

# Curator

# 2012 - 2024

NOTE:

They have put their boxes and ours are on too.  
The keys to the box are on Valensia and  
sign.

29-05-97



KAMPALA CAMERA CLUB  
PRESENTS  
PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION



at  
GALLERY  
23.3.65 to 8.4.65

# Profile



**Balimunsi Philip**  
Curator

Born of Kabuye Benedict family, Balimunsi Philip is the curator of Uganda National Cultural Centre and the Uganda National gallery (Nommo gallery) who for over seven years worked as an independent curator and artist pursuing an interest in Ugandan art history in relation to contemporary practice. His curatorial focus steers towards documentation and shaping the arena of experience to grant viewers a glimpse into an exhibition of memories and a creative mist of conversations. He hopes to use art and culture to cultivate networks and collaborations that trigger an interrogation of remnants of disparate memories that inform artistic consciousness of Ugandan youths towards dignified employment.

He is International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) 2023 alumnus, he received curatorial training and scholarship from the New York Independent Curators International in Addis Ababa- Ethiopia and also completed a curatorial training program at the School for Curatorial Studies Venice by A Plus Gallery-Venice Italy during the 2019 58th Venice biennial. He is a national award winning artist and art judge of Youth Alive Uganda, and jury at many cultural award panels including; Kuonyesha Art fund, CCFU National Heritage Awards and Youth Cultural Heritage Award, a member of; UVADA, IRC-American embassy, IVLP - USA, ICI-New York, School for Curatorial Studies Venice – Italy, 32° East | Ugandan Arts Trust and Bayimba foundation. He is a co-curator of the “Know Go Zone”, “Dance in the City”, “KLAART014” and a curator of the “DADs” and “Climate Change” exhibitions with embassy of Sweden, JAMAFEST visual arts pavilion, “Know Way Out” with Belgian embassy, “Art Creates Water”, “Hope Art exhibition”, a retrospective of “25 years of Bruno Sserunkuuma’s Ceramic Philosophy”, an exhibition designer of “Apes of Uganda organised by the Uganda Museum and the University of Michigan, a co-curator among an international group of curators for the “Notes for Tomorrow” 2020-2025 traveling exhibition organized by ICI in New York, USA, “Facing our Past; Rethinking Future Museums” a project supported by the Goethe Institute under the Uganda Museum study group, “Anecdotes of Origin” at the A Plus gallery in Venice, Italy that featured 5 renowned European artists in a group of 20 curators from; Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, south and North America. Balimunsi has shared prestigious panel discussions with leading curators and art historians including; Zoe Whitely a, 2019 British pavilion Curator at Venice Biennial, Dr. Fiona Siegenthaler from University of Basel, Barbra Babweteera Mutambi of CCFU, Faisal Kiwewa of Bayimba Foundation, Kizito Maria Kasule from CEDAT and many more. He’s previously published articles with Start Journal, JAMAFEST magazine, Independent Curators International (ICI), and Contemporary And. Balimunsi has curated numerous exhibitions at UNCC-Nommo gallery as its curator and his most recent curatorial projects include; the “Long wait”, Portfolio review, Mukyala, The Curious World of Humans, Restitution 101: A history of Theft, “Collective Memories” and “Tracing the Que-rator”.

# Curatorial Statement

As an independent curator rooted in a rich cultural heritage, I play a consumer packaging curatorial role in the creative arena of Uganda and global arts. Occupying unimaginable spaces, my practice delves into the intellectual explosion of artistic dilemma, examining creativity as a social response to human interaction with extremely difficult spheres of life. With focus on documentation and shaping immersive arena of experience, my practice interrogates remnants of disparate memories to grant viewers a glimpse into an exhibition of memories and a creative mist of conversations.

Aspiring to tell an African story in a way most easily deciphered by every individual, I believe in a non-exclusive art reception with a clear objective to demystify the intricate mysteries underlying exhibition making. My curatorial practice embraces a comprehensive approach that ensures access to all regardless of occupation or background. With incessant passion and interest for Ugandan art history in relation to contemporary practice, I view research and documentation as key pillars that scaffold my practice to engineer a creative dialogue. Therefore, with a clear and thoughtful research analysis, I strive to shape dialogues that reflect our values and collective memory in the true sense that preserves dignity for our people and communities. My practice provokes creative investigations and re-imagination of narratives that unveil a wealth of history to granting viewers a deeper connection to the past through a shared relational aesthetic experience.



# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“Unmapped”***

Festival Exhibition

2014

Co-Curator

KLA ART014

Railway Station, Kampala - Uganda



Wasn't unmapped so innocuous a conversation to cause a couple of raised eyebrows? The exhibition was such boundless to succinctly unveil all the political, economic and social salient notions of the artistic province.

Curated by 5 curators from Uganda under the curatorial advisory of Gabi Ngcobo, the festival featured 10 artists from Kampala, Addis Ababa, Dar es Salaam, Kigali, Kinshasa and Nairobi who created new commissions exploring, questioning and proposing narratives around the Unmapped. Beyond display of works, Unmapped rendered a tremendous platform for viewers to experience and explore artistic souls, granting them a glimpse into the experimentation process of the art cycle. Unmapped packed and unpacked a century of pains, misery and isolation of creative minds in a self-searching multilayered exhibition that rendered visual creativity a servant of justice.





**Building blocks** by Paul Nduguru, **UNMAPPED** at Kampala Railway Station, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of 32° East / Uganda Arts Trust, 2014

# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“ Art Creates Water #2”***

Group Exhibition

2018

Co-Curator

Millerntor Gallery - Viva con Agua

Design Hub, Kampala - Uganda



“Art Creates Water #2” was an innovative blend of conventional and relational art forms, aimed to provoke curiosity, encouraging viewers to look beyond the surface of the artworks and engage with the deeper narratives they reveal. Just as heavy nimbus clouds release rain to bring clarity to the skies, artists too could find relief by channeling their creative energy towards this urgent social cause. “Art Creates Water #2” invited artists to join the movement in addressing global challenges like; limited access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene (WaSH), offering them a unique platform to intertwine their creative expression with the pursuit of social justice. The initiative transcends traditional studio practice, encouraging artists to confront the pressing realities of water scarcity and sanitation in innovative and compelling ways.







**Chris Bigomba** Bottle installation, **ART CREATES WATER #2** at Design Hub, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Papa Shaban, 2018



# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“25 Years of Bruno Sserunkuuma’s Ceramic Philosophy”***

Retrospective

2018

Curator

Makerere Art Gallery / MIHCR

Kampala - Uganda



The 25 Years of Bruno Sserunkuuma’s Ceramic Philosophy was a profound exploration of Bruno Sserunkuuma’s artistic journey, which began in 1993, reflecting on his evolution over decades of intense material exploration and creative experimentation.

As an artist and lecturer, Bruno has significantly influenced the Ugandan art scene, particularly in ceramics. His work navigates the intersection of traditional craft and contemporary social critique, while masterfully transforming tribal crafts into a modern art form that dialogues with contemporary societal ironies. The exhibition shapes a coherent visual narrative, showcasing the depth and sophistication of his practice in the medium. Through the lens of ceramics, the exhibition delves into the intricacies of Bruno’s artistic dilemmas and triumphs, offering a comprehensive view of his craft and its broader cultural significance.



**25 YEARS OF BRUNO SSERUNKUUMA'S CERAMIC PHILOSOPHY** at Makerere Art Gallery / MIHCR, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Amani, 2018

# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“Anecdotes on Origin”***

Group Exhibition

2019

Co-Curator

A plus A Gallery

Venice - Italy



“Anecdotes on Origin” was a cultural discourse co-curated by 19 curators from 15 countries with varied perspectives on origin; unpacking perceptions of culture to create a sense of movement in time and thought. The exhibition featured works in form of; sculpture, print, video, installation, as well as an off-site performance from Artists like; Lea Cetera, Beth Collar, Jeschkelanger, Ella Littwitz and Arash Nassiri. The exhibition explores origin as an idea that manifests on a multitude of levels, in an attempt to bring a structure from the past to a space of contemporaneity. This transition becomes as a scaffold for the future-casting nature of origin stories, while creating a large volume of literary output.





