

# FEMI OLAJIRE AKANDE

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## Education

Master of Fine Arts (Printmaking), Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas, USA, 2025  
Master of Fine Arts (Ceramics), Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas, USA, 2023  
Post Graduate Diploma (Ceramics & Glass), Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Nigeria, 2019  
Bachelor of Arts, (Fine Art), Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. 2018  
Higher National Diploma (Ceramics), The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria. 2005

## Employment

### Artist in Residence

FOA Arts LLC, Houston, Texas, USA. 2024- date

### Graduate Assistant

*Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas. August 2022 – May 2023*  
Supported instruction in ceramic arts, including 2D-to-3D model making, hand modeling, casting, glazing, and kiln operation, while providing technical and creative guidance to students

### Principal Instructor I

*The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria. March 2009 – 2022*  
Taught N.D. and H.N.D. students in drawing, ceramic sculpture, studio pottery, and 3D model making. Led instruction in clay modeling, casting, glazing, and kiln firing (wood, gas, electric). Supervised final-year projects and mentored students, promoting both technical skill and personal growth

### Program Coordinator

*Department of Arts, Design, and Printing Technology, Continuing Education Centre  
The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria. January 2017– December 2022*  
Oversaw curriculum planning and course management, assigned teaching responsibilities, supervised adult community education programs, taught courses, and guided students through project development and completion.

### Fine Art Teacher

*Franci's 'M' College, Bodija, Ibadan, Nigeria. January 2008 – March 2009*  
Taught students foundational art skills including drawing, painting, clay modeling, collage, mosaic, and crafts.

### Fine Art Teacher (N.Y.S.C.)

*St. Anthony Secondary School, Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria | January 2007 – March 2008*  
Taught secondary school students in drawing, painting, clay modeling, collage, mosaic, and various crafts as part of the National Youth Service Corps.

## Honors and Awards

2023 The 2023 American Art Awards Winners in Sculpture - Representational, USA/Nigeria  
2023 World Art Awards Winners in Sculpture Representational, USA/Nigeria  
2022 The Pinacothèque Awards Recognition, Luxembourg Museum, Luxembourg  
2008 Prize -Life in My City Art Festival Juried Exhibition, Enugu, Nigeria  
2005 Prize -Best Overall Student, The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria

## Membership

The American Ceramics Society (ACerS 3012851), USA

Clay Houston, USA

Society of Nigerian Artist (SNA), Nigeria

## Exhibitions

- 2024 *FORMATIVE NARRATIVES*, Clay Houston Exhibition, Gallery 100, The Silos at Sawyer Yards, Houston, Texas, USA – Juried Selection, Ceramic Sculpture: "I Offer You My Soul"
- 2023 *PRECIOUS*, International Gallerium Group Exhibition, Ontario, Canada – Juried Selection, Ceramic Vase: "HOPE" [Gallerium: Precious - 2023 | Group Exhibition](#)
- 2023 *TRUE BEAUTY*, International Gallerium Group Exhibition, Ontario, Canada – Juried Selection, Ceramic Sculpture: "Squirrel". <https://www.exhibizone.com/p/truebeauty2023.html?TP=artists&name=femi-akande>
- 2023 *BELIEVE*, International Gallerium Group Exhibition, Ontario, Canada – Juried Selection, Ceramic Sculpture: "When Grace Speaks". <https://www.gallerium.art/p/believe-2023.html?TP=artists&name=femi-akande>
- 2023 *COLORIUM*, International Gallerium Group Exhibition, Ontario, Canada – Juried Selection, Ceramics Vessel: "Look at the Lilies". <https://www.gallerium.art/p/colorium-2023.html?name=femi-akande>
- 2023 *LOVE*, International Exhibizone Group Exhibition, Ontario, Canada– Juried Selection, Printmaking: "Sweet Indelible Memories". <https://www.exhibizone.com/p/love2023.html?TP=artists&ARID=2440602000210819611>
- 2018 Solo Ceramics Pottery exhibition "SO FAR THE EXPERIENCE", Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria
- 2017 Participant in Contemporary Ceramics Sculpture exhibition "ABINIBI IMPRESSIONS: THE HOME COMING OF GREAT TALENTS", Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2012 Group Ceramics/Art exhibition "UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN (UI) 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ART EXHIBITION", Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2011 Solo Ceramics exhibition "CLAY IN THE MAGIC HAND OF MAN", University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2010 Group Ceramics Pot exhibition titled "Nigeria @ 50", by the Society of Nigerian Artists, Alliance Francais- Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2008 Participated in ceramics exhibition titled "LIFE IN MY CITY ART FESTIVAL", Alliance Francais, Ibadan and Enugu, Nigeria
- 2005 Group ceramics art show "EXPERIENCE NIGERIA", Muson Centre, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2005 Solo ceramics sculpture exhibition "SERENITY" at the Art Gallery, The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2001 Participated in Ceramics Art Exhibition, The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Eruwa Campus, Nigeria

