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JOANA CHOUMALI
Biography

1974	Born in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Lives and works in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Residencies and Awards

2025	Fountainhead Arts Residency Prize and Residency Fellowship
2023	Residency, Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca
2022	Civitella Ranieri Visual Arts Fellowship and Residency
	Le 3ème Prix d'Excellence, Cinéma et Arts Visuels, Côte d'Ivoire
2021	Officier, L'ordre national de la république de Côte d'Ivoire
	Robert Gardner Fellow in Photography, Peabody Museum of Archaeology & Ethnology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
2019	"Hope," Prix Pictet
2017	Nirox Foundation, Johannesburg
2016	Fourthwall Books Photobook Award
	Magnum Foundation Emergency Fund Grant
	IFITRY Residency, Essaouira, Morocco
2015	IFITRY Residency, Essaouira, Morocco
2014	POPCAP '14 Award
	LensCulture Emerging Talents Awards

Solo Exhibitions

2025	"Joana Choumali: 'La terre n'a qu'un soleil' (The Earth only has One Sun)," Galerie Farah Fakhri, Abidjan, 16 May – 25 July
	"Joana Choumali: Languages of West African Marketplaces," University Research Gallery at Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA, 25 January – 11 May
2024	"Joana Choumali: I am not lost, just wandering," Sperone Westwater, New York, 26 April – 15 June
2022	"Joana Choumali: IT STILL FEELS LIKE THE RIGHT TIME," Sperone Westwater, New York, 17 March – 30 April
2019	"Joana Choumali – How Do You Spell A Silent Sound," Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana, 24 August – 5 October
	"3134," Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, 7 February – 10 March
2018-19	"Dream and Identity," Riad El Fenn, Marrakech, 30 December 2018 – 5 January 2019
2017	"Bitter: Chocolate Stories," Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam, 13 October – 22 November (catalogue)
2016	"Hââbré, the last generation," Festival Cinemas d'Afrique de Lausanne, Lausanne, Switzerland, 18 – 21 August
	"Joana Choumali: Hââbré," 50 Golborne, London, 25 February – 2 April
2011-12	"Joana Choumali," Eureka Galerie, Abidjian, December 2011 – January 2012

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025	"FEMMES," curated by Pharrell Williams, Perrotin, Paris, 20 March – 19 April
2024-25	"Memoria: Récits d'une Autre Histoire," curated by Nadine Hounkpatin and Céline Seror, Fondation H, Antananarivo, Madagascar, 4 April 2024 – 28 February 2025

