

## STEVENSON

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## MESCHAC GABA

Born 1961 in Cotonou, Benin  
Lives between Cotonou and Rotterdam, the Netherlands

### EDUCATION

1997  
Rijksakademie voor Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021  
*Citoyen du Monde*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Money, Money, Money*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2017  
*L'homme et l'argent*, Galerie In Situ, Paris, France  
*Meschac Gaba*, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, USA  
*Detresse et Mon Jardin*, Le Centre Atropocodji, Cotonou, Benin

2016  
*Bank or Economy*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Tate Modern, London, UK

2015  
*Architectures Sculptures*, Musée de l'histoire de l'immigration, Le Palais de la Porte Dorée, Paris, France

2014  
*Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Deutsche Bank KunstHalle, Berlin, Germany  
*Meschac Gaba*, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, USA

2013  
*Le Monde*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Tate, London, UK

2012  
*Perruques voitures & Archéologie contemporaine*, In Situ/Fabienne LeClerc, Paris, France

2010

*Perruques-Architecture*, Centro Sperimentale per le Arti Contemporanee, il Filatoio di Caraglio, Italy  
*Museum for Contemporary African Art & More*, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas, Canary Islands

2009

*Museum for Contemporary African Art & More*, Museum de Paviljoens, Almere, the Netherlands; Kunsthalle Fridericianum, Kassel, Germany  
*The Street*, Michael Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2007

*Tresses and Other Recent Projects*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa  
*Tresses*, Michael Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2006

*Tresses*, Iniva, London, UK  
*Défilé de perruques*, Paris, France  
*Meschac Gaba / Hermann Pitz: Tresse*, Galerie Fernand Leger, Ivry, Paris, France  
*Glue Me Peace*, Nobel Peace Center, Oslo, Norway

2005

*Library of the Museum*, BiblioNova, Geleen, the Netherlands  
*Glue Me Peace*, Tate Modern, London, UK  
*Le Pain Migrateur*, Artra Gallery, Milan, Italy  
*Meschac Gaba: Tresses*, The Studio Museum, Harlem, New York, USA  
*Peace Maker*, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2004

*Peace Maker*, Ernest G. Welch School of Arts & Design, Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA

2003

*Atlantique*, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2002

*Library of the Museum – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Falaki Gallery, American University of Cairo, Egypt  
*Museum Shop for Sale and Museum Living Room for Sale - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Artra Gallery, Milan, Italy  
*Le Discothèque du Musée – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Stichting Beeldende Kunst Tramremise, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Le Salon du Musée – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

2001

*Marriage Room – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, INOVA- Institute of Visual Art, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA  
*Library of the Museum – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Witte de With, Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
*Ensemble : Michel François & Meschac Gaba*, Galerie Lumen Travo, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Der Inforaum / The Info-room*, Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland

2000

*Meschac Gaba: Salle de Jeux - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, S.M.A.K. Gent, Belgium  
*Game Room - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Crown Gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
*Spielregeln / Rules of the Game*, Galerie Gebauer, Berlin, Germany

1999

*Summer Collection - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Salle de Jeux – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Le Pavé Dans La Mare, Besançon, France

*Museum Restaurant - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, W139, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Vente en gros et detaille*, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

1998

*Missing Links: Draft Room – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Praterinsel, Munich, Germany  
*Museum of Contemporary African Art*, De Nederlandsche Bank, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Architecture of the Museum – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Gate Foundation, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Meschac Gaba*, SBK Kunstuitleen & Galerie 23, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

1997

*Moneta Exotica. Oorspronkelijk geld uit de hele wereld: Draft Room – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Rijksmuseum Het Koninklijk Penningkabinet, Leiden, the Netherlands  
*Bazar Bizar*, Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

