

Here is a snippet of some of the new artists to look out for at this year's 1:54 Art Fair in London

The ones-to-watch

ZAHIRIN KAHLO

- Born in 1984 in Marrakech, Morocco
- Lives and works in Marrakech and Milan, Italy
- Represented by GVCC

Using a pseudonym created through several anecdotes and influences, Kahlo's true identity straddles a triad of cultures. Casting herself as the protagonist against simple backgrounds, Kahlo's photographic works navigate the heterogeneity of female identity.

Zahirin Kahlo, 'Passage', 2015, Photo Rag Matt 308 g/m², 30 x 30 cm, Courtesy of GVCC

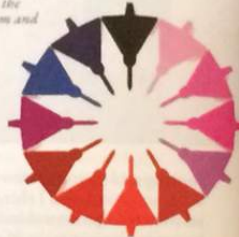


ZOUKHA BOUABDELLAH

- Born in 1977 in Moscow, Russia
- Lives and works in Casablanca, Morocco and Paris, France
- Represented by Sabrina Amrani Gallery

Zoukha Bouabdellah works across a range of media to address the effects of globalization and the status of women. She considers socio-cultural boundaries as a site of productivity, thus achieving liberation and creativity through the destabilisation of custom and order.

Zoukha Bouabdellah, 'Mirage Blue to Black', 2015, Laser cut steel and car paint, 140 x 140 cm, Courtesy of the artist and Sabrina Amrani Gallery



< PAA JOE AND JACOB TETTEH-ASHONG

- Born in 1947/1988 in Akwapim, Ghana
- Both live and work in Accra, Ghana
- Represented by Art Twenty One

Paa Joe Tetteh-Ashong, the pre-eminent Ghanaian coffin maker of his generation, works alongside his son Jacob to fabricate figurative coffins in the shape of spectacular objects. Typically modeled in the image of kitsch consumer objects and animals, the forms represent the aspirations and values of intended users and their concept of an afterlife.

Paa Joe and Jacob Tetteh-Ashong, 'Coffin-Walkman', 2015, Wood, acrylic and interior fabric, 143 x 60 x 36 cm, Courtesy of Art Twenty One

< RUBY ONYINYECHI AMANZE

- Born in 1982 in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria
- Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY, USA
- Represented by Mariane Ibrahim Gallery

Ruby Onyinyechi Amanze's drawings, works on paper, textile design, photography, and printmaking are a testament to her understanding of cultural hybridity, belonging, and displacement. Her depictions of surreal worlds inhabited by displaced creatures are immediately identifiable.

Ruby Onyinyechi Amanze, 'Waiting for Nothing', 2015, Coloured Pencil, Ink, Photo Transfers and Metallic Pigment, 76 x 111 cm, Courtesy of Mariane Ibrahim Gallery



NAMSA LEMBA

- Born in 1982 in Saignes, Switzerland
- Lives and works in Lausanne, Switzerland
- Represented by Art Twenty One

Namsa Leuba's work, spanning documents, fashion, and performance, explores the aesthetics of her upbringing and cultural heritage. Inspired by rituals, ceremonies, statues and masquerade, Leuba uses props, vivid colours and theatrical gesture to examine tensions between opposing forces of fact and fiction, action and representation, sacredness and secularity.

Namsa Leuba, 'Untitled III (The Africa Queens)', 2012, Fibre pigment print, 70 cm, Courtesy of Art Twenty One

> AMINA BENBOUCHTA

- Born in 1963 in Casablanca, Morocco
- Lives and works in Casablanca and Paris, France
- Represented by Sabrina Amrani Gallery

Amina Benbouhcha has devoted her practice to anthropological reflection on the interdependence of the environment, objects of everyday life and humanity. Working with painting, photography, sculpture, installation, and video, Benbouhcha's work responds to her experience of living as a contemporary woman in both public and private spheres.

Amina Benbouhcha, 'Untitled 04', 2015, Print of Fine Art Baryta paper, edition of 5, 50 x 40 cm, Courtesy of the artist and Sabrina Amrani Gallery



DÉLIO JASSE

- Born in 1980 in Luanda, Angola
- Lives and works in Lisbon, Portugal and Milan, Italy
- Represented by Tiwani Contemporary

Délio Jasse experiments with analogous photographic printing processes in an attempt to re-direct the viewer's gaze. Interweaving found images with vestiges from past lives - passports, visas, letters, albums, photographs, and death notices - Jasse's works celebrate survival.

Francisco Vidal, 'Atlantis', 2015, Acrylic on canvas, 5 x 300 cm, Courtesy of the artist and Tiwani Contemporary

ASIMBA HWATI

- Born in 1982 in Harare, Zimbabwe
- Lives and works in Harare
- Represented by Kool'ha Gallery

Asimba Hwati investigates the transformation and evolution of knowledge systems with particular focus on alternative possibilities that exist in material culture. By melding together ritual and cultural artifacts to adapt for contemporary urban contexts, Hwati is the symbolic connotation of cultural

Asimba Hwati, 'Zoomorphic', 2015, Horn, Plastic, 78 x 55 x 21 cm, Courtesy of Kool'ha Gallery



MERIKOKEB BERHANU

- Born 1977 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- Lives and works in Addis Ababa
- Represented by ARTLabAfrica

Merikokeb Berhanu employs a rich imagery that draws both on dreams and aspects of everyday life. This intensely private world is rendered in abstracted, tight compositions populated by recurring motifs such as ripened fruit, flowers in bloom, and heavily stylised human forms.