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2024	"Festival La Gacilly-Baden Photo," Baden, Austria, 13 June – 13 October
	"Passengers in Transit," curated by Paula Nascimento, Oyindamola Faithful and Roger Niyigena Karera, organized by Centre for Contemporary Art, Lagos, collateral event of the 60th Venice Biennale, Ex Farmacia Solveni, Venice, 18 April – 24 November
	"Amur Yakus: The Land of God," Loft Art Gallery, Marrakech, 8 February – 8 April
2023-25	"Nude: The Naked Body in Contemporary Photography," Fotografiska Berlin, Berlin, 14 September 2023 – 28 January 2024; Fotografiska Tallinn, Tallinn, Estonia, 13 September 2024 – 5 January 2025
2023-24	"Africa Supernova: The contemporary African painting collection of Carla and Pieter Schulting," Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands, 24 September 2023 – 7 January 2024 (catalogue)
2023	"Dig Where You Stand – From Coast to Coast: Seke," organized by African Artists' Foundation, Palais de Lomé, Lomé, Togo, 12 August – 31 December
	"Festival La Gacilly-Baden Photo," La Gacilly, France, 1 June – 1 October
	"Kyotographie: International Photography Festival," Ryosokuin Zen Temple and Demachi Masugata Shopping Arcade, Kyoto, Japan, 15 April – 14 May
	"We Are Enough," curated by Roger Niyigena Karera, organized by AFIRIKA ARTFEST, 193 Gallery, Paris, 11 – 26 March
2022-24	"Ozangé," 1st Biennial of African Photography, Centro Cultural La Malagueta, La Térmica, and Calle Alameda Principal, Málaga, 4 November 2022 – 29 January 2023; Círculo de Bellas Artes, Madrid; Museum of contemporary cultures Adama Toungara, Abidjan
2022	"UNLIMITED," curated by Marwan Zakhem, Gallery 1957, Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast, Accra, Ghana, 10 November – 15 December
	"Dig Where You Stand," organized by African Artists' Foundation, Savannah Centre for Contemporary Art, Tamale, Ghana, 2 September – 9 October
	"Time Is Going: Archive – Future – Memories," organized by EUNIC Sénégal for the 14th Biennale de l'art contemporain africain, Dak'Art, Résidence de l'Ambassade de l'Union Européenne, Dakar, Sénégal, 20 May – 12 June
	"Africa in Motion," Fondation Donwahi, Abidjan, opened 29 April – July
	"Memoria: Récits d'une autre Histoire," Musée des Cultures Contempraines Adama Toungara (MuCAT), Abidjan, 7 April – 21 August
2021-22	"Summer Exhibition 2021," Royal Academy of Arts, London, 22 September 2021 – 2 January 2022
	"NUDE," Fotografiska Museum, Stockholm, 3 September – 28 November 2021; Fotografiska Museum, New York, 12 February – 1 May 2022
2021	"Self – Identity in the Face of the Global Pandemic," Gallery 1957, London, 22 April – 12 May
2020	"Le Jardin en soi," Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, 7 October – 14 November
2019-21	"Prix Pictet: Hope," Victoria and Albert Museum, London, 14 November – 8 December 2019; Daikanyama Hillside Forum, Tokyo, 12– 28 December 2019; Luma Westbau, Zurich, 16 January – 9 February 2020; Mouravieff-Apostol House & Museum, Moscow, 14 February - 13 March 2020; EPFL ArtLab, Laussanne, Switzerland, 4 September – 4 October 2020; Palazzo della Gran Guardia, Verona, 18 February – 25 May 2021; MUZA Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv, 30 June – 21 September 2021; Grimaldi Forum, Monaco, 14 – 27 July 2021; Shanghai Centre of Photography, Shanghai, 11 September – 24 October 2021; Gallery of Photography Ireland, Dublin, 17 September – 6 November 2021; Fondazione Sozzani, Milan, 9 – 28 November 2021; Today Art Museum, Beijing, 16 November – 12 December 2021 (catalogue)
2020	"The Inner Garden," Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, Morocco, 7 October – 14 November
	"Joana Choumali & Godfried Donkor," Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana, 10 January – 15 February
2019-20	"Group Show," Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana, 17 December 2019 – 5 January 2020
	"Welcome Home," MACAAL, Marrakesh, 12 September 2019 – 5 January 2020
2019	"LagosPhoto Festival: Passports," Federal Government Press Liaison Office, Lagos, 27 October – 15 November

"N'GOLÁ Biennial of Arts and Culture," Casa das Artes Criação Ambiente Utopias (CACAU), São Tomé e Príncipe, 26 July – 18 August
"Mon rêve est Pop!," Loft Art Gallery, Casablanca, 20 June – 3 August
"Filam(an)nt," Fondation Blachère Art Center, Apt, France, 23 May – 5 October
"Still Here Tomorrow to High Five You Yesterday…Chapter 2," Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa, 30 January – 22 September

2018-19 "Africa Is No Island," Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden (MACAAL), Marrakesh, 24 February – 24 August 2018; Foundation Zinsou, Cotonou, Benin, 2 November 2018 – 19 February 2019 (catalogue)

2018 "Awoulaba/Taille fine," Breda Photo Festival, Breda, Netherlands, 5 September – 21 October
"Côte d'Ivoire: Identité et vitalité de l Art Contemporain," Musée Mattatoio, Rome, 7 June – 22 July
"Le Off de Dapper," La Biennale de Dakar, Dakar, Senegal, 5 May – 3 June
"Where I Seek, I Find Myself," Museum of Contemporary African Diasporan Arts (MOCADA), New York, 12 April – 30 September
"AfricaAfrica," Palazzo Litta Culture, Milan, 15 March – 2 April
"Afriques Artistes d'hier et d'aujourdhui," The Fondation Clément, Martinique, 21 January – 6 May

2017-18 "Afrotopia," 11th Annual Rencontres de Bamako Biennale Africaine de la Photographie, National Museum of Mali, Bamako, 2 December 2017 – 31 January 2018

2017 "LagosPhoto Festival: Regimes of Truth," African Artists' Foundation, Lagos, 24 November – 15 December
"Photo Vogue Festival," Milan, 16 – 19 November
"Rêveries d'hier et songes du present," Musée de la Photographie de Saint Louis, Senegal, opened November
"Festival International de Photographie pour les femmes photographes," Communauté de Communes du Pays de Saint Gilles Croix de Vie, Givrand, France, 1 July – 20 August (catalogue)
"Le Havre: Dakar," Musée d'Histoire Naturelle, Le Havre, France, 24 June – 31 December
"A fleur de peau," Abbaye de Daoulas, Daoulas, France, 16 June – 31 December
"The Elusive Body," IAF Basel, Basel, 9 June – 2 July
"The Juices of Time," Pavilion of the Ivory Coast, 57th Venice Biennale, Venice, 13 May – 26 November (catalogue)
"LagosPhoto Festival: Where the Future Beats," Casello Ovest di Porta Venezia, Milan, 19 – 26 March