1995

*Art Festival pour la Francophonie*, Palace of the President of Bénin, Cotonou

1993

*Dak'art*, Galerie Ife, Dakar, Senegal

1991

*Meschac Gaba*, Centre Culturelle Français de Cotonou, Bénin

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

*The Objects We Choose*, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, USA  
*Observations on Society: Greg Colson and Meschac Gaba*, Bradwolff & Partners, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

2023

*The Artist List*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Imaginary Friends*, Joan Miro Foundation, Barcelona, Spain

2022

*Where do I begin*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2021

*Stevenson and Chill*, Stevenson Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Hope: 2nd Biennale*, De Heilige Driehoek, Oosterhout, the Netherlands  
*THIS IS NOT AFRICA – UNLEARN WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED*, ARoS Aarhus Kunstmuseum, Denmark

2020

*The House of Opportunity*, S.M.A.K, Ghent, Belgium  
*The Return of the Real*, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, USA  
*Songs in the Dark*, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York, USA

2019

*Mapping Worlds: Selected Works from the Scheryn Art Collection*, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Risk*, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
*The Warmth of Other Suns: Stories of Global Displacement*, Phillips Collection, Washington DC, USA  
*Leaving the Echo Chamber*, 14th Sharjah Biennale, UAE  
*Museum of Contemporary African Art* (selections), Works from the Collection, Tate Switch House, London, UK

2018

*African Metropolis. An Imaginary City*, MAXXI, Rome, Italy  
*Both, and*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Enchanted Bodies / Fetish for Freedom*, Galleria d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Bergamo, Italy  
*The Red Hour*, 13th Dakar Biennale, Senegal  
*More for Less*, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa

2017

*You and I*, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Their Own Harlems*, The Studio Museum, Harlem, New York  
*The New Parthenon*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Markets and Man: Of economic and other values*, Kunstraum Baden, Switzerland  
*Noise and Movement*, Videobox Festival, Le Carreau du Temple, Paris, France  
*Afrique Capitales*, La Villette, Paris, France  
*A Painting Today*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*The White Hunter. African Memories and Representations*, FM Centre for Contemporary Art, Milan, Italy  
*When the Heavens Meet the Earth: Selected Works from the Sina Jina Collection of Contemporary Art*, Heong Gallery, Downing College, Cambridge, UK

2016

*Afrika 010*, Wereldmuseum, Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
*We Call It Ludwig*, Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany

2015

*Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*, Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany  
*Everything Must Go*, Lewis Glucksman Gallery, University College Cork, UK  
*Liberated Subjects: Present Tense*, Foundation De 11 Lijnen, Oudenburg, Belgium  
*Global Imaginations*, Museum De Lakenhal in Leiden, the Netherlands  
*Salon Style*, Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, USA

2014

*Chroma*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*The Theatre of the World*, Museo Tamayo, Mexico  
*Atopolis*, Mons, Belgium

2013

*A Sculptural Premise*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Station to Station*, New York to San Francisco, USA  
*When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes: A Restoration/A Remake/A Rejuvenation/A Rebellion*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Detroit, USA

2012

*Inventing the Word: The Artist as Citizen*, Biennale Bénin  
*When Attitudes Became Form Become Attitudes: A Restoration/A Remake/A Rejuvenation/A Rebellion*, CCA Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, USA  
*Through an Open Window: Contemporary Art from the Rabo Art Collection*, Institut Neerlandais, Paris, France  
*We Face Forward: Art from West Africa Today*, Manchester City galleries, UK  
*Intense Proximity*, La Triennale 2012, Paris, France  
*Six Yards: Guaranteed Dutch Design*, Museum voor Moderne Kunst Arnhem, the Netherlands

2011

*What we talk about when we talk about love*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Museum Show: Part 1*, Arnolfini, Bristol, UK

*The Global Contemporary: Art worlds after 1989*, ZKM Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe, Germany  
*Geography of Somewhere*, Brodie/Stevenson, Johannesburg, South Africa

