

# Press Release

# apexart - Lagos, Nigeria

## ***Re-Imaging Futures: A Trans-Nigerian Conversation***

organized by **Innocent Ekejiuba and Yinka Elujoba**

**February 10 - March 9, 2019**  
**Open from 10am - 6pm daily**

### **Venue:**

Nigerian Railway Corporation Yard, Yaba  
Lagos, Nigeria

Opening Reception:

**Saturday, February 9, 2019, 4:00pm**

Featuring Work By:

**James Bekenawei**  
**Kemi Falodun**  
**Yinka Elujoba**  
**Emmanuel Iduma**

**Nengi Nelson**  
**Kechi Nomu**  
**Kenekukwu Nwatu**  
**Zaynab Odunsi**

**Emeka Okereke**  
**Amara Okolo**  
**Uche Okonkwo**



Lugard's Rest House I, (Emeka Okereke, Lokoja, Nigeria, 2016)

In 2016 and 2017, twelve Nigerian writers, photographers, and filmmakers traveled by road in two separate groups across the country for 81 days. Organized by Invisible Borders Trans-African Photographers Organization, the project, called *Borders Within* sought to cultivate new creative works addressing what it means to be Nigerian by attempting to decode both the contemporary and the historical. The first group traveled counter-clockwise around the country to retrace history and how it has molded the country's present. The second group traveled clockwise, in an effort to understand contemporary Nigeria, and what it means to be Nigerian today and in the future.

Is it possible to escape what one has been named? By name, Nigeria is one country, but it is also a place that contains myriad identities and more than 250 distinct ethnic groups. In a country presently grappling with violence, political instability, ethnic crises, and a lingering shadow of a colonial past, showing the work resulting from this project now is timely. Visitors will be guided through and immersed in the motions of the road trip through a collage of images, audio-visual documentation, cartographic depictions, and public, site-specific interventions on topics pertinent to Nigerianness, such as masculinity, family, history, movement, and the Civil War.

*Re-Imaging Futures: A Trans-Nigerian Conversation* was selected from more than 500 proposals by more than 350 jurors from around the world through apexart's Open Call. For more information or images visit [www.apexart.org](http://www.apexart.org) or email [press@apexart.org](mailto:press@apexart.org).

**Innocent Ekejiuba** is a project manager and art administrator with varying interests that include art, technology, social media, traditional journalism, educational reforms, and history. He is also a tech enthusiast, media analyst, literary critic, and a media advisor to Sankofa Initiative for Culture and Development, and Fourth Canvas Design Agency. Innocent is currently the Project Manager for Invisible Borders Trans-African Organisation.

**Yinka Elujoba** is a Nigerian writer and art critic currently finishing up an MFA in Art Writing at the School of Visual Arts, New York. His texts have been published in different journals, magazines, exhibition catalogues and have also been part of exhibitions at Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, and Krakow, Poland. He is currently the Director of Publications at Invisible Borders Trans-African Organization.

**apexart's** programs are supported in part by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Buhl Foundation, Bloomberg Philanthropies, The Greenwich Collection Ltd., William Talbott Hillman Foundation, Affirmation Arts Fund, the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Fifth Floor Foundation, and with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

**#ReimagingFutures**

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