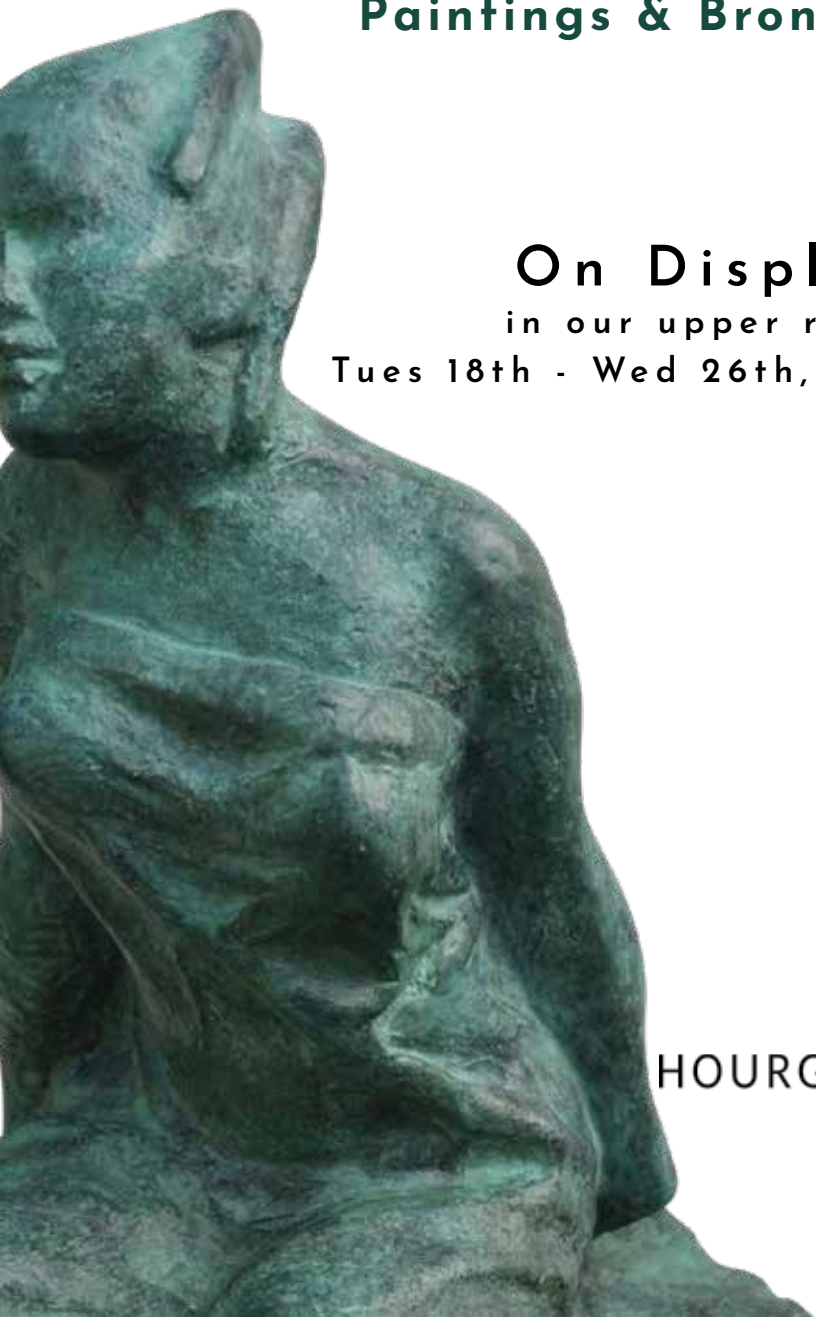


ABAYOMI BARBER

Paintings & Bronzes



On Display

in our upper room

Tues 18th - Wed 26th, Feb

HOURGLASS/

ON DISPLAY

We are presenting a viewing of artworks by the renowned Abayomi Barber in our upper room. This first presentation in our 'On Display' series, offers a glimpse into the genius of this celebrated artist.

Abayomi Barber was many things to many people. To some, he was the consummate surrealist, conjuring enchanting forests and teasing viewers with hidden figures within his landscapes. To others, he was a monumental sculptor, capturing profound character and insight through his intricate depictions of people and ideas. Still, others knew him as a master of realism, celebrated for his delicate, expressive portraits of both notable figures and everyday individuals. Beyond his art, he was a revered teacher, leading a group of surrealists and contributing significantly to the advancement of art education in Nigeria.

Through every medium and style, one truth remained clear: Abayomi Barber was an artist of boundless imagination, bringing his creative vision to life in remarkable ways.

We will be presenting a curated selection of his works in our upper room. It's a chance see a small sampling of what made him so extraordinary. The collection features sculptures of iconic figures such as Chief Obafemi Awolowo, imaginative creations like Ali Maigoro, paintings of his mystical forests, surrealist abstractions, and drawings from his formative years in London.