2010

*The Global Africa Project*, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA  
*Exhibition Models*, De Bond, Bruges, Belgium  
*Touched*, Liverpool Biennale, UK  
*This is Our Time*, Michael Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Act VIII: Nether Land*, Dutch Culture Centre, Shanghai, China  
*Pleased to Meet You: South Africa, Gateway to Africa*, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

2009

*Esposizione Universale*, GAMeC, Bergamo, Italy

2008

*Glück - Welches Glück*, Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, Dresden, Germany  
*Port City*, Greenland Street Gallery, Liverpool, England, UK  
*Carried Away: Procession in Art*, Museum Voor Moderne Kunst Arnhem, the Netherlands  
*Biennale Cuvée*, OK Center for Contemporary Art, Linz, Austria

2007

*Africa Remix*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa

2006

*Sweetness and Museum Shop*, São Paulo Biennale, Brazil  
*Tresses*, 6th Gwangju Biennale, South Korea  
*La Maison*, Sydney Biennale, Australia  
*Qui Veut Cajoux, Je Veux Cajoux*, Fort op de Ruigenhoeksedijk, De Kleine, Utrecht, the Netherlands  
*Boulangerie Africaine*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
*Tresses*, 9th Havana Biennale, Cuba  
*Global Tour: Tresses*, W139, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Respect! Formes de cohabitation: Peace Maker*, Musée Dar Si Saïd, Marrakech, Morocco

2005

*Overtures - on Water: Water Village*, Art Circolo Kunstprojekt, Munich, Germany  
*Trace of a Structure of Ideas: Archaeology of a Utopia in the Hardau*, Zurich, Switzerland  
*Boulangerie Africaine*, Hayward Gallery, London, UK  
*Africa Remix: Identità & Nomadismo*, Palazzo delle Papesse Centro Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy  
*Africa Remix: Boulangerie Africaine*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France  
*San Francisco, Monuments for the USA: Peace Mountain*, Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts, San Francisco, USA  
*Dressing Ourselves*, La Triennale di Milano, Italy

2004

*Horizons: Rules of the Game*, Museum of World Cultures, Göteborg, Sweden  
*Economies*, Artra Gallery, Milan, Italy  
*Strange Planet: Peace Maker*, Ernest G. Welch School of Art & Design, Georgia State University, Atlanta, USA  
*Contemporary Archeology: The Fiction of Authenticity*, Miller Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University, Pennsylvania, USA  
*Money Bed*, Fundament Foundation, Tilburg, the Netherlands  
*Africa Remix: Boulangerie Africaine*, Kunstpalast, Dusseldorf, Germany  
*Visa For Thirteen*, PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island, New York, USA  
*Les Afriques: Poulet Morgue*, Le Tri Postal, Lille/Cultural Capital of Europe, France  
*Open Studios*, PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City, New York

2003

*Contemporary Archeology*, Forum of Contemporary Art, St. Louis, Missouri, USA  
*Water, Water Village*, Amsterdamse Duinwaterleidingen, the Netherlands  
*Democracy Game, Exhibition of Exhibitions*, Casey Kaplan Gallery, New York, USA  
*We Are The World: Ginger Bar*, Dutch Pavilion, 50th Venice Biennale, Italy  
*Plasticiens en Mouvement/Kunstenaars in Beweging: Origine du Monde*, De Markten, Brussels, Belgium

2002

*Artists' Games, Public's Games*, Kunstverein Ulm, Germany  
*Library of the Museum, Museum Shop and Humanist Space*, Documenta11, Kassel, Germany  
*Geld und Wahrung / Das letzte Tabu: Museum Shop*, EXPO, Switzerland

2001

*Democracy Game*, Helsinki, Finland  
*International Art Fair: Museum Shop, Art /32/* Basel, Switzerland  
*Locus/Focus: Palace of Eternity*, Sonsbeek 2001 (9), Arnhem, the Netherlands  
*Geldlust: ModellBanking: Money Tree*, Kunsthalle Tirol, Hall in Tirol, Austria  
*National Slavery Monument, Slave Route*, City Hall Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Realite Revisitee: Experimenter le Reel : Atlantique*, Cimaise & Portique centre departmental d'art contemporain, Albi, France  
*Mirror's Edge, Museum of Contemporary African Art - The Architecture of the Museum*, Tramway, Glasgow, Scotland  
*Red Ribbon Art: Money Box*, Groninger Museum, Groningen, the Netherlands

2000

*Mirror's Edge, Architecture of the Museum - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Castello di Rivoli, Turin, Italy;  
Vancouver Art Gallery, Canada  
*For Real: Marriage Room - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*The Sky is the Limit, Meschac Gaba Made in Taiwan*, Fine Arts Museum, Taipei Biennale, Taiwan  
*L'Art dans le Monde: Pain et Marteaux*, Paris Musees/Revue des Beaux Arts, Pont Alexandre III, Paris, France  
*East/International: Museum of Contemporary African Art – Draft Room*, Norwich Gallery, Norwich, UK  
*Play-use: Game Room*, Witte de With, Center for Contemporary Art, Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
*A Casa Di: Art and Religion Room – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Cittadellarte/Fondazione Pistoletto, Biella, Italy  
*Continental Shift. A voyage between cultures: Le Discotheque du Musee - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Bonnefanten Museum, Maastricht, the Netherlands  
*Dialogues, Museum Shop*, Lumen Travo Gallery, ARCO, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Worthless (invaluable). The concept of value in contemporary art: Draft Room - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Moderna Galerija, Ljubljana, Slovenia  
*No Title*, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, the Netherlands  
*Chess Game, part of Game Room - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Galerie Gebauer, Kunstmesse, Basel, Switzerland

1999

*Mirror's Edge: Architecture of the Museum – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Bildmuseet, Umea, Sweden  
*South Meets West: Museum Shop - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, National Museum of Ghana, Accra  
*Waardige Zaken. Wonderkamers: Summer Collection*, De Nieuwe Vide, Haarlem, the Netherlands  
*Casino*, Le Pave Dans La Mare, Besanon, France  
*TroubleSpot. Painting: Draft Room - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, NICC and MUHKA, Antwerp, Belgium  
*Trafique: Museum Shop - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, S.M.A.K. Ghent, Belgium  
*National Museumweekend: Architecture of the Museum – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam, the Netherlands  
*Unlimited.nl-2: Architecture of the Museum – Museum of Contemporary African Art*, De Appel Foundation, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

1998

*Copy Culture. 40 Jaar Amsterdams Grafisch Atelier*, Arti et Amicitiae, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

*Meeting Point*, Lumen Travo Gallery, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

*NICC*, Antwerp, Belgium

1997

*Draft Room - Museum of Contemporary African Art*, Rijksakademie van beeldende kunsten, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

*Blueprint*, De Appel Foundation, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

1996

Rasa Foundation, Utrecht, the Netherlands

*Open Ateliers*, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

1995

*Ewole*, Lome, Togo

German Embassy, Cotonou, Bénin

1994

*on the occasion of the top Africa/America*, Libreville, Gabon

*Biennale d'Abidjan*, Ivory Coast

Centre Culturelle Chinois, Cotonou, Bénin

Galerie GO, Cotonou, Bénin

1993

Centre Culturelle Americain, Cotonou, Bénin

1992

*Arts sur 7. S.O.S. Artistes*, Halle des Sports, Cotonou, Bénin

Musée des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris, France

#### AWARDS

2002

Will Grohmann Preis, Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Germany

AICA Award, International Association of Art Critique

#### RESIDENCIES

2006

Recife, Brazil

2005

Couvent des Récollets, Paris, France

2003

PS1 Contemporary Art Center, Long Island City, New York, USA

1999

Thami Mnyeleye Residency, Amsterdam, The Netherlands