2016 "The Female Gaze," Base Milano, Milan, 22 – 26 November
"Resilients," Land of African Business Conference, Hotel de l'Industrie, Paris, 19 – 23 October
"Casablanca Biennale: We the people," Institut Français de Casablanca, Casablanca, 14 – 23 October
"Africa Forecast: Fashioning Contemporary Life," Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, Atlanta, 15 September – 3 December
"Les Recontres de la Photographie," La Grande Hall, Arles, 4 July – 25 September
"LagosPhoto Festival: Find us on the map," Rush Gallery, New York, 12 – 18 May

2015 "Sacro e profane," Photolux, Lucca, Italy, 21 November – 13 December
"LagosPhoto Festival: Designing Futures," Eko Suite Hotel Nigeria, Lagos, 24 October – 27 November
"Bold (Feminine)," Marcia Wood Gallery, Atlanta, 15 October – 14 November
"Photoquai Biennale 2015: We are family," Quai Branly Museum, Paris, 22 September – 22 November
Casablanca Biennale, French Institute of Valencia, Spain, August
OBSCURA Festival, George Town, Malaysia, 14 – 21 August
"Design is the personality of an idea," Ford Foundation, Lagos, 20 July – 3 August
"Skin Deep," The Troppenmuseum of World Cultures, Amsterdam, April

"Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design," Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany, 14 March – 13 September (catalogue)
"GRID Cape Town," International Photography Biennial, Cape Town, South Africa, 14 February – March 15

2014-15 "AGri-Cultures," National Museum of Civilisations, Abidjan, November 2014 – 31 January 2015

2014 "POPCAP'14: Outstanding African Photographers," PhotoIreland Festival, Dublin, 1 – 31 July; Image Afrique, Basel, 1 – 25 September; LagosPhoto Festival, Lagos, 25 October – 26 November; Cape Town Month of Photography, Cape Town, South Africa, 1 October – 1 November; Eyes On, Vienna, 28 October – 30 November; Addis Foto Fest, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 1 – 7 December; Festival Internacional de Fotografia Cabo Verde, Mindelo, Cape Verde, 14 November – 12 December;
"3x3," La Galerie MAM, Dakar, Senegal, November
"Lensculture: 50 Emerging Talents," Galeria Valid Foto, Barcelona, 13 – 31 October
Casablanca Biennale, Casablanca, Morocco, 3 – 12 October
15th Edition BarrObjectif Festival de Photoreportage, Barro, France, 20 – 28 September
"Pour les noirs et pour les blancs," Hierro des Villes Gallery, Nice, 14 July – 14 September
"Abidjan Arts Actuels (AAA)," Fondation Donwahi, Abidjan, 14 June – 30 August
"L'Emoi Photographie: Portrait," Hôtel Saint Simon, Angoulême, France, 1 April – 4 May

2013 Private exhibition, ASCOMA Company, Abidjan, October
"L'Emoi Photographie: Naissance d'une association," Hôtel Saint Simon, Angoulême, France, May

2012 "BICICI Amie des Arts," Bank for Industry and Trade of Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan, September
"On the Roof," National Museum Cinémathèque of Bamako Biannual, Mali, November
"OFC," The Barbican Center as part of the Olympic Games, London 1 – 7 August

2011 "BICICI Amie des Arts," Bank for Industry and Trade of Côte d'Ivoire, Abidjan, 29 September – 28 October
"Petite revue de l'art moderne et contemporain de Côte d'Ivoire," Rotonde des Arts Gallery, Abidjan, 28 September – 29 December

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2024 Saul, Amelia. "Joana Choumali: I am not lost, just wandering." *brooklynrail.org (The Brooklyn Rail)*, 14 June 2024.

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2020 "Joana Choumali." *gupmagazine.com (GUP)*, December 2020.

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2019

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Selected Collections

Africa First, Tel Aviv
Collection Gervanne + Matthias Leridon
Fondation H, Paris, France and Antananarivo, Madagascar
Harry David Art Collection
Harvard Art Museums, Cambridge, MA
High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA
Institute Museum of Ghana, Accra
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Musée de la Photographie de Saint Louis, Senegal
Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden (MACAAL), Marrakech
Nesr Art Foundation, Angola
Palais de la Culture, Paris
Pérez Art Museum Miami, FL
Prix Pictet Collection
Troppenmuseum, Amsterdam
Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Voodart Collection