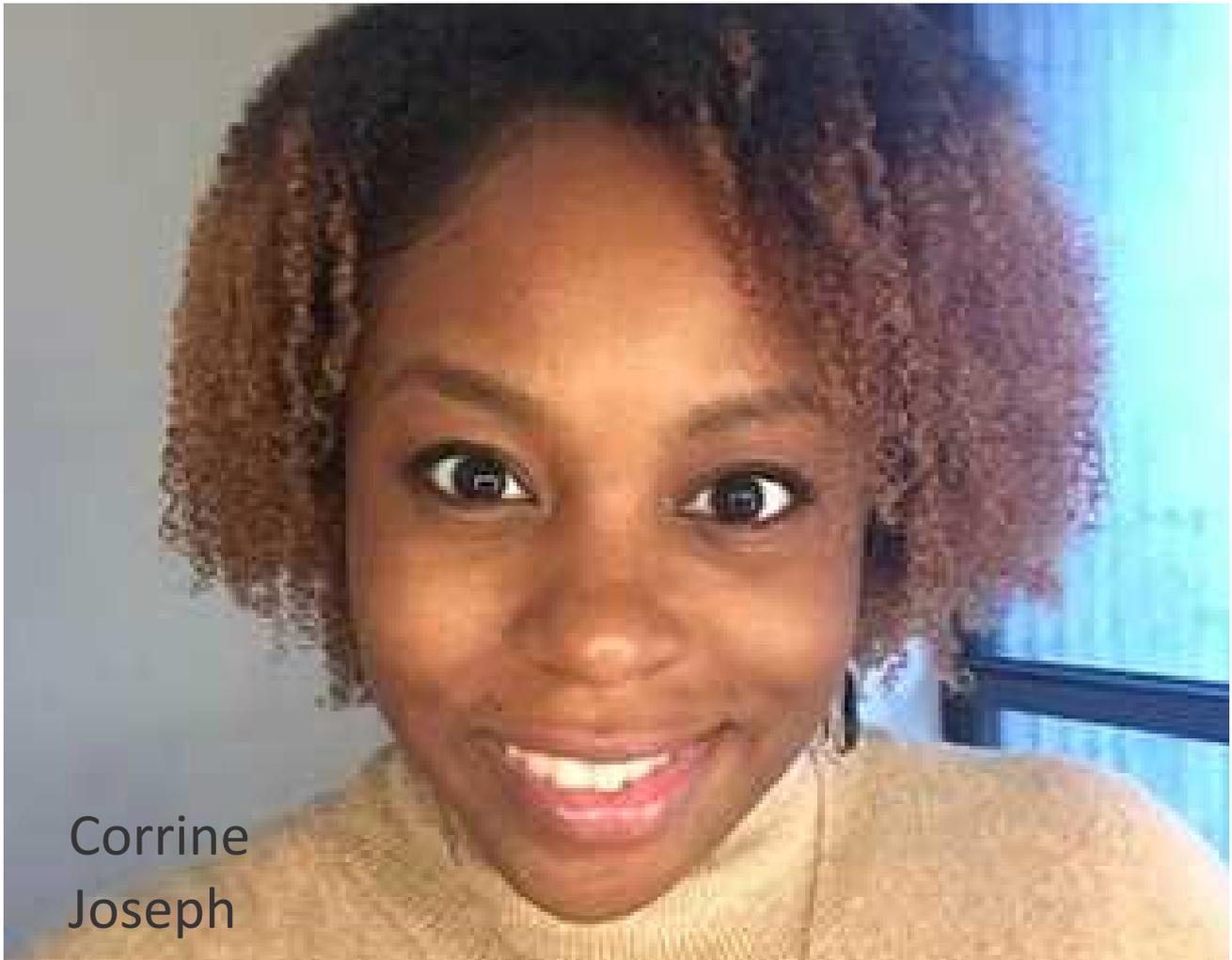
Okeremute  
Ovuorho

#### **FREE TO FLY: NIGERIA**

Okeremute Ovuorho is an animator and a cinematographer. He worked in various media organizations including BBC Media Action in Nigeria. He attended several animation workshops organized by The French Institute of Nigeria and the German embassy. He is the winner of the Nigeria Film corporation competition in script writing for the animation child film project. His animated movie titled "Lake Kabula" won the best film in nature/environment /wildlife in the Tagore International Film Festival 2020.

#### **Director Statement**

I love what I do. I hope to do more.



Corrine  
Joseph

#### **FRENCH CLUB: CANADA**

Corrine is a first time Haitian-Canadian writer and director. She is bilingual and fluently speaks both French and English. She was born in Montreal, Canada, where she was raised in a Christian household and introduced to Theatre at an early age. She then spent all her teenage years acting and reading romantic novels. She has a Theatre Arts diploma from Algonquin College and an Honors Bachelor of Arts specialized in Communications from the University of Ottawa. In January 2021, she graduated from the Toronto Film School with a Film Production diploma. She is also an avid traveler and loves languages.

#### **Director Statement**

I'm excited to share the story in French Club because it is relatable. We've all been high school students with peculiarities and insecurities of our own. I believe it is those same odd passions and eccentricities that make us interesting as people. They give us character and help us create stories worth telling. Despite the insecurities that we have about ourselves and the rejections we may go through there is intrinsic value in our individuality however it is manifested. What's more, there will always be someone who appreciates us for who we are. This is a celebration of the odd and quirky as expressed by the life and passions of a teen



