

STREET LEVEL PHOTOWORKS

BODY OF LAND **AWUOR ONYANGO & SEKAI MACHACHE** 12TH JUNE - 1ST AUGUST 2021

Body of Land is an intimate exploration of African diasporic femininities in Scotland and Kenya, featuring exhibitions by Awuor Onyango and Sekai Machache, developed from a residency exchange produced by Fòcas Scotland and supported by Street Level Photoworks. The exhibition has been programmed as part of Glasgow International festival of contemporary visual art Across the City Programme.

Machache and Onyango use lens-based media in distinct ways, making playful portraits, films and installations that re-imagine the real, mythic, and legendary encounters between Africa and its global Diasporas. Gravitating to the female subject, each traces a personal and cultural journey from subject to subjectivity, telling stories that celebrate what binds and splits the body, spirit, land, and social self across contemporary African identities at once rooted and displaced.

Awuor Onyango (b.1990) lives and works in Nairobi, Kenya. A writer, artist, filmmaker and photographer, their practice is concerned with exploring the politics of the personal, body and the self as art. Their interests explore the black African feminine, the gendered leanings of society, the archetypes and psycho-social role of the queer and various socio-cultural implications of 'African-ness'. Their aim is to question the colonial and 'globalised' view of the African as believed by the African, the African diaspora, the colonialist and his kin.

Sekai Machache (b.1989) is a Zimbabwean-Scottish visual artist and curator based in Glasgow, Scotland. Her work is a deep interrogation of the notion of self. She is interested in the relationship between spirituality, imagination and the role of the artist in disseminating symbolic imagery to provide a space for healing. Sekai works with a wide range of media including photography. Her photographic practice is formulated through digital studio-based compositions utilising body paint and muted lighting conditions to create images that appear to emerge from darkness.

Supported by the British Council East Africa Arts programme and British Council Scotland.

Works are available for sale - Please enquire at reception for more information.