While this display offers only a glimpse into the breadth of his artistic legacy, it is a reminder of his brilliance and enduring impact on the art world.





DREAMSCAPE

2003, 30 by 42 Inches

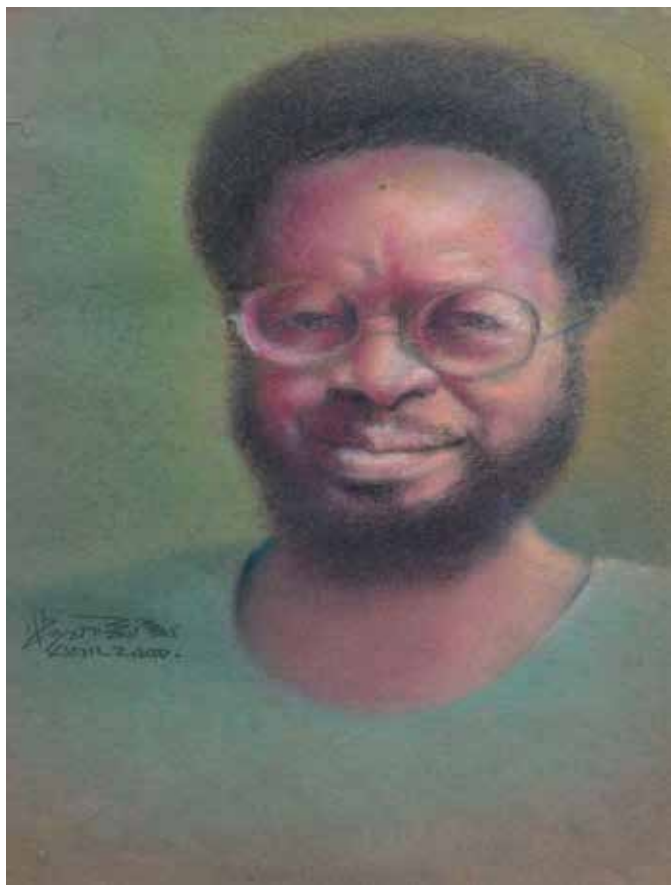


BY THE RIVER

2010, 36 by 47.25 Inches



BODYSCAPE
1996, 33 by 24.75 Inches



SELF PORTRAIT

2000, 20 by 12 Inches



SEASCAPE

1952, 25 by 31 Inches



MYOSSA IN BLUE

Oil on Canvas , 30 by 20 Inches, 1971



EQUESTRIANS

1963, 5 by 7 Inches



SEASCAPE

1972, 9 by 11.5 Inches



CHARACTER STUDY
2008, 9.5 by 8 Inches

DR. SUGOMU

1971, 5.75 by 4.5 Inches



SEATED GIRL

1978, 7.25 by 4.75 Inches



B'ANU

1967, 10 by 10 Inches



JESUS AND THE CHILDREN

1995, 7 by 9.5 Inches



BUST OF AWOLOWO

1961, 8.75 by 4.5 Inches



YEMOJA

1961, 6 by 3.5 Inches



ALI MAIGORO

1972, 5.5 by 4.25 Inches



MR. PRIMETA

1962, 8.5 by 3.5 Inches



MADONNA & CHILD

1976, 6 by 3 Inches



THE LADY AND HER DREAMS

1975, 14 Inches



ABAYOMI BARBER

Born in 1928, Barber is one of Nigeria's most significant artists. He was a painter, sculptor and art teacher. He began painting and sculpting at an early age and was inspired by nature and the Ife figurines that were all around him. He studied briefly in Nigeria, before he was sent to the UK by the Government, to study art under a unique government art scholarship.

From 1961 to 1971, he lived in the UK, occasionally attending art seminars, and working on Obafemi Awolowo's sculpture and painting. He returned to lecture at the University of Lagos and became the guiding light and mentor for an informal afro-surrealist school of art known as the Barber School.

His surrealist artworks became famous for their inventive hyperrealism, exploring the multi-dimensionality of life and rendering landscapes in new interesting ways. Barber was also a brilliant sculptor. Many of his early pieces were sculptures. His first commission by the government of the Western Region was for a sculpture. In England, in the 1960s he worked for many years as a sculptor.

He joined the University of Lagos in 1971 as an art lecturer and would become one of the most influential art teachers in the country influencing many artists. His surrealist paintings and sculptures continue to fascinate art enthusiasts all over the world.

Barber passed on to the magical forest in 2021. His paintings remain to intrigue and excite us.

HOURGLASS /
GALLERY

979 Saka Jojo Street, Victoria Island, Lagos
www.hourglassgallery.com IG: Hourglass_Lagos