Lara Lee

**FROM TRASH TO TREASURE:  
turning negatives into positives in  
Lesotho: UNITED STATES**

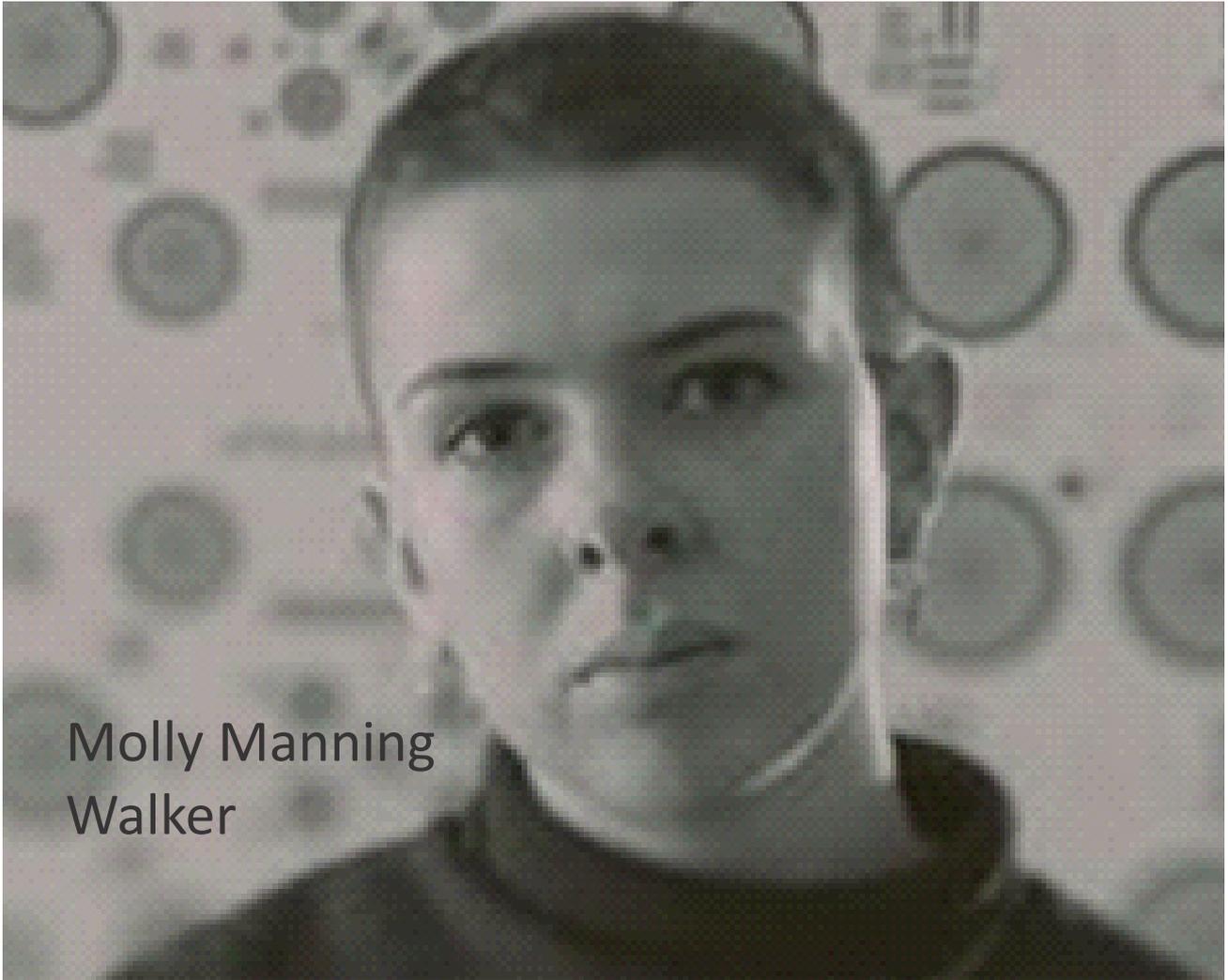
Lara Lee, a Brazilian of Korean descent, is an activist, filmmaker, and founder/director of the Cultures of Resistance Network, an organization that promotes global solidarity and connects and supports agitators, educators, farmers, and artists to build a more just and peaceful world through creative resistance and nonviolent action.

As a filmmaker, Lara has directed/produced several full-length documentaries and dozens of short films over the past three

decades. You can find her complete filmography [here](#).

Her latest film, entitled 'FROM TRASH TO TREASURE: turning negatives into positives,' is a short documentary that showcases a spirit of reimagination among artists in Lesotho and was re-released in July 2020. In June 2020, she began releasing 'DISPATCHES FROM MALAWI,' a series of short films about how proactive Malawian citizens spread hope through arts and culture, sports, and ecology, while engaging with critical social and political issues and promoting international solidarity. 'STALKING CHERNOBYL: exploration after apocalypse' (2020) examines the underground culture of the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone three decades after the world's most infamous nuclear disaster. In 2019, she released 'WANTOKS: dance of resilience in Melanesia,' which highlights the Melanesian performers who are using their talents to celebrate local culture and draw international attention to their islands' fights against climate change and colonization, with West Papua resisting Indonesian occupation and the residents of New Caledonia still living under French rule. Her other recent documentaries were shot in West Africa: 'BURKINABÈ RISING: the art of resistance in Burkina Faso' (2018), about the intersection of art and politics in Burkina Faso, and 'BURKINABÈ BOUNTY: agroecology in Burkina Faso' (2018), which chronicles agricultural resistance and the fight for food sovereignty in Burkina Faso. She currently has two other projects in post-production: 'THE SAMI SONG OF SURVIVAL,' a short documentary about indigenous resistance on the Arctic frontier, and 'EXISTENCE IS RESISTANCE: The Sami in Russia,' a short documentary highlighting the ways in which one of Russia's smallest ethnic groups is finding new methods of persevering and preserving its culture.

Lara is a long-time supporter of Greenpeace, Doctors Without Borders, Amnesty International, and many organizations around the world through the Cultures of Resistance Network Foundation.



Molly Manning  
Walker

#### **GOOD THANKS, YOU?: UNITED KINGDOM**

Molly Manning Walker is a cinematographer and director based in London and graduate of the NFTS. As cinematographer, her graduation film November 1st took Bronze at the Student Academy Awards, and Molly was nominated at Camerimage in 2019. Her directorial debut, Good Thanks, You? is part of the 2020 Semaine de la Critique support programme and will screen online as part of Palm Springs Shortsfest, BFI London Film Festival and Encounters. Molly's debut feature is in development with Film4. Molly is represented for Directing by Independent Talent.

#### **BIOGRAPHIE DE MOLLY MANNING WALKER**

Molly Manning Walker est directrice de la photographie et réalisatrice, installée à Londres, et diplômée de la National Film & Television School (NFTS). Son film de fin d'études, November 1st, a reçu la médaille de bronze aux Student Academy Awards, et Molly a été nommée aux Camerimage 2019. Son premier film en tant que réalisatrice, Good Thanks, You? , fait partie de la Semaine de la Critique 2020, et sera projeté en ligne dans le cadre du Palm Springs Shortsfest. Son premier long métrage est en développement chez Film4. Molly est représentée par Independent Talent pour sa carrière de réalisatrice.



Hilda Awori

#### I WON'T KNEEL: UGANDA

The considerable difference in how the girl-child and the boy child are raised in many African homes is largely attributed to patriarchy. This documentary film explores the logic behind patriarchy through the lens of a cultural practice that is women and girls knelling down while greeting other members of the society-a treasured custom among my people-the Japadhola of Eastern Uganda.



Philippe Talavera

KAPANA: NAMIBIA

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A portrait of Elvira Lind, a woman with long blonde hair and bangs, wearing a dark top. The background is dark and moody.

## Elvira Lind

### THE LETTER ROOM: UNITED STATES

Born in 1981 in Copenhagen, Elvira Lind graduated from The School of Media and Creative Arts in Cape Town where she majored in Documentary Film. She received two awards for her final year achievements. Since then, she has made a career working in the field, directing and shooting documentaries of various lengths for Television, Cinema and Web.

Elvira's feature documentary "Bobbi Jene" premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2017. It won all awards in its category: Best Documentary Feature, Best Cinematography in a Documentary Feature and Best Editing in a Documentary Feature. It also won Best Documentary Feature award at the Philadelphia Film Festival and competed for best feature doc at a long line of festivals including: BFI London Film Festival, Visions du Réel, Hong Kong International Film Festival, Docs Barcelona, Cinema Eye Honors, Bratislava International Film Festival, The Danish Film Academy Awards, Tel Aviv Doc and more. The film was subsequently released in Cinemas in the US by Oscilloscope, as well as in theaters across Denmark, Sweden and Spain. It is now available on Netflix.

