

Biography



Ablade Glover FGA FRSA CV (born 1934) is a Ghanaian artist and educator. He has exhibited widely, building an international reputation over several decades, as well as being regarded as a seminal figure on the West African art scene. His work is held in many prestigious private and public collections, which include the Imperial Palace of Japan, the UNESCO headquarters in Paris and Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. Featured in the Artists Who's Who, in the Dictionary of Contemporary International Artists and in the Benezit (reference dictionary of painters, sculptors and engravers from around the world), Professor Glover received several national and international awards, including the Order of the Volta in Ghana, and is a Life Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, London. He was Associate Professor, Head of the Department of Art Education and Dean of the College of Art at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology until 1994. He is the founder of the Artists Alliance Gallery which took root with a previous gallery he created in the 60s. This gallery which showcases Pr. Glover's works also exposes the works of other famous artists such as Ousu-Ankomah, George O. Hugues, as well as local handicrafts.

The Artist favorite themes are constant: the women and mothers from Africa, crowds, landscapes and city scenes and market scenes that in his eyes are the link between the village and the city, the past and the present. His painting technique reflects a very Western style and classicism glowing with movement and color. Using a palette knife instead of a brush, he carves his way through paint in searing colors that communicate the heat of the African sun. His paintings, starting with simple shapes, accumulate weight through repetition, creating dynamic images out of seemingly static planes. This technique is applied as much in his figurative painting of women and rustic scenes, with their richly fragmented surfaces, as in his portrayals of large urban landscapes or markets which radiate with high energy through hundreds of rapid marks in contrasting colors.

Professor Ablade Glover lives and works in his hometown of Accra (Ghana).

Selected Solo Exhibitions/Expositions individuelles

- 1990** Galerie Arts Pluriels (now LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- 1991** Biz Art Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1998** City Hall, Toronto, Canada
City Hall, Hamilton, Canada
- 2000** Galerie Arts Pluriels (now LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery), Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire
- 1995/99/01** October Gallery, London, UK
- 2009** *75th Anniversary*, October Gallery, London, UK
- 2013** Art Dubai, Dubai, UAE (with Nubuke Foundation)
- 2014** *80th Anniversary*, October Gallery, London, UK
- 2017** JPK Gallery, Paris, France
- 2019** *The last 20 years and beyond*, 1957 Gallery, Accra, Ghana
As times goes by, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, Abidjan (RCI)
- 2020** *Wogbe Jeke - We Have Come a Long Way*, October Gallery, London (UK)
Glover's journey, The Hourglass Gallery, London (UK)
- 2022** *The passage of time*, the Hourglass Gallery, London (UK)
Eighty Eight, still at it! Christopher Moller Gallery, Cape Town (RSA)

Selected Group Shows/Expositions collectives

- 2010** *I See You*, Tasneem Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- 2012** *Transmission Part 2*, Tasneem Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
- 2014** Art 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, Somerset House, London, UK (with October Gallery)
- 2015** *Africa Africans*, Museum Afro Brazil, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2020** *1-54 Art Fair*, La Mamounia Marrakech, Morocco (with LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery)
- 2021** *The magic of crowds*, The Hourglass Gallery (London UK)
Painting Unbound: Artists of the Transvanguard, October Gallery, London (UK)
- 2022** *The Sown Seed*, Efié Gallery, Dubai (UAE)
Autumn is Fresh, Christopher Moller Gallery, Cape Town (RSA)
- 2023** *1-54 Art Fair*, LouiSimone Guirandou Gallery, New York (USA)

Collections

AAI African American Institute Head Office, New York, USA - Africa Centre, London, UK - Royal Collection of Prince and Princess Takamado, Tokyo, Japan - O'Hare International Airport (mural), Chicago, USA - Ohio State University International House, Columbus, USA - Ashanti Goldfields Company Headquarters, Accra, Ghana - Arts Council of Ghana, Accra, Ghana - Barclays Bank Ghana Ltd., Accra, Ghana - Commonwealth Foundation, London, UK - Ghana Museums and Monuments Board, Accra, Ghana - Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts, Stanford University, California, USA - Kosmos Energy, Texas, USA - National Gallery of Modern Art, Lagos, Nigeria - National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe - Tullow Oil PLC, London, UK - UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France - Visiting Arts, London, UK - World Bank, Washington DC, USA - Société Générale Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.