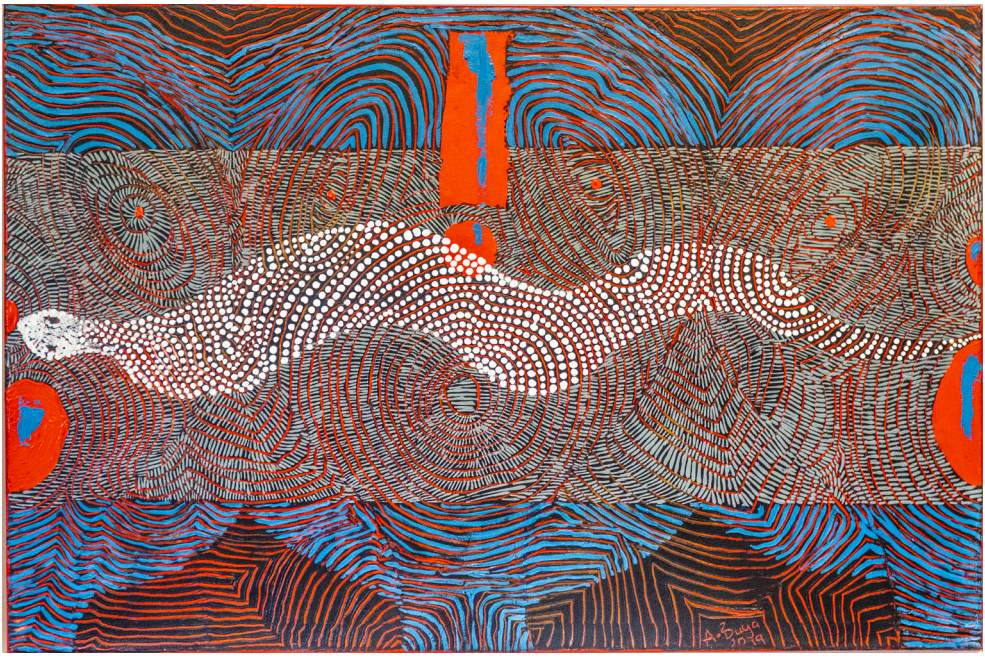

AGNESS BUYA YOMBWE
Snake Taboo i + Snake Taboo ii,
Acrylic on canvas, 2019

Modzi Gallery | FNB Art Joburg
Ba Zambia Ndi Bantu Exhibition
29 August – 29 October 2020

Agness Buya Yombwe

Agness Buya Yombwe (b.1966, Mazabuka, Zambia) is a founder and Co-director of Wayi Wayi Art Studio & Gallery, Arts Educator, painter and mixed media artist, currently based in Livingstone, Zambia. She is one of Zambia`s leading figures in the creative and visual arts industry. Her works of art, including prints, paintings, and sculptures, have been acquired by: The National Art Collection, Lusaka National Museum; Chaminuka Village Art Collection, Lusaka, Zambia; Thapong Collection, Botswana; Tulipamwe Collection, Windhoek, Namibia; McColl Center for the Arts, Matero Boys, Barclays Bank, and Standard Chartered Bank, Lusaka; Lechwe Trust Art Collection, Lusaka; and private collections in Norway, Australia, Germany, the USA, Australia, Japan, South Africa, and others.

Buya Yombwe uses a variety of natural and man-made materials in her works to begin dialogue around certain societal issues, manifested as taboos, which we face in Zambia. Her recent project focus on the taboos found in Zambian culture and the impact that these have on the social and cultural norms. The images of the snakes play a strong role as the mythology of this animal is diverse and pervasive. In particular, the snakes in Buya Yombwe's work refer to the taboo that says killing a snake will cause a pregnant woman to produce a child who will crawl like a snake for the rest of its life and also from the Bemba Mbusa culture which says that a couple should enjoy their marriage, and should not let a snake, which represents problems, come in the middle of their relationship.

Exhibitions | Accolades

2019 FNB Art Joburg | Johannesburg, SA
2019 Ni Mzilo/It is Taboo National Gallery of Zambia | Livingstone, Zambia
2016 Dialogue | Kunstabanken | Hedmark
2015 Dialogue | 37d Gallery | Lusaka, Zambia
2012 Social Issues | Livingstone Museum, Zambia
2005 Botswana`s foremost female artists | Frame Gallery| Gaborone, Botswana
1997 Art for the Heart | Africa Centre | London, UK
1995 Edvard Munch A'telier | Oslo, Norway

Modzi Arts Gallery

Modzi Arts is a contemporary, conceptual art space that works with artists to develop and present new bodies of work. It was established in 2016 with the vision on knowledge exchange, experimenting, engagement and history as a point to depart.

Our approach is based on fundamentals in history to grow the Zambian multidisciplinary and contemporary art scene to both local and international audiences. The gallery has increased the visibility and accessibility of the arts within Zambia, while supporting the professionalization of Zambian artists and the reimagining of old curatorial approaches.

MODZI ARTS GALLERY

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