Elvira's first documentary feature "Songs for Alexis" premiered in Toronto at HOT DOCS in 2014. It competed at a long line of International film festivals across the world and was later released on TV and iTunes. In 2015 Elvira received the Reel Talent Award at the Copenhagen Documentary Festival for her work. Her first International doc TV series "Twiz and Tuck" was launched on VICELAND in 2017. Elvira currently lives and works out of New York and is writing and developing fiction and documentaries projects. "The Letter Room" is her fiction debut.



Willa Cofield and  
Karen Riley

#### THE NINE O'CLOCK WHISTLE: UNITED STATES

Willa Cofield is a retired educator with deep roots in Enfield, North Carolina.

Cofield researched and documented the history of the Joseph Keasbey Brick School and Junior College, a Black school that operated in North Carolina from 1895-1933.

She organized a photographic exhibit, "Answering the Cry for Life and Liberty," and produced an award-winning documentary The Brick School Legacy (2003) with Scribe Video Center in Philadelphia.

Recipient of numerous awards, Cofield is currently collaborating with a few of her former Enfield High School students writing a companion text to The Nine O'clock Whistle film about the impact of the 1960s on their identities as youth cultural workers. Cofield is 92 years young. She has a daughter, Tanya Watson; two granddaughters, Erika and Korey, and two great-granddaughters, Maliyah and Skye.

#### Director Statement

If we don't tell our story, people will never know what happened in Enfield, NC.



Udoka Oyeka

LISTEN: NIGERIA



#### **KATAKATA: NIGERIA**

Newton Barabara is the Chief Executive Officer in Newton Barabara Studios LTD, based in Enugu State, Nigeria. Newton is an Executive Producer, Director, Producer, Screenwriter, Actor, Voice Over Artist, Sound Engineer. Some of the works he has Directed and produced in Nollywood are Unacceptable and currently Katakata. His screenplays include Eye For Eye, Stupid, The Burning Will, The Seminarian, Unacceptable and Katakata.

He directed, produced and wrote a TV drama series on health and social issues for behavior change (Do Something) for UNICEF Enugu, Nigeria. He has also produced documentaries, radio drama, jingles, Short Films and Theater For Development projects for UNICEF, Population Media Center, Women For Women International, DFID, USAID, State Government and other International Development partners. He has collaborated with International partners to develop Media Materials for positive behavior change. His mission is to use storytelling and films to bring about positive behavior change in our society. He was a Former South East Zone Co-ordinator Directors Guild of Nigeria He is from Okorotomu in Kolokuma/Opokuma LGA in Bayelsa State. He attended Colorado Film school.

#### **Director Statement**

At a time when honesty is thrown to the dust, some remnants still stands to uphold what is right. This is the story of a man highlighting the core values of a true Nigerian via honesty, high principles, industry, dynamism, frankness and truthfulness. The film teaches the youths who are the future leaders of tomorrow to exemplify the ideal Nigerian, who will continue to express these core values no matter the circumstances. I am passionate in using stories to bring positive behavior change which I strongly believe this film will inspire generation to come.



Enow  
Bismack  
Mpoun

**MONA: CAMEROON**

Enow Bismack Mpoun is a 25 year old Cameroonian Writer /actor and Director. Currently a student at the university of Buea South West Region of Cameroon studying for a Bachelors decree in sociology and anthropology and a Diploma in Performing and visual Arts. He has a strong passion for filmmaking and has taken part in the production of several online sensitization content, and also some short films like BELTHA and CIARA and also a feature film REINCARNATION shot in Nigeria.

**Director Statement**

The motivation behind the short film MONA is the continues and repeated cases of sexual assault and domestic violence occurring everyday in Africa and Cameroon in particular, it is a phenomenon that has eaten deep into the society, that people turn to blame the victims as the cause of their own misfortune. The girl child is the most vulnerable and MONA is a typical example of such an abused child with the abusers often being close family members. these victims are often cut up with either to speak up and face the stigma or stay silent and save the families reputation. The vision of this short film MONA is to sensitize the society on who is to blame between the victim and the abuser. To educate people to know that it is never the victims fault. MONA also targets to help victims learn how to speak up and also give them hope that healing will come, and also to let society know they have a strong role to play if we must check sexual and domestic violence.

## Oladipo O'Fresh



### **NO1: NIGERIA**

Multiple Award winning Faithbased Film Director and Cinematographer with Exceptional multitasking abilities, who has had the honour of working with and learning from some of the smartest people in the Nigerian Film Industry.

Leader of a team of more than 20 young creatives, specializing in various film departments. Working primarily on independent films and documentary projects with special interest in smartphone filmmaking and cinematography. Always willing to collaborate and work together with other creatives

Oladipo O'Fresh is the ceo of freshpromultimedia, a photography and film post-production studio based in ibadan, Nigeria.



## **NOTHING IS HERE: TAIWAN**

Kaiyun Yang, usually goes by Kyky, is a Taiwanese story artist located in Los Angeles. She is currently studying character animation in California Institute of the Arts. Her former animation work includes feministic short "Go Nuts," lesbian short "Tango," and pandemic related short "Zoom." She is also a comic artist on social media, presenting her life to the world through comic slides.