*Darwin Darwah* by Arash Nassiri, **ANECDOTES ON ORIGIN EXHIBITION** at A plus A Gallery, Venice - Italy  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Giambattista, 2019



# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“ Art Creates Water #3”***

Group Exhibition

2019

Co-Curator

Millerntor Gallery - Viva con Agua

Uganda Museum, Kampala - Uganda



Art Creates Water #3 was a transformative exhibition that delves into the intersection of art, social justice, and environmental advocacy, specifically addressing the critical issues of clean water access, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in Uganda and Africa at large. The exhibition serves as a moral guardian through the complex nuances beneath efforts to provide clean water to disenfranchised communities of Uganda and Africa at large. Featuring the works of 17 East African artists, Art Creates Water presents an immersive experience, reimagining the under-construction historical car museum space with dynamic installation designs to engage diverse audiences on a deeper level that facilitates dissemination of a universal message within a framed context.



*Water Purifier installation, **ART CREATES WATER #3** at Uganda Museum, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Papa Shaban, 2019*

# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“Facing our Past: Rethinking Future Museums”***

Group Exhibition

2021

Co-Curator

MuseumFutures Africa

Uganda Museum, Kampala - Uganda



“Facing Our Past: Rethinking Future Museums” was a transformative exhibition spearheaded by the Uganda National Museum in collaboration with MuseumFutures Africa, a Pan-African project supported by the Goethe Institute. This year-long endeavor sought to challenge conventional narratives by reshaping the concept of museums through active involvement of communities in re-examining the documented memories held within the museum collections. The exhibition provided a platform to “Africanize” museums by encouraging museum communities to take ownership of their histories and craft memories that reflected their pride and cultural identity. By allowing communities to participate in the curatorial process, “Facing Our Past” reimagined the museum as a space for active memory-making and national reflection. Such transition marked a significant step towards a more dynamic, inclusive, and future-focused approach to the museum practice.





***FACING OUR PAST: RETHINKING FUTURE MUSEUMS*** at Uganda Museum, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Uganda Museum Study Group, 2021



# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“Tracing the Que-rator”***

Group Exhibition

2022

Curatorial Mentor

Nommo Gallery

Kampala - Uganda



“Tracing the Que-rator” was born out of the “Collective Memories” curatorial training workshop, which empowered eight emerging Ugandan curators to bring previously overlooked and forgotten stories to the public eye. The curators sought to increase public exposure to manuscript, archival, film and visual collections, creating new pathways for identification, interpretation and display. The exhibition reveals the intricate relationship between artists, curators, institutions, and the audience. The curators feature an eclectic array of mediums, including; documentaries, short films, museum objects, poems, paintings, sculptures, photography and a special COVID-19 installation. “Tracing the Que-rator” sought to interrogate the notion of identity with a showcase of restored original Uganda Court of Arms, and most importantly sensitized people on the importance of wearing masks the fight against COVID-19.





Curatorial team of **TRACING THE QUE-RATOR** at Nommo Gallery, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Nommo Gallery, 2022

# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“My Impression Art Exhibition”***

Academic Exhibition

2023

Curator

Nommo Gallery

Kampala - Uganda



As part of efforts to strengthen diplomatic and cultural relations, the Nigeria High Commission, in collaboration with the Uganda National Cultural Centre (UNCC), organized the *“My Impression Art Exhibition”*, an international Visual Art Competition and exhibition for students from Tertiary Institutions in Uganda and the Nigerian Community in Uganda and Nigeria. The exhibition featured 49 students, offering viewers a unique connection between the academic and real World experience. The exhibition not only showcases the students’ creative expressions but also fosters an environment of intergenerational mentorship from established practicing artists and lecturers invited as adjudicators. My Impression Art Exhibition serves as an essential space for nurturing talent, promoting cultural exchange, and encouraging artistic growth among Ugandan and Nigerian students.



