

**Tiwani Contemporary**  
16 Little Portland Street  
London W1W 8BP  
tel. +44 (0) 20 7631 3808  
www.tiwani.co.uk



Gemuce, *Finito*, oil on canvas, 130 x 100cm, 2013

## **Gemuce: *Alignment of Values***

**11 April – 17 May 2014**

**Private View: Thursday, 10 April 2014, 6:30 – 8:30pm**

Tiwani Contemporary presents *Alignment of Values*, a 13-part series of oil paintings by the Mozambican painter Gemuce. The exhibition is the artist's first solo exhibition in London.

The starting point for *Alignment of Values* was an art/research project based on co-working practices between researchers and artists, conceived in 2010 at the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin. The project, entitled *In Search of Europe: Considering the Possible in Africa and the Middle East*, examined the similarities shared between those from Africa, the Middle East and former Ottoman Empire and their desire to break free from the standards set by Europe's international influence.

The professional encounters between Maputo-based Gemuce and Berlin-based anthropologist Vanessa Diaz Rivas developed into a friendship, which in turn became the basis of and the medium for their collaboration in this project. The 13 canvases in *Alignment of Values* present a diverse range of individuals in relation to a wall. The reactions to this wall vary, as some try to climb over it, others push against it, some attempt to destroy it, whilst others simply ponder its existence. The wall symbolises all the things that lie beyond one's boundaries. This decision-making reflects each individual character dealing with his/her own limitations, imagined or perceived.

The experiences explored in this body of work express the concept of negotiation as being the essence of all relationships (both between the artists and researchers, and Gemuce's characters and the wall) whilst also offering a representation at a human and individual level of a wider issue of global socialisation.

**About the Artist:**

Gemuce (Pompilio Hilario) was born in 1963 in Quelimane, Mozambique. Painting is used as his primary medium to question and interpret life's reality. Philosophically art is as essential as water, fire, air and love. For Gemuce, art can be pure or vitiated as it happens with any of these elements. Gemuce received his Masters in Mural Paintings from Kiev Academy of Fine Arts. In 2001, he graduated with a Master's of Cultural Management from the University of Sorbonne, Nouvelle, France. Since 1994, he has been teaching a course of Visual Arts at ENAV and ISARC in Mozambique. He is the co-founder, member and President of Muvart – Movimento de Arte Contemporanea. Selected group exhibitions include Arch of Europe/Alignment of Values, Kunstraum (Berlin 2013), Hora de Ponta, Mozambican-France Cultural Centre, (Maputo 2013), and A Tale of One City, Gallery IKM and Oslo Fine Art Society, (Norway 2009).

Tiwani Contemporary cordially invites you to join the exhibition opening on:

**Thursday 10 April 2014 from 6:30pm – 8:30pm**

Tiwani Contemporary | 16 Little Portland Street | W1W 8BP  
T: + 44 (0) 207 631 3808 | Directions (Oxford Circus tube)  
@Tiwaniart | www.tiwani.co.uk

***Gemuce: Alignment of Values*** will run from 11 April – 17 May 2014 at Tiwani Contemporary

**Notes to Editors**

\*For additional information and detailed biographies please contact\*  
Maria Varnava, Tiwani Contemporary | T.02076313808 | [maria@tiwani.co.uk](mailto:maria@tiwani.co.uk)

\*For all press enquiries please contact\*  
Digby Halsby, Flint Public Relations | T. 02034632082 | [digby.halsby@flint-pr.com](mailto:digby.halsby@flint-pr.com)

Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday; 11am -6pm; Saturday 12pm – 5pm

Tiwani Contemporary, founded in 2011 and based in the heart of the Fitzrovia gallery district, focuses on contemporary artists from Africa, including Nigeria, its diaspora, as well as from the Global South. The gallery's aim is to present the works of emerging and established artists through solo, group and thematic exhibitions to a London institutional, corporate and collector base. In addition to its commercial activities, Tiwani Contemporary presents *Art Connect*, a dynamic and innovative public programme of events, panel discussions and curated projects within the gallery space as well as in collaboration with other partners in London and across the UK. The programme is developed in collaboration with The Centre for Contemporary Art, Lagos and generously supported by the A.G. Leventis Foundation.