### **Director Statement**

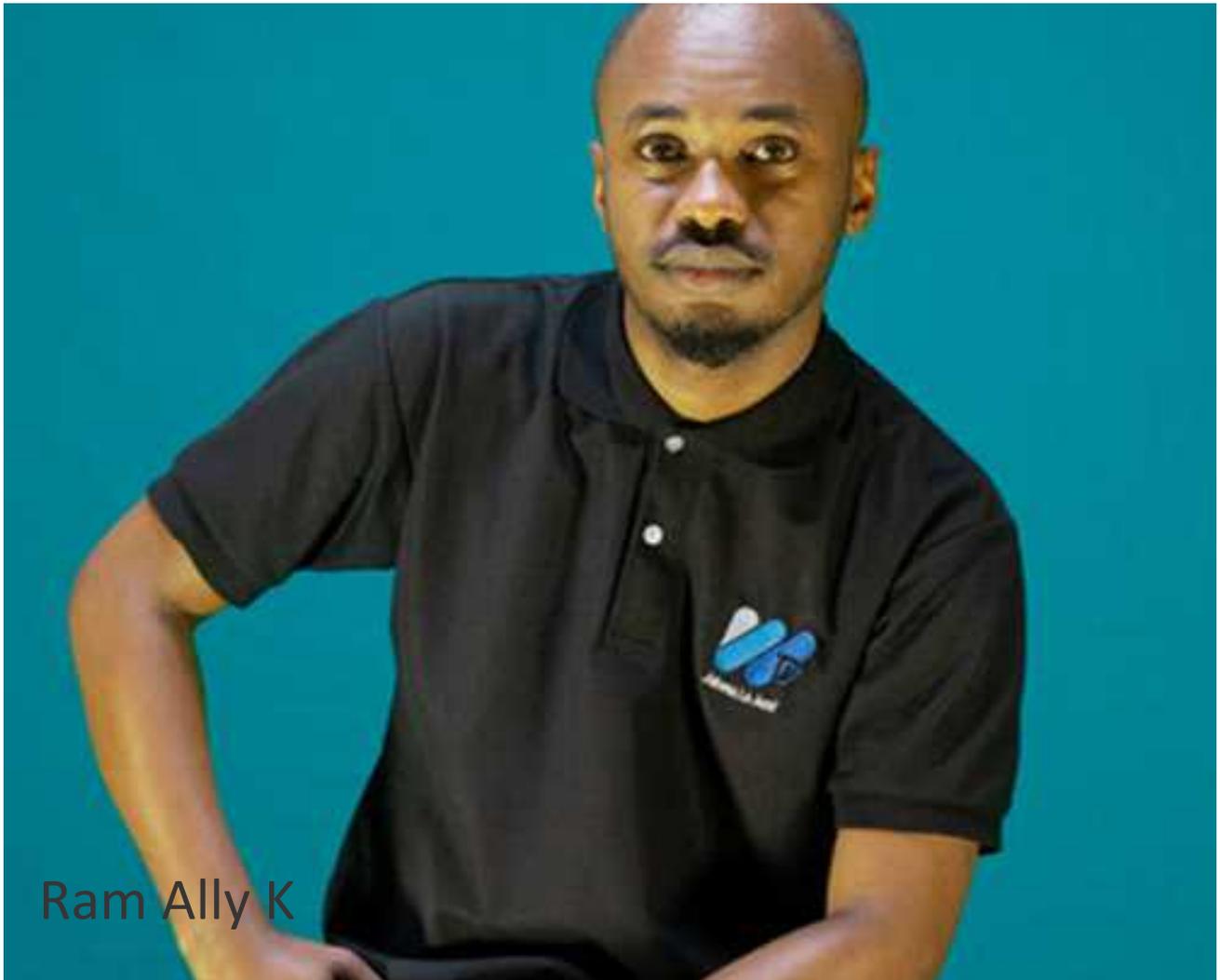
"Nothing Is Here" is a film that makes the emptiness, negative space or the so called "ying" into a comprehensible character. It deals with the duality and wonder between existence and non-existence.



Good food brings nourishment not only to  
our bodies but to our spirits.  
To Feed people is to love and honor them.  
To eat a good meal is the truest form of self love.  
It's on this premise that Ollarica was born....



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### **NYARA "The Kidnapping": TANZANIA**

RAM ALLY K. He is a Tanzanian Writer and Director of Films who officially started his career in 2011. Before entering to the Film Directing he started acting when he was in school.

The first movie called SUBIANI as the main character in which he was able to meet the great artists of the period such as Riyama Ally, Jackline Wolper and Yusuf Mlela.

And He studied at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) for a course in Fine and Art Performance in the field of Film Production Diploma from 2008 to 2010.

He had the opportunity to participate in a workshop training at the Ziff (Zanzibar International Film Festival), under the of the cinematographer and Producer called Barry Braverman from the United States. [www.barrybraverman.com](http://www.barrybraverman.com)

His latest film in which he has been heavily involved called NYARA "The Kidnapping" came out in December 2020 as the Director and Writer of the film which has done well in Tanzania on TV station headlines and Social media platforms than any other movie ever made in Tanzania.



Francesco Del Grosso

ON THE FRONT LINE: ITALY

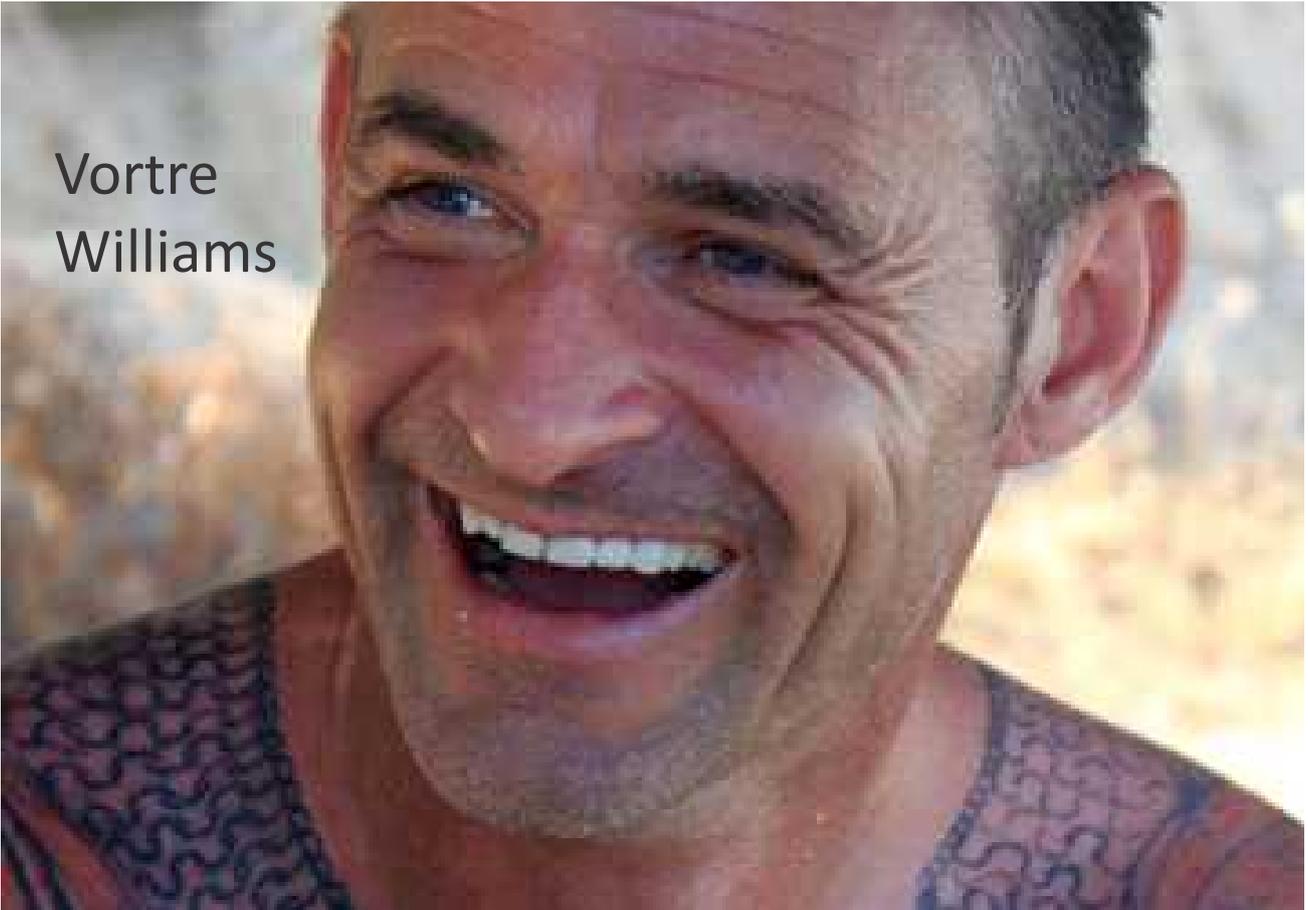


Hovig  
Hagopian

**STORGETNYA: FRANCE**

Hovig Hagopian was born in 1994 in Paris, France. After studying cinema at the Sorbonne Nouvelle, he entered in 2016 La Fémis film school where he studied cinematography. **STORGETNYA** is his graduation film.