**MY IMPRESSION ART EXHIBITION** at Nommo Gallery, Kampala-Uganda  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Nommo Gallery, 2023



# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“Refurbishment of the URA Museum”***

Museum Display Design and Curation

2023 - to date

Curatorial Consultant

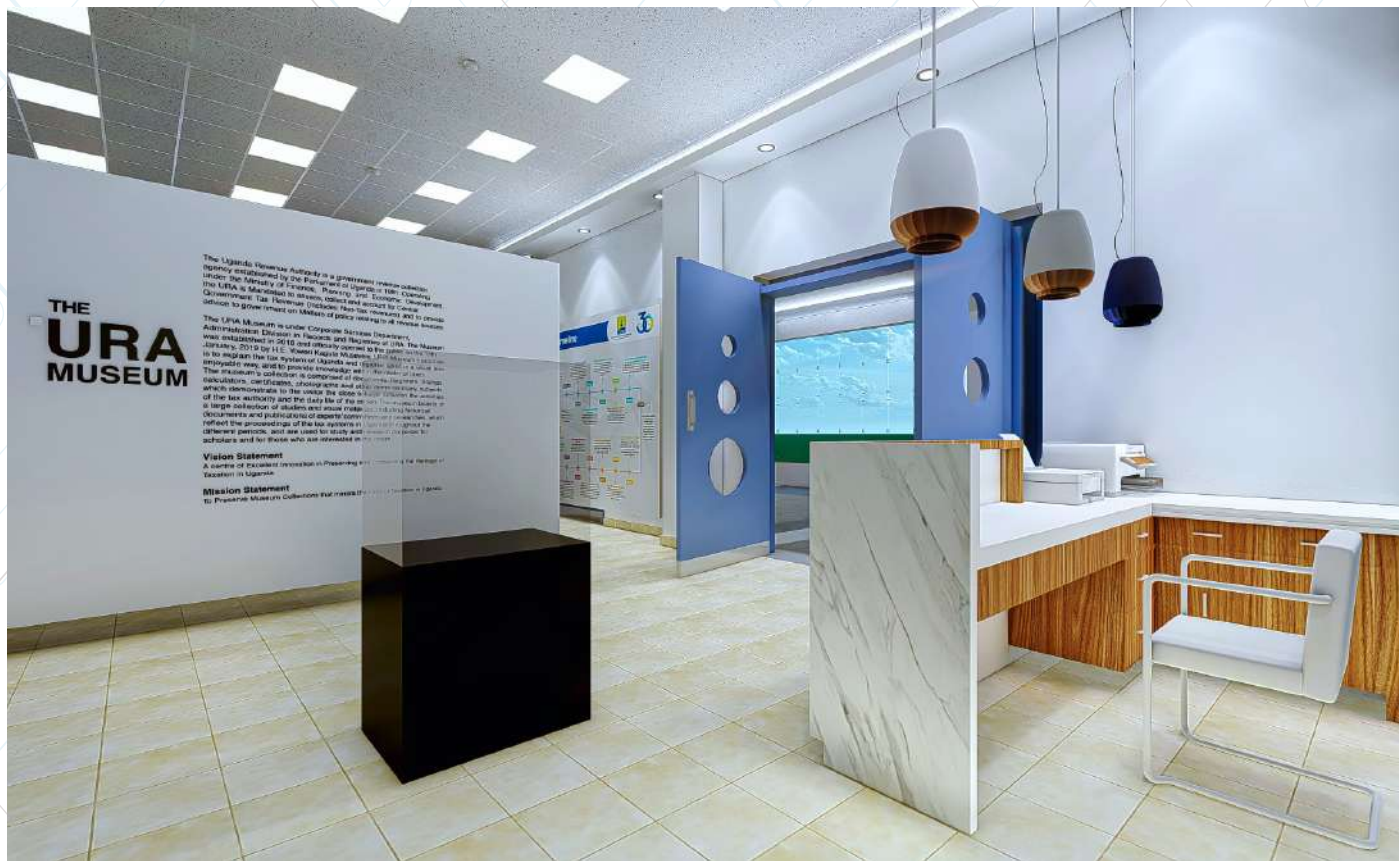
Limitless Curators Uganda Limited

The URA Tower, Kampala - Uganda



The Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) Museum holds the distinction of being the sole tax museum not only in Uganda but across the entire East African region. Its primary mission is to curate and safeguard valuable historical and contemporary materials related to taxes, making them accessible to the public through exhibitions. The museum serves as a beacon of URA's commitment to fostering public appreciation of taxation as a fundamental aspect of societal organization. Its special exhibitions offer a welcoming invitation to both URA stakeholders and the general public, providing an opportunity to gain insights into URA's role and to explore various principles of taxation.





