

AN ARTE

GALLERY & STUDIO

AUSTIN UZOR



BIOGRAPHY

Born in the eastern part of Nigeria in the year 1991, Austin Uzor hails from Imo state. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in 2013 from the University of Nigeria Nsukka where he majored in drawing and painting. Shortly after graduation, he kickstarted a studio practice that led to local and international recognition that set the groundwork for his first-ever solo show in 2016 titled “Visitors” at the Rele Gallery in Lagos, Nigeria. Uzor, a skilled draftsman and experienced painter, explores the world of the unknown by means of psychological spaces, feelings, and alternate realities in search of existential truths. He moved to the US in 2016 and this move is now the subject of his most current body of work and narrative, focusing on the traumas of being displaced. He is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Drawing and Painting at the University of North Texas. He is also a Teaching Fellow, teaching drawing and painting at the university. Uzor has exhibited locally and internationally and has well had his works privately collected around Europe, Africa, and the United States while being published frequently.

ARTIST STATEMENT

Still Here

Is an attempt to merge two spaces in time while exploring the idea of presence and absence. Using “manufactured memories” this new space is created when visual elements of different lived experiences are used as a tool to address the past, and present and also create possibilities for a more conscious future. By harvesting the figure from its original environment and placing it in a totally new and unfamiliar space the intentions have become one that would help start a conversation around topics of human displacement. This process creates room for the recontextualization of events in time, yet unspecified but still familiar enough to heal trauma and provide answers through an alternate reality.