Vortre  
Williams



## **ONE DAY AT A TIME: UNITED KINGDOM**

### **Director Statement**

My life journey has taken me from climbing out of a taxi into a special needs school to climbing out of a limo as an actor at Cannes!

I have experienced great personal sorrows and many wonderful joys, all of which have enabled me to have empathy with many varied people in many varied circumstances and situations which i believe has allowed me to create this debut film.

I fell into the wonderful world of film making by default and it gave me the courage to change my life.

ONE DAY AT A TIME! demonstrates how our thinking patterns can lead us into a life of drugs, alcohol, mental illness and dysfunctional behaviour.

It offers the viewer an insight into the reality of those battling to recover from unwell thinking patterns or addictions and shows us that by changing our thought processes WE CAN CHANGE OUR LIVES!

ONE DAY AT A TIME will resonate with a worldwide audience of any age, genre or race and give many people the determination to look ahead and get well.

I hope my film will affect the lives of millions of people across the globe with positivity and hope.

A man with a short beard and short hair is sitting on a concrete ledge. He is wearing a light-colored t-shirt and dark pants. He is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. The background is a textured, light-colored wall.

Drew  
Mazyck

**OUR NARRATIVES: GERMANY**

I was born in 1987 in Frankfurt, Germany and grew up in a beautiful part of town that's largely influenced by its migrant communities. Coming of age with my own very specific ethnic background sparked in me a strong urge to explore questions of identity, belonging and culture. This later led me to study sociology and then art education. I now work as a teacher in social sciences and art while completing my studies in art education.

**Director Statement**

I use art to create moments of understanding



## **SALVATION: NIGERIA**

Abimbola Olagunju is a Nigerian filmmaker based in Spain, he was inspired to become a rule-breaking filmmaker so he decided to learn the rules so that he might break them more fully and artistically. To this end, he made his directorial debut with "Fidelity." Shot in Nigeria and Spain. Working in the Local Television station in Mallorca as a Cinematographer & Freelance filmmaker, creating content for fashion shows, company, promo and also music video for artists. He obtained his HND from CEF, Palma de Mallorca, where he majored in both the arts and premed.

### **Director Statement**

Since my early age, I have always felt film is the most effective way of communicating ideas, stories, perceptions, feelings, beauty or atmosphere, the short film SALVATION was written by a group of adults on their internet meeting during the Covid-19 lockdown period, I was approached to help bring it to life and with the little budget they have, taking inspiration from 2017 GOYA winner best animation short WOODY & WOODY, and the Netflix miniseries animation The Liberator. we created our own Action Animation, Experimenting on new ideas.

The short film focuses on the story of IZU, an African immigrant, trying to find better pasture in Europe, with all not going as planned and family pressure on him, giving clues to the audience that all decisions made always have a consequence.

My goal in life is to direct powerful pieces of work that people can feel identified with creating an emotional experience for viewers.



Chioma Chiatula

#### **SAY SOMETHING: NIGERIA**

CHIOMA CHIATULA is a Nigerian screenwriter and filmmaker working for over four years in Abu-ja, Nigeria. After obtaining her certificate in Filmmaking from New York Film Academy, she created a diverse portfolio; writing over a fifteen screenplays, both short and features, which she wrote independently and as part of a writing team, and working on several independent projects as Assistant Director(Remarkable) and Production Manager (Leading Lady). The highlight of her career was when she co-wrote the TV show, The Crib (Airtel Tv, Next TV Africa), and was named one of the 'Top Upcoming Screenwriters to look out for in 2021' by Emil Garuba (Writer, Road to Yesterday and Fourth Republic).

<https://link.medium.com/wEnzZjGMKcb>.

When she's not writing, Chioma can be found watching her favorite TV shows, reading fiction or trying a new recipe. She's always loved connecting with people and finds it a privilege to use filmmaking to do so.



Louise Van Assche

#### **THE CONVERSATION:**

I'm Louise, an independent documentary filmmaker, born and raised in Belgium. In 2014, I graduated at RITCS school of Arts with MamaMin, a personal documentary about the killing of my mother.

Right after graduating film school I flew to Congo, to work on Renzo Martens' documentary White Cube. Next, I started working on documentary and music projects in Belgium until I moved to Austin Texas, late 2019.

Here, I made The Conversation in which I focused on the Black Lives Matter protests that erupted in Austin. Together with Griet Goelen, I recently completed Buck Fever, a short youth documentary about a young cheerleader going on her first hunt.

Currently I'm working on Eastside Perseverance, a documentary on the disappearance of one of the last standing black neighborhoods in Austin Texas.

#### **Director Statement**

Last year, I found myself wondering if I should shift to a completely different career path. I had just moved overseas, and building up a new network from scratch seemed daunting to me. Then, I watched something that made my stomach turn: the video of George Floyd's arrest. Without giving it a second thought, I hit the streets and started recording. I naturally gravitated to what I'd been doing all my life: capturing people's stories, revealing injustices.

As part of the growing group of female BIPOC filmmakers, I'm well aware of the underrepresentation of marginalised groups. I strive to do my part in writing new narratives wherever necessary.



## Bello Oluwadamilare

### THE ACT: NIGERIA

Bello Oluwadamilare is a self-taught Filmmaker, Director, Content Creator and a Video editor. Bello Oluwadamilare has shot and directed several top notch Music Vide-os, Commercials, Skits and Documentaries in several Nigerian States with so much enthusiasm for perfection.





Magician  
Dewayne Hill

#### **THE DISCERNMENT THE BOOK OF EVIL: UNITED STATES**

Magician Dewayne Hill was born in Brooklyn NY and grew up in Charleston, West Virginia. He began performing at the age of 16 and quickly got state and national attention. In 2008 Dewayne started working on his first official film project. He has completed 3 film projects and 2 TV projects independently.

#### **Director Statement**

I want to tell stories that empower people. I love putting spins to old ideas that we have seen and its important to show young black students and filmmakers a way to tell a powerful story from some-one that looks like them.



Kino Jin

#### **THE GATE: UNITED STATES**

Kino Jin is an animator who was born and raised in China. She received her BFA in Animation at Maryland Institute College of Art and graduated from Pratt Institute with an MFA in Digital Arts.

#### **Director Statement**

Individuality and uniformity have always been my long-term research themes, such as the contradiction between individuals and society. My own path of self-exploration encourages me to pay close attention to human emotions and how people relate to each other. Many of my past projects have focused on the relationship between inner worlds and outer worlds, especially on emotional changes. The Gate, is a symbolic fulfillment of my own wishes. I believe freedom must start from a place without any human intervention. Exploring how a given society imposes rules that restrict freedom and personal choice is of great importance to me.