**URA MUSEUM** at The URA Tower, Kampala-Uganda  
 Photos credit: Courtesy of Limitless Curators Uganda Ltd, 2024

# Selected Curatorial projects

## ***“Notes for Tomorrow”***

Travelling Exhibition

2021 - 2025

Co-Curator

Independent Curators International (ICI)

Multiple Locations, Global



Notes for Tomorrow is a traveling exhibition format conceived by Independent Curators International (ICI) and initiated by Frances Wu Giarratano, Becky Nahom, Renaud Proch, and Monica Terrero. The exhibition features artworks from 30 artists selected by 30 curators from around the world to reflect on a new global reality ushered in by the COVID-19 pandemic. In such a cultural moment of transition, each work becomes a source of inspiration from the recent past and a guiding perspective for the future. The exhibition itinerary includes cultural spaces like; Cantor Fitzgerald Gallery, Sifang Art Museum, Contemporary Calgary, Pera Museum, TheCube Project Space, Te Uru Wait kere Contemporary, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Marjorie Barrick Museum of Art, Blue Galleries, Koa Gallery, Plug In Institute of Contemporary, Humber Galleries, Parallax Art Center, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, The University of Texas, San Luis Obispo Museum of Art, Tower Fine Arts Gallery.



**NOTES FOR TOMORROW** at Pera Museum-Istanbul-Turkey  
Photos credit: Courtesy of Independent Curators International (ICI), 2021



# LINKS TO PROJECTS

*Further details on refereed publications, exhibitions, articles, reviews, reports, catalogues and any other material, contact the curator directly or refer to the links below.....*

## KLAART014

<https://2014.klaart.org/artists.html>

## Anecdotes on Origin

<https://www.curatorialstudiesveniceonline.com/projects-by-the-school/anecdotes-on-origin>

<https://www.architecturaldigest.in/content/exhibition-venice-nature/>

<https://aplusa.it/exhibitions/anecdotes-on-origin/>

<https://myartguides.com/exhibitions/venice/anecdotes-on-origin/>

<http://officemagazine.net/anecdotes-origins>

<https://www.temporaryspaceberlin.com/art-exhibition-anecdotes-on-origin>

<https://www.theveniceglassweek.com/en/listing/anecdotes-on-origin-2/>

## Facing our past: Rethinking Future Museums

<https://www.theeastafican.co.ke/tea/magazine/audience-takes-part-in-show-on-facing-our-past-audience-3668178>

## Notes For Tomorrow

<https://www.dreamreality.com.tr/3d-model/yarina-notlar-notes-for-tomorrow/fullscreen>

<https://curatorsintl.org/exhibitions/9810-notes-for-tomorrow>

<https://www.e-flux.com/announcements/342272/notes-for-tomorrow/>

<https://exhibits.haverford.edu/notesfortomorrow/>

<https://www.contemporarycalgary.com/whats-on/notes-for-tomorrow>

<https://www.peramuseum.org/exhibition/notes-for-tomorrow/1276>

<https://www.peramuseum.org/Publications/Detail/notes-for-tomorrow/1252>

<https://www.aaf.co.nz/event/notes-for-tomorrow>

## Ugandan DADS exhibition

[https://www.newvision.co.ug/new\\_vision/news/1427307/ugandan-dads-photo-exhibition](https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1427307/ugandan-dads-photo-exhibition)

## Published articles and interviews

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13500775.2024.2473213>

<https://curatorsintl.org/journal/15407-collective-memories>

<https://contemporaryand.com/magazines/art-crossroads-with-ugandan-mastery/>

[https://startjournal.org/2018/06/art\\_crossroads\\_ugandan\\_mastery\\_ky-eyune/](https://startjournal.org/2018/06/art_crossroads_ugandan_mastery_ky-eyune/)

<https://startjournal.org/2016/12/dads-report-on-dads-photography-exhibition-at-the-national-theatre/>

<https://youtu.be/V7g2GJrHWPI>

# CONTACT

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