## Citations / Media Publications

"Artist Urges Use of Visual Arts to Achieve Peace in Ukraine." **The Guardian Nigeria**, June 16, 2024.

Feature article highlighting Femi Olajire Akande, a Nigerian-American ceramic sculptor recognized for his contributions to the visual arts scene in Houston.

URL: <https://guardian.ng/artist-urges-use-of-visual-arts-to-ac...>

"For the Sake of Peace, Femi Akande Preaches Art." **THISDAYLIVE**, June 16, 2024.

A feature exploring Femi Olajire Akande's use of terracotta sculpture to convey themes of peace and gratitude, highlighting the emotional depth and cultural resonance of his work.

URL: <https://www.thisdaylive.com/index/2024/06/16>

"With Art, Akande Moves for Sustainable Peace in Europe." **The Sun News Online**, May 31, 2024.

An article discussing Femi Olajire Akande's artistic efforts toward promoting sustainable peace in Europe through his impactful ceramic works.

URL: <https://sunnewsonline.com/with-art-akande-moves-for-sustainable-peace-in-europe/>

*"Why My Art Fosters Culture of Peace – Akande, U.S.-Based Artist."* **Vanguard Nigeria**, May 26, 2024.

An interview with Femi Olajire Akande discussing how his art promotes a culture of peace, highlighting his perspective as a U.S.-based Nigerian artist.

URL: <https://www.vanguardngr.com/2024/05/why-my-art-fosters-culture-of-peace-akande-us-based-artist/>

*"Arise, Oh Compatriots: Akande's Clarion Call for Peaceful Diplomatic Solution."* **New Telegraph Nigeria**, May 22, 2024.

A feature on Femi Olajire Akande, the U.S.-based Nigerian sculptor, joining the G7 Nations in advocating for a peaceful diplomatic resolution to global conflicts.

URL: <https://newtelegraphng.com/arise-oh-compatriots-akandes-clarion-call-for-peaceful-diplomatic-solution/>

*"My Art Aids Personal Spiritual Growth."* **The Nation Newspaper**, May 22, 2024.

An article in which Femi Olajire Akande discusses how his artistic practice contributes to his personal spiritual growth and creative journey.

URL: <https://thenationonlineng.net/my-art-aids-personal-spiritual-growth/>

*"Nigerian-US Sculptor Infuses Art in Search for Global Peace."* **Tribune Online**, May 22, 2024.

An article featuring Femi Olajire Akande, highlighting his use of art to promote global peace, blending his Nigerian heritage with his U.S. experience.

URL: <https://tribuneonlineng.com/?p=886957>

*"Akande Femi Olajire's Ceramic Art Works: An Epic Appraisal."* **Creative Tendency: An International Journal of Research Problems and Findings**, Volume IV, No. IV, 2023.

Co-authored by Akanni Daniel O. (Ph.D.), Environmental Design, The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria, and Rachel E. Gardner, School of Fine Arts, Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas, USA.

Pages: 20-27. ISSN: 29716349.

*"Meet Femi Olajire Akande."* **Canvas Rebel Magazine**, November 30, 2023.

An article exploring the story behind Femi Olajire Akande's most meaningful projects, highlighting his work as a contemporary ceramic sculptor, peace promoter, and entrepreneur.

