

Africa State of Mind

29 March to 15 June 2019

Emmanuelle Andrianjafy
Neil Beloufa
Girma Berta
Eric Gyamfi
Kiluanji Kia Henda
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Michael MacGarry
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Ruth Ossai
Athi Patra Ruga
Michael Tsegaye




Africa State of Mind presents a new generation of photographers from across the African continent and its diaspora. Together, they question ideas of 'Africanness', revealing Africa to be a psychological space, as much as a geographical territory.

The exhibition explores three main themes. *Zones of Freedom* addresses gender and sexual identity, through diverse approaches to portraiture. *Inner Landscapes* draws on personal memories and experiences, presenting individual interpretations of the African past and present. *Hybrid Cities* documents the energy and contradictions of life in modern African cities.

The exhibition aims to challenge stereotypical Western views of Africa. Imagery of the colonial period once presented Africans as the 'primitive' people of a 'dark continent'. Today, news reports often portray the continent as a place of chaos, corruption and disease. Curator Ekow Eshun says, "by contrast, *Africa State of Mind* features photographers that seek to address the complexity of what it means, and how it feels, to live in Africa today".

To find out more, pick up an exhibition guide, browse the reading table, or watch the *Meet the Curator* films, on view opposite our Welcome Desk. See our What's On blackboard for details of free talks and events.

Africa State of Mind is curated by Ekow Eshun with New Art Exchange, presented in association with touring partner Impressions Gallery.

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