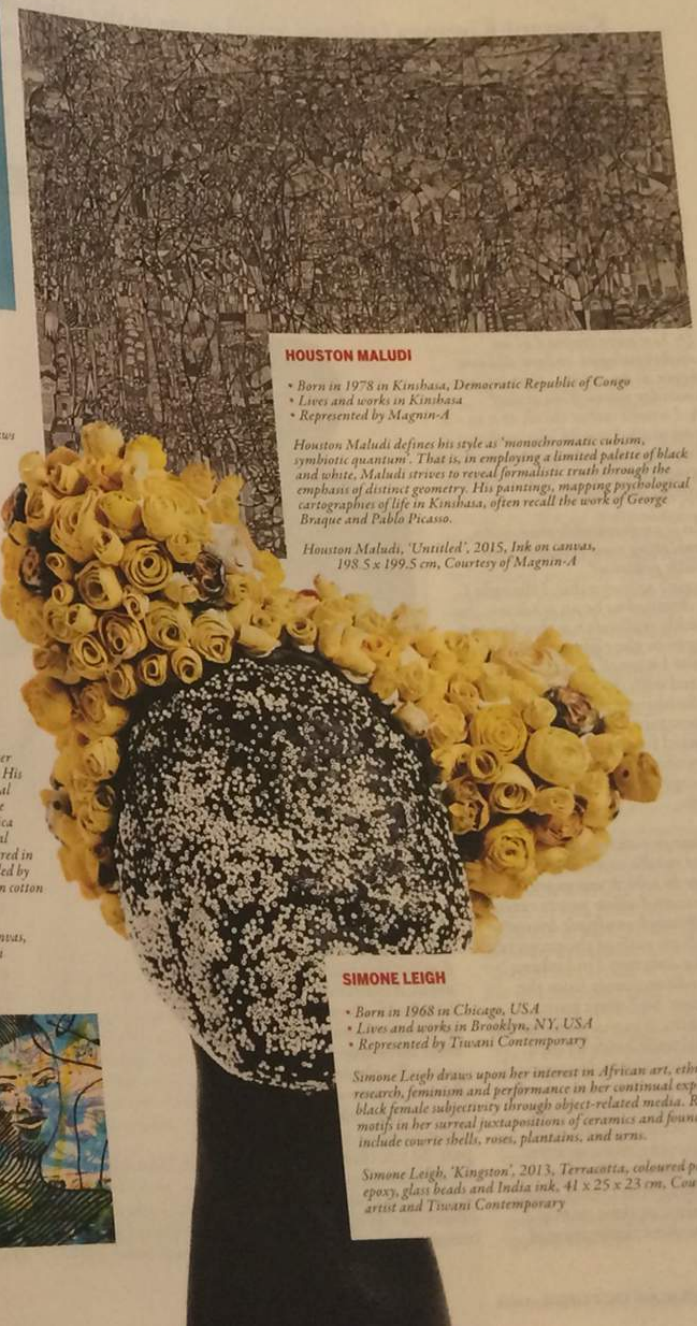
Merikokeb Berhanu, 'Untitled (IX)', 2014, Acrylic on canvas, 100 x 90 cm, Courtesy of ARTLabAfrica

FRANCISCO VIDAL

- Born in 1978 in Lisbon, Portugal
- Lives and works in Lisbon
- Represented by Tiwani Contemporary

Francisco Vidal creates vast installations that layer bold, calligraphic line paintings on screen prints. His works reflect on political dissent, the spirit of social revolution, and the legacy of Marxism within the context of trade and economic growth across Africa in the 20th and 21st centuries. A recurring visual motif is that of the cotton flower; typically rendered in vivid chromatic schemes it refers to an uprising led by the agricultural workers of a Portuguese-Belgian cotton plantation in Angola in 1961.

Francisco Vidal, 'Atlantis', 2015, Acrylic on canvas, 95 x 300 cm, Courtesy of the artist and Tiwani Contemporary



HOUSTON MALUDI

- Born in 1978 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Lives and works in Kinshasa
- Represented by Magnin-A

Houston Maludi defines his style as 'monochromatic cubism, symbiotic quantum'. That is, in employing a limited palette of black and white, Maludi strives to reveal formalistic truth through the emphasis of distinct geometry. His paintings, mapping psychological cartographies of life in Kinshasa, often recall the work of George Braque and Pablo Picasso.

Houston Maludi, 'Untitled', 2015, Ink on canvas, 198.5 x 199.5 cm, Courtesy of Magnin-A

SIMONE LEIGH

- Born in 1968 in Chicago, USA
- Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY, USA
- Represented by Tiwani Contemporary

Simone Leigh draws upon her interest in African art, ethnographic research, feminism and performance in her continual exploration of black female subjectivity through object-related media. Recurring motifs in her surreal juxtapositions of ceramics and found objects include cowrie shells, roses, plantains, and urns.

Simone Leigh, 'Kingston', 2013, Terracotta, coloured porcelain, epoxy, glass beads and India ink, 41 x 25 x 23 cm, Courtesy of the artist and Tiwani Contemporary