Chris Iheuwa  
(DGN)

#### **THE LAST STRAW: NIGERIA**

In recent times, and quite frankly indeed, different climes, the use of force literally by the few who swore to 'protect life and property' of the larger clan has been a thing of global worry.

The death of a certain Mr. Floyd in the US, a few other killings in Europe, particularly the UK and of course Africa with killings in Kenya, Zambia, South Africa and of course Nigeria had given film makers the onus and impetus to think wider and more daring in their approach to expose and bring to limelight the atrocities of a few in the Police Force who have taken it upon themselves to commit heinous crimes that they should ordinarily prevent and safeguard the populace from.

\*The Last Straw\* therefore is our (The Producer -Kemi Adekoni and I) own contribution to the course of engaging members of the dreaded security apparatus in their respective precincts and community.

Be Calm, ensure you have adequate identification and documentation for self and property while in transit and how to address this very few in the course of a verbal discussion.

The famous writer and film maker "Alfred Hitchcock" and his counterpart in crime novels 'James Hardy Chase' often state in their works " Never argue with the man with a Gun"

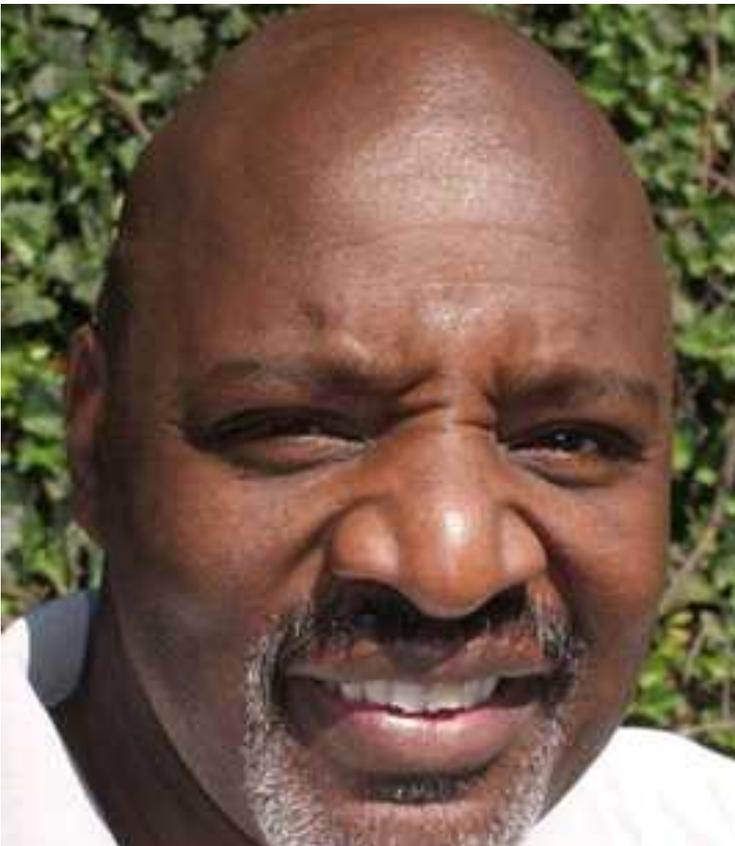
We hope 'The Last Straw' a short movie, throws light on this and other ills of our society and while we expect the ever slow arm of justice to come to our rescue it is never seen that a dead man defends himself in court.

Let us all be careful and watchful out there.



## Mitchell Ugwuezi

THE MESSAGE: UNITED STATES



## Keith Franklin

WELCOME HOME UNC: UNITED STATES

Keith Franklin,  
After over three decades of nationally renowned theatre work, Keith has made the leap to directing film. He's excited to be at the beginning of this stage in his journey.



Yazid  
ElKadiri

#### **ULTIMATE INK: MOROCCO**

Yazid El Kadiri is a Moroccan filmmaker, born in January, 1st, 1996 in Fez- Morocco.

He is laureate of a Master in Writing and filmmaking of the 1st promotion in the Higher Institute of the Professions of Audiovisual and Cinema (ISMAC) in Rabat (2013-2018).

He wrote and directed his first short film in 2014 (RElivre) - experimental genre, A second short film in 2016 (La Canne) as studies project in Bachelor at ISMAC.

In 2019, his short film THE SWAN SONG , co-produced by SNRT and CYGNUS PRODUCTIONS was awarded 10 times & selected in more than 25 festivals around the world.



Attorney Thomas  
S. Robinson

#### **WELCOME HOME UNC: UNITED STATES**

Attorney Thomas S. Robinson, III, is an attorney with twenty-five years of experience in the criminal justice system. He is a graduate of Stanford University (Economics and Political Science), and Emory University Law School. He has worked as the Staff Attorney for the Georgia Supreme Court reviewing habeas corpus petitions and as a Senior Assistant District Attorney in the major case division of the Fulton County District Attorney's Office. Attorney Robinson has also served as a Municipal Court Judge.

In 2020 Attorney Robinson began writing producing short films exploring issues related to the criminal justice system. His first work, *Party to A Crime* (<https://youtu.be/fuc9C7xcLek>) has won an award and been nominated several other times by film festivals. The second short film *Welcome Home, UNC*, (<https://youtu.be/TE8ULOruea0>) although just released in April, has already been nominated for six short film awards.

Attorney Robinson is now working on a podcast, *Justice Conversations*, to be released winter 2021, which will explore issues of race, crime and poverty.

Attorney Robinson is also the author of two books on the Criminal Justice System.



# Ebuka Michael Njoku

YAHOO+: NIGERIA

Born in 1992, Ebuka Njoku grew up on a steady diet of movies. At eight, he saw Titanic and realized he'd never be a Doctor, Lawyer or Engineer as his family expected of him. He'd later gain admission to study Theatre and Films in the University of Nigeria, Nsukka.

In his first year, he watched Kunle Afolayan's The Figurine: the movie that changed his perception of Nollywood. That same year, he wrote his first screenplay. A year later, he directed his first short film. In 2013, the year he left UNN, his short film got four nominations in In-short Film Festival and a nomination in the Best Short Film Category of Nollywood Movies Awards. That same year, his screenplay; Bola's Dirge earned him his first screenwriting award in Homevida Short Script Competition.

Over time, Ebuka has been privileged to work with some of the best Nigerian screenwriters and filmmakers - Yinka Ogun, Obi Emelonye, Kemi Adesoye, Onyeka Nwelue, Ayo Adeyanju and Nkiru Njoku. He has also attended lots of film workshops and masterclasses across the country.

In 2016, he created 'Crazy Lovely Cool'; a coming of age series produced by Trace TV, Directed by Obi Emelonye. It later became one of the first Nigerian series to make it to Netflix. A born storyteller, a student of life, a lover of all things beautiful, he believes that Nollywood is the greatest thing to happen to Nigeria after her independence. He hopes to change the world one film at a time.

## Director Statement

This movie is hugely inspired by Flavour and Umu Obiligbo's 'Isi Onwe'. The song expresses how people often come to realize when it's too late that things hardly turn out as expected. Making it in Nigeria is the definition of hard. So, many youths opt for illegal means of doing that. Currently, yahoo (internet scam) seems to be the easy way out. But yahoo is not that easy. So some take it to the next level by adding something diabolic to it - Yahoo Plus (internet scam with the aid of juju). Even that is hardly as it seems.

