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**SANJO LAWAL**  
**(b. 1997, Nigeria)**

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As a photographer and multidisciplinary artist living and working in Lagos, Nigeria, Lawal's work is deeply influenced by his environment. Nigeria is inhabited by the largest demographic of diverse ethnic groups in Africa, with over 525 native languages spoken. His appreciation of Nigerian culture heightened his curiosity to experience and explore the vast nuances of the cultural differences of the Nigerian people.

His particular artistic style and use of hues and highly contrasting colors came from the incorporation of his mother's keen sensibility of colors, mirrored in the fabrics she wore and the flowers she cultivated in her garden. This influence can be seen in the new and recycled materials he uses in combination with photography to create a raw realism that commands attention to his innovative craft, spirituality, and structure.

Sanjo has been capturing and documenting scenes from his environment with his phone, having first explored and discovered art by scribbling, drawing, and painting on paper. For Lawal, every color has a central detail, and every photograph has a story. His daily life and activities serve as additional inspiration, allowing him to mix paint colors with photography masterfully.

Sanjo Lawal studied at the Arts School in Yaba College of Technology, Lagos, Nigeria. His photography approach is unique and characterized by bold colors and contrasted creative lighting with a strong emphasis on composition.

His pieces are a true representation of his creative and imaginative mind. He enjoys experimenting with different colors, textures, and lighting techniques to create a distinctive visual language that speaks to the audience. His photographs are more than just images captured by a camera - they reflect the soul and manifest thoughts and emotions.

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**SANJO LAWAL | CV**

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**SOLO SHOWS**

[ **2025** ]

Heavy Is The Head, THIS IS NOT A WHITE CUBE  
(Lisbon, Portugal)

[ **2023** ]

Duo-Solo Exhibition - AYANAA AFRICA,  
HUES AND HARMONY (Hamburg, Germany)

**GROUP SHOWS**

[ **2025** ]

"Afro Renaissance: Between Legacy and  
Transformations", Manuel Cargaleiro Arts  
Workshop, Afrikanizm, (Seixal, Portugal)

[ **2024** ]

Embodied Narratives, THIS IS NOT A WHITE  
CUBE, (Lisbon, Portugal)  
AFROTOPIA, Discovery Museum (Abuja, Nigeria)

[ **2023** ]

"Celebrant", La belle étoile Gallery (Arles, France)  
Journeys, SMO Contemporary Art Gallery (Lagos,  
Nigeria)

[ **2022** ]

Art Basel Miami - DotConnect x PlayGround  
Exhibition (United States)  
Arnheim Showm, Arnheim Gallery (Ibadan,  
Nigeria)

[ **2021** ]

Journeys, Yaba College of Technology Gallery  
(Lagos, Nigeria)

**ART FAIRS & RESIDENCIES**

[ **2026** ] Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THIS IS  
NOT A WHITE CUBE (South África)

[ **2025** ]

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THIS IS NOT A  
WHITE CUBE (South África)  
+234 ART FAIR, Soto Gallery (Nigeria)

WA NA WARI Festival (Seattle, USA)

[ **2024** ] AKAA - Also Known As Africa Art &  
Design Fair (Paris, France)  
Art Residency - La Belle étoile Gallery (Arles,  
France)

**COLLECTIONS & COMISSIONS**

HISCOX Assurances (2024)  
La Belle Etoile (2023)  
Campaign Shoot for Odogwu Beverage and  
Private Collection (2022)

**DISPLAYS & OTHER PROJECTS**

[ **2026** ]

Favela Sounds, National Museum of the  
Republic, Brasília, Brazil

[ **2025** ]

Cover illustration of the book - Genèse  
écolinguistique des littératures en langues  
africaines de Xavier Garnier - Karthala Éditions  
Featured on Rolling Stone Africa - Documented  
as the first photographer on the Rolling Stone  
magazine limited edition on the continent;  
Top 10 NOIRE magazine visionary photographers  
in Africa

[ **2024** ]

Central image/cover AKAA PARIS  
FORBES AFRICA Magazine  
GUZANGS Magazine selection feature  
PRAZZLE Magazine  
FOCUS Magazine  
VOGUE Italy - best of photo Vogue selection  
Ordinals Summit - Amsterdam (as the first West  
African photographer on Bitcoin Ordinals)  
APPLE  
Jeune Afrique

[ **2022** ]

Creative Collaboration with Mayowa Lawal for  
LED Billboard display on Neo Shibuya (Shibuya,  
Tokyo, Japan)