

Elisa Umuhoza, an Edmonton based artist, simply desires to utilize her gifts and pour her thoughts/feelings onto a canvas, that they may be fruitful in the hearts of those seeking inspiration and kinship. Remaining in touch with all senses, living in the present and capturing the essence of the world and its inhabitants -that is the heart behind Elisa's art. She started painting at 16, but her artistic pursuit intensified at the start of 2020 when the worth of her gift weighed on her spirit, and encouraged her to multiply her talents in honour of her Gifter, Jesus. Elisa's current collection features portraits with her signature black and white style, with a bold background, to contrast and highlight the essence of her muses beyond the social construct of race. This approach is used in the hopes of casting a light on the deep intricacies of Black identity, Black joy, and Black beauty.

Shaihiem Small is an artist currently based in Edmonton Alberta, originally from Toronto Ontario. Shaihiem is a MacEwan Fine Arts graduate and has participated in multiple pop-up art shows across the city, and the group show Five Artists One Love hosted at the Art Gallery of Alberta. His art explores themes concerning the ethos of cultural identity. Currently, Shaihiem is venturing into the discipline of tattooing and is apprenticing at Shambhala Tattoos in Edmonton.

Genesis is a Nigerian and Sierra Leonean contemporary artist; who currently lives in Edmonton, Alberta. Her surrealism paintings are self-reflections of her life, and the hardships she faces mentally, emotionally, and even at times socially. As a child, Genesis fell in love with art and creating in her grade three elementary class. Her passion grew more over time with each art class she took throughout her studies and it began to be a self-expression tool. Genesis is not a birth name but a chosen name. Genesis: Formation. Creation. Inception.

Gallican Buki, is an Edmonton based photographer. Fun fact about his last name and brand is that "Buki" actually means 'Honey'. Which may explain why his photographs are always really sweet to look at. He takes a lot of pride in expressing stories and emotions through his images. His areas of expertise include Portrait Photography, Real Estate/VR Tours and Events! Thus far, his work has been featured in a Black Love gallery show with UABSA (University of Alberta Black Student's Association), within many LaConnexional partnerships and in Best Home Magazine. Gallican thrives upon connecting with his clients and listening to their needs to ensure that their vision is being brought to life in a thoughtful and unique way. Emulating his motto "connect, create, capture".

Kasey Krishna Cuffy is an artist, creative director, graphic designer and photographer based in Edmonton, Alberta. However, he is a father & husband first, motivated by his family to be the best that he can be. His art is inspired by his experiences. He is Saint Lucian born Canadian, raised in the gta area of Ontario, but currently resides in Edmonton, Alberta. It is the city in which he operates and live, but he is willing & happy to work with brands worldwide.

Precious Kayode (they/her) is an abstract artist and intuitive painter living in Edmonton, AB, originally from West Africa. The process of creation is a divine service of whatever bliss, chaos or otherwise that the blank canvas speaks. As a self-taught artist, their creation involves the use of various techniques as well as unconventional tools like wooden combs, woven strings etc. Precious Kay is a mostly palette knife painter and engages the paint in its own fluidity and creation. The art itself speaks for itself and has different interpretations to various viewers.

jay Dontae is a fine artist, a poet and a dreamer. His art blurs the line between dreams and reality, hope and despair, nostalgia and futurism, and so on... but beyond that he really just wants to make something beautiful that connects. His distinct style can be noted by his focus on deconstruction and exaggerated distortion of the human form, his vibrant colour palette, and his ability to mesh beauty and menace. Both

of Dontae's pieces are the product of the mass isolation, introspection and self reflection of the past year. While every piece of art holds its own unique narrative, Dontae's work is strongest when the viewer dives into the world of each painting and discovers their own story. These paintings are just an introduction to the odd world of jay Dontae. Welcome.

Aliya Logun, who goes by aliyalo, henceforth her photography handle 'aliyalophotgraphy', is a local black female photographer based in Edmonton, AB. She has been doing photography for a year now and is currently focusing her art on the creative side. To see photography on the less technical side, her work consists of portraits, editorials, and working along with local businesses and organizations. Photography has helped Aliyalo so much, not just financially, but most importantly in expressing herself with no restrictions. Photography is more than clicking a button to her, and she yearns to express that in her work. "Being a creative in a small city can seem difficult but the support you get is amazing."

Macha Abdallah is an Edmonton based, Canadian born, contemporary artist of Rwandan descent. She is a self-taught painter who started exploring her hidden talent at the Inema Art Centre in Kigali, Rwanda, during a year-long trip in 2016. Since then Macha has been painting using acrylics on canvas. In the past, Macha mostly did commissioned work. More recently, she has started working on additional creative projects. Macha especially enjoys painting portraits of real or imagined people. She is often inspired by rich, captivating colours, contrasted with muted neutrals.

Edmonton based Ghanaian artist, **Liisa Otchie**, has been developing her artistic skills since early childhood. Growing up, Liisa liked to live in her imagination -- creating stories and imagining the world outside of the normal. This idea has translated into the style of art she presents. In her spare time: Liisa enjoys reading anything fantasy and otherworldly, cooking, and learning new things related to art. Her skill set ranges everything from graphic design to illustration. The Art of Reflection is her debut exhibition to the general public.

Fetsum Teclemariam was born in Eritrea in 1972. He studied Master Class for painting and drawing at Hatahana Studio School, Tel Aviv Israel. Fetsum participated in group as well as solo exhibitions since 2000 up to present. His art works can be found in public and private art collections both in Eritrea, Israel, Edmonton and European countries, and has been seen in numerous exhibitions worldwide. Fetsum has been giving private classes and mentoring intermediate level artists in Edmonton since 2014. He currently lives and works in Edmonton.