Shot in long takes - one for each scene, and lit the most natural way possible, Yahoo + is meant to be more than just a movie. The idea is to make it seem like some real life incident captured by a third eye. The idea behind Yahoo + is not to answer questions – that job is better left for religions and schools. The idea is to throw light on the challenges of trying to make it illegally in Nigeria. What does yahoo plus really entail? What happens when you realize that the girl you're dating is a sex worker? What happens when the person you intend to use for a human sacrifice ends up someone you love? What happens when a friend you plan doing something illegal with bails on you? What happens when you're to choose between some millions and a friend's life? Is money ritual real as painted in some movies we grew up watching? What's the meaning of friendship? How much can you give up for love? And how much can you give up for money? What makes one good or bad? What's the essence of life? In between those questions is also a great story of love, friendship, life, death and desperation. The dialogue is written in a fine blend of English, Pidgin-English and Igbo to make the story true to its Enugu setting, relatable to the average Nigerian audience and exotic to foreign audience. With a fine blend of romance, action, horror and dark comedy, Yahoo + is sure to offer quality entertainment and diverse perspectives to its audience.

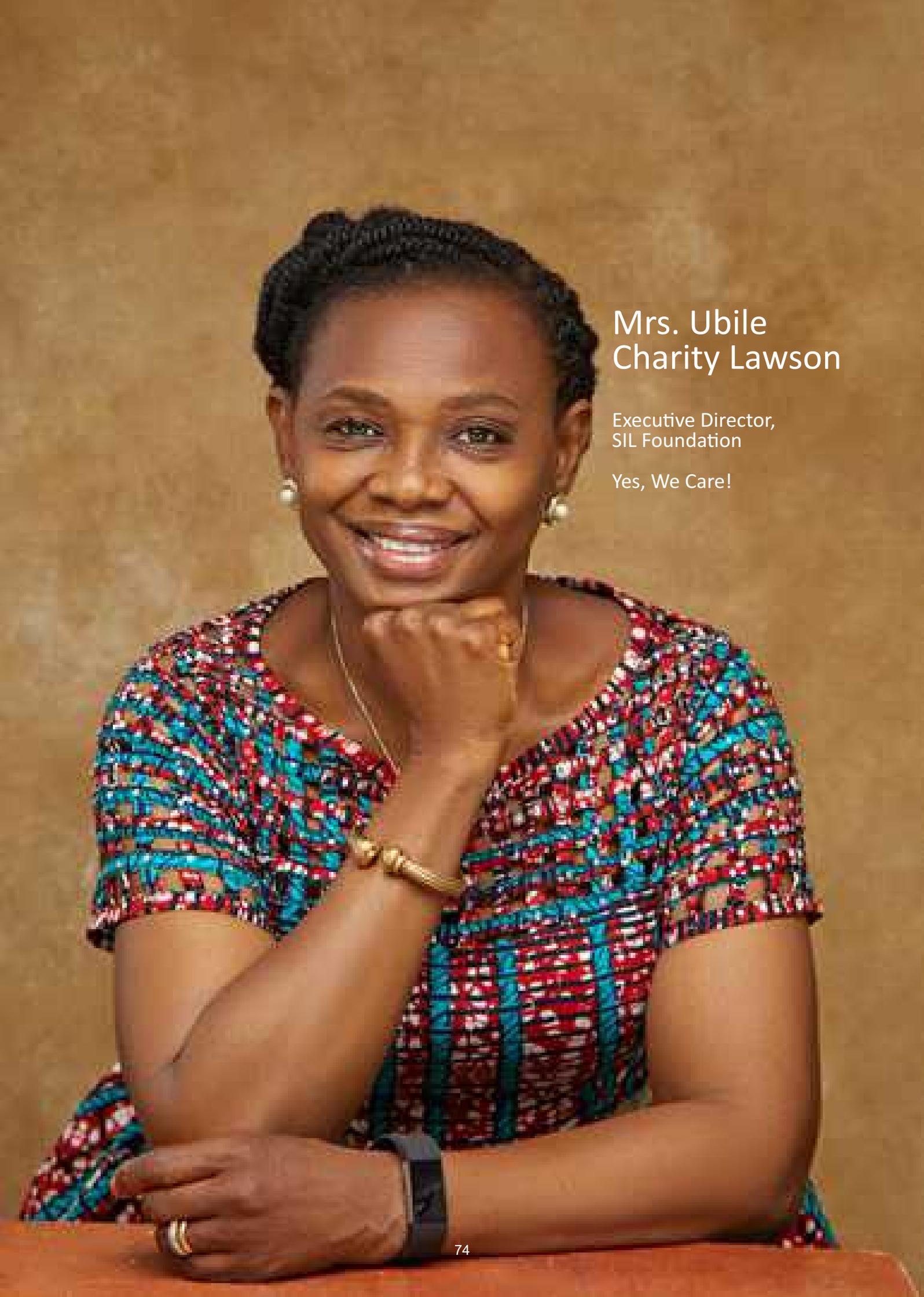
MEET THE ENIFF

# Tribe



**We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.**

— Winston Churchill

A portrait of Mrs. Ubile Charity Lawson, a Black woman with her hair styled in braids, smiling warmly. She is wearing a colorful, patterned short-sleeved top and has her hand resting on her chin. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

Mrs. Ubile  
Charity Lawson

Executive Director,  
SIL Foundation

Yes, We Care!



Segun  
Adesegha

## Pamela Odera Nwansoh



I know there's similarity  
between sunrise and sunset.  
Between rising and falling.  
Yes, there's beauty in both,  
if you're willing to look in stillness...

---





Dr. NJjideka  
Laura Akubuilu

A woman with long, dark, curly hair is smiling and posing in a vibrant, multi-colored dress with intricate patterns. The dress features shades of red, blue, green, and gold. She is standing in front of a wall with horizontal wooden slats. To her left is a tall, ornate vase containing dried floral arrangements. The overall lighting is warm and indoor.