URL: <https://canvasrebel.com/meet-femi-olajire-akande/>

*"World's Best Sculptors: 2023 American Art Awards."* **Medium**, November 6, 2023.

An article listing Femi Olajire Akande among the world's best sculptors, as recognized in the 2023 American Art Awards.

URL: <https://thombierd.medium.com/worlds-best-sculptors-2023-american-art-awards-eren-mcavoy-xin-kang-nijssen-shook-d3acf5668406>

*"World Art Awards: Winners in Sculpture Representational."* **Medium**, June 30, 2023.

An article highlighting Femi Olajire Akande as a winner in the Sculpture Representational category at the 2023 World Art Awards.

URL: <https://thombierd.medium.com/world-art-awards-winners-in-sculpture-representational-eren-ward-paolino-jie-mcavoy-ortiz-3b5d033e13b5> For more details on the awards: [2023 Press on Artists](#)

*"Conversation with Femi Akande."* **Voyage Houston**, June 6, 2023.

An inspiring interview with Femi Olajire Akande featured in Voyage Houston, discussing his artistic journey, influences, and contributions to the Houston arts scene.

URL [Conversations with Femi Akande - Voyage Houston Magazine | Houston City Guide](#)

*"Ceramic Art Training in Art Schools of Oyo State."* **The Artist Journal**, 2019.

Research by MO Ajadi and TE Akinde, discussing Femi Olajire Akande's significant influence on ceramic art in Oyo State. The article highlights Akande's contributions to the Ibadan Art School, noting the growing adoption

of his sculptural, traditional, and textual approaches by his students.  
Available at: [ResearchGate](#)

**"From Global to Local: Feminism and Feminist Nudity from Visual Perceptions and Conceptions of Artists." *Impact Journals*, 2023.**

An article by Ayo Elebute exploring global and local perspectives on feminism and feminist nudity in art, with references to the influence of Femi Olajire Akande's work in shaping contemporary discussions on gender and art.

Available at: [Impact Journals](#)

**"The Ceramic Sculpture of Femi Akande." *Symphony Journal of Arts and Aesthetics*, Vol. 6, 2015.**

Written by Egunjobi Felix, this article provides an in-depth analysis of Femi Olajire Akande's ceramic sculpture, examining the artistic and aesthetic elements of his work.

ISSN: 1595-2754. Pages: 44-50.

Published by Symphony Publishing House

**"Hidden Treasure (Alumoni to Farasin): A Sculptural African Ceramic Pot by Femi Akande"**

Igieorobo Osasumwen, in *"Clay in the Magic Hands of Man" Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.*

The article highlights Akande as a sculptural ceramist whose works convey societal messages, blending tradition with innovation and emphasizing individuality.

**"The Aesthetic and Iconic Value in Clay."**

Written by Abidemi Abideen Lamidi. in *"Clay in the Magic Hands of Man" Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.*

An exploration of the aesthetic and symbolic importance of clay in sculpture, with references to Femi Olajire Akande's work.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**"African Planter by Femi Akande."**

An article by Adenuga Racheal O. in *"Clay in the Magic Hands of Man" Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.*

Discusses Femi Olajire Akande's piece *African Planter*, examining its cultural and symbolic significance.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**"The Theme, Style and Materials of Artist Femi Olajire Akande's Ìkòkò Òpéléngé."**

By Moronkade Nureni A. in *"Clay in the Magic Hands of Man" Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.*

Analyzes the thematic depth, stylistic approach, and materials used in Femi Olajire Akande's *Ìkòkò Òpéléngé*.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**"Hidden Treasure (Alumoni to Farasin): A Sculptural African Ceramic Pot by Femi Akande."**

Written by Igieorobo Osasumwen in *"Clay in the Magic Hands of Man" Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.*

A study of the cultural and artistic significance of Femi Olajire Akande's sculptural ceramic piece *Alumoni to Farasin*.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**"Morning by Morning, New Mercies I See."**

Written by Salami Ajani Kolade in *"Clay in the Magic Hands of Man" Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.*

An article reflecting on Femi Olajire Akande's spiritual and artistic journey as expressed through his work.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**“OPÉLÓYÍMIKÁ: An Expression by Femi Akande.”**

By Femi Oose, 2011 in “Clay in the Magic Hands of Man” Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.

