

BARTHÉLÉMY TOGUO

Biography



Born in 1967 in M'Balmayo, a town in Cameroon near Yaoundé, Barthélémy Toguó first attended the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. There he discovered sculpture, an art form that he decided to study in France, at the École supérieure d'art de Grenoble. After completing his studies at the Kunstakademie in Düsseldorf, he diversified his means of expression, working as a sculptor, photographer, video artist and painter. In the latter field, he turned to watercolour in 1998, of which he is now recognised as a master. At the same time, he creates numerous installations and performances. Handling humour and provocation, this singular artist proposes a politically committed work. Working on several

media, Barthélémy Toguó probes, in a perpetual fusion with his work, the meanders of the relationship to the world and to the Other through themes as diverse as identity, civic and political awareness, exile and sexuality. In 1999, concerned about the place of art in Black Africa, he created the Institute of Visual Arts in Bandjoun, north of Douala, which became the first artistic structure in Cameroon. In 2004, the importance of Barthélémy Toguó's work was recognised by a solo exhibition "The sick opera" held in Paris at the Palais de Tokyo. It is in this same capital that the artist is exhibited, notably at the Centre Georges Pompidou during the exhibition "Globale Résistance" in 2020 or again in 2021 at the Musée du Quai Branly as part of the exhibition "Désir d'humanité. Les universes de Barthélémy". From October 2022, it is at the Louvre that the artist will deliver both a political and poetic message through a monumental ephemeral installation under the glass roof of the eloquent and unmissable pyramid.

Collections

Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris - France, **Musée national d'Art moderne**, Paris - France, **The Dakis Joannou collection**, Athènes - Grèce, **Burger collection**, Zürich - Suisse et Hong-Kong, **Collection Agnès B.**, Paris - France, **Musée d'art contemporain**, Lyon - France, **Museum of Contemporary Art Miami**, Miami - États-Unis, **Fonds national d'art contemporain**, Paris - France, **Kunstsammlungen der Stadt**, Düsseldorf - Allemagne, **MAC/VAL musée d'art contemporain du Val-de-Marne**, Vitry - France, **Musée de l'Immigration**, Paris - France, **Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaïsme**, Paris - France, **Frac Haute Normandie**, Sotteville-les-Rouen - France, **Studio museum de Harlem**, New-York - États-Unis, **Frac Corse**, Corte - France, **The Museum of Modern Art**, New-York - États-Unis, **Musée d'art contemporain de Strasbourg**, Strasbourg - France, **Fondation Louis Vuitton**, Paris - France, **E.S.Stella Matutina de Shyorongi**, Kigali - Rwanda