Nkechi  
Emelike



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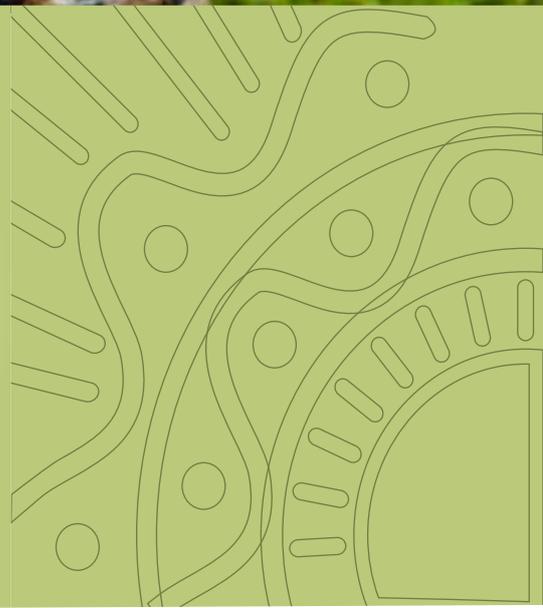
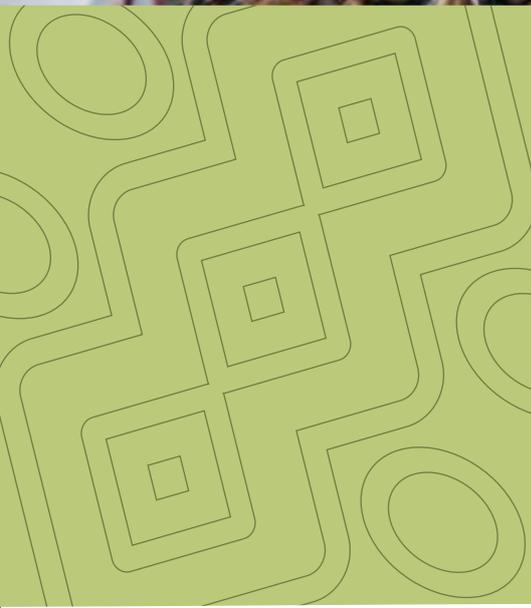
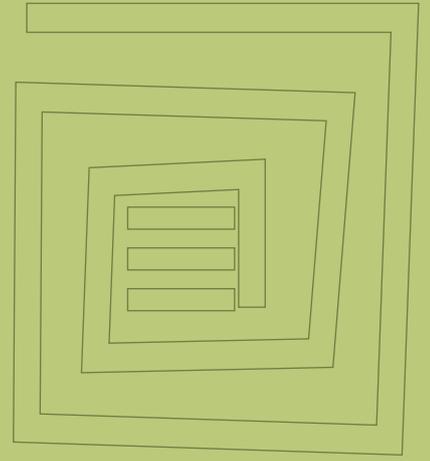
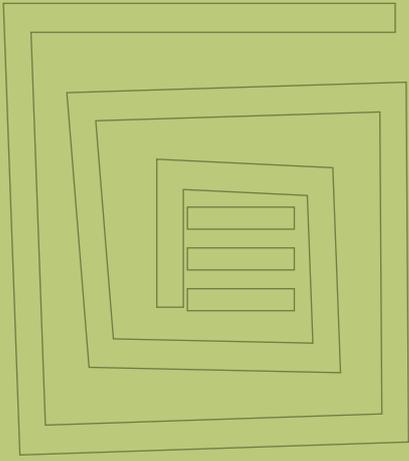


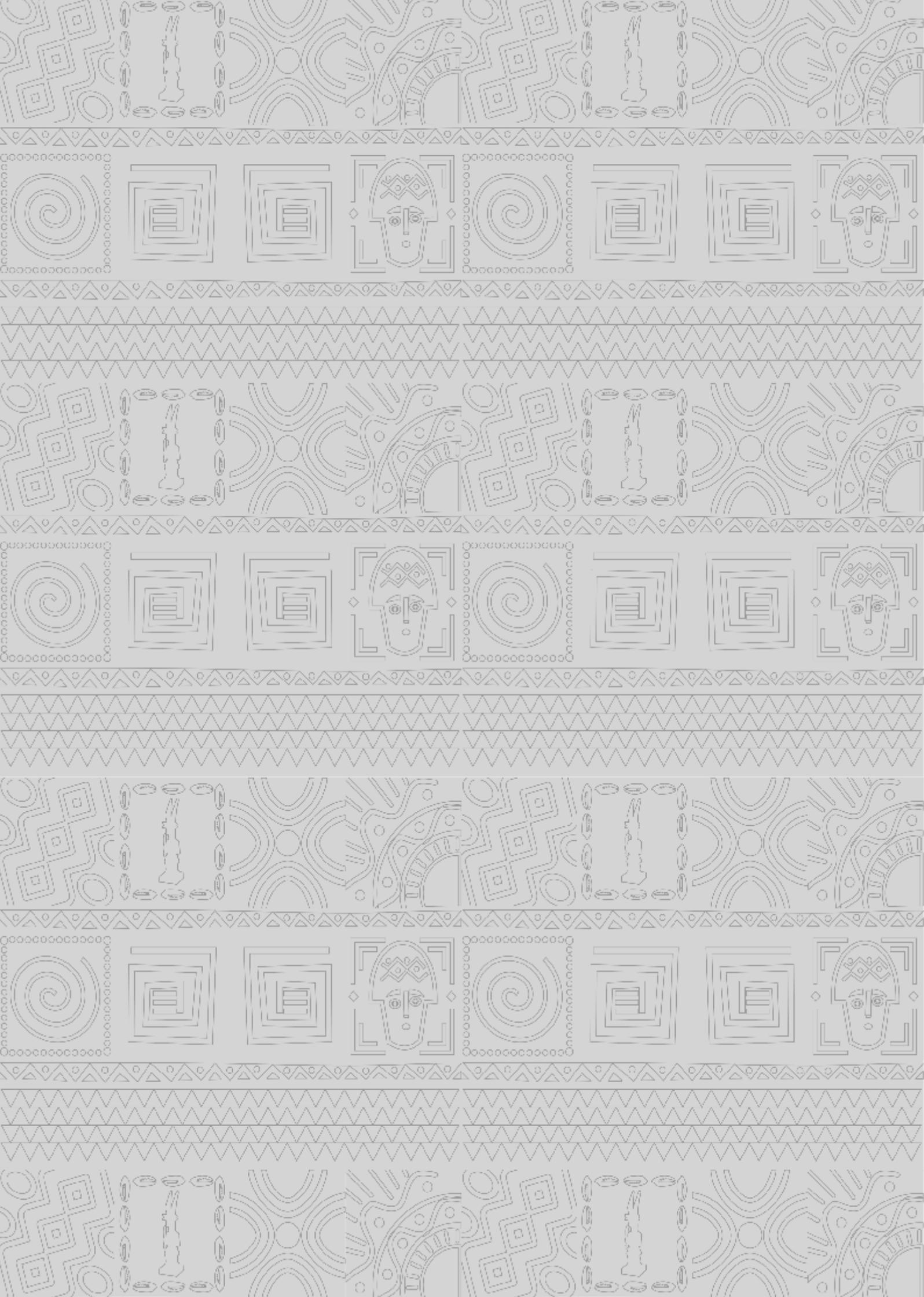
## Obinna Phillip Maduekwe (THE PLUG)

Phillip Maduekwe is a multi-skilled and multi-talented professional within the entertainment, hospitality and specialty services industry. He has garnered more than 35 year’s experience providing exceptional services within the corporate and government sectors across Nigeria. Trained locally and internationally, Mr. Phillip Maduekwe is a certified food connoisseur and Chef, an expert in travels, tourism and a maven. Phillip has an unbridled passion for Entertainment. He has been involved in mega concerts in the country. He was recently appointed chairman of special sports for the disabled in Akwalbom State. He is married to Sandra and they are blessed with three sons.



Ikem  
Ezeoba







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