An analysis of OPÉLÓYÍMIKÁ, focusing on its conceptual and cultural representation in Akande's ceramic art.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**“Versatility of Cultures: In Femi Akande Artistic Expression.”**

An article written by Sandra Isagua in “Clay in the Magic Hands of Man” Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.

Discusses how Femi Olajire Akande's work reflects cultural versatility and the blending of traditional and contemporary themes.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

**“Femi Akande: A Traditional Reinvention and Cultural Revisitation in a Global Perspective.”**

By Ayinde Johnson Ajibade, in “Clay in the Magic Hands of Man” Femi Akande Solo Art Exhibition catalogue, of Ceramics and Pottery.

Explores Akande's approach to traditional art and its reinvention in a global context.

ISBN: 978-987-58493-2-5. Pages: 1-40.

Published by the Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria, 2011

## **Research / Journal Publications**

Akande, F. O. (2024). *Place of Art in Healthy Peace and Conflict Resolution*. Researchers' Voices International Journal: An International Journal of Inquiries in Science, Commerce, Art and Technology (ISCAT), Vol. XII, No. X, pp. 72–79. ISSN: 2971-6365.

Published January 2024.

URL: <https://www.exiswacpublishers.mozello.site.com/exiswac-joint-e-journals-publications/params/post/4617744/>

Akanni, D. O., Adeniji, J., & Akande, F. O. (2021). *Discourse on Selected Nigerian Contemporary Art Commentaries Inspired by Realities of Their Periods*. Graspact Journal of Art and Technology, Department of Fine and Industrial Arts, University of Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 122–140.

Available at: [www.graspact.com.ng](http://www.graspact.com.ng) | [Google Scholar Profile](#)

Akanni, D. O., Adeniji, J. O., & Akande, F. O. (2021). *An Appraisal of the Role of Culture in the Construction of Visual Messages for Product Advertisement in Nigeria*. Egghead: A Journal of Art, Department of Fine Art, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Vol. 5, No. 2, pp. 50–62. ISSN: 26360-4921.

Akanni, D. O., & Akande, F. O. (2021). *Analytical Graphic Design with Frills and Philosophical Concepts of Selected Ceramic-Sculpture Art Works in Nigeria*. Egghead: A Journal of Art, Department of Fine Art, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, Vol. 6, No. 1, pp. 102–113. ISSN: 2636-4921.

Egunjobi, F. B., Olajire, A. T., & Akande, F. O. (2020). *The Aesthetic Transient of Sanusi Adebisi Giwa Mansion in Ibadan*. Art Monitor: A Journal of the Department of Creative Arts, Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun, Ogun State, Vol. 6, pp. 46–57. ISSN: 2449-1454.

Akanni, D. O., Okanlawon, A. K., & Akande, F. O. (2017). *Problem and Prospect of Art Education in Nigeria's Tertiary Institutions of Learning*. Art Monitor: A Journal of Art, Department of Creative Arts, Tai Solarin University of Education, Ijagun, Ogun State, Nigeria, Vol. 4, pp. 36–46. ISSN: 2449-1454.

Olaleye, O. M., Lala, H. B., & **Akande, F. O. (2016).** *Exploring Kaolin (Clay) in Modern-Day Healing Therapy: A Panacea for Building Sustainable Employment Opportunities in Nigeria.* *Gbogbonise Journal of Professionals*, The Ibarapa Polytechnic, Eruwa, Nigeria, Vol. 2, No. 3, pp. 51–64. ISSN: 0795-2929.

## Paper Presentation at Conferences

Akande, F. O., & Ojetunde, O. S. (2021). *The Problem and Challenges Facing the Ceramic Industry in Nigeria.* Proceedings of the National Conference of the Faculty of Environmental Design, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, (June 28 – July 2, 2021)

Akande, F. O. (2020). *Artists as Entrepreneurs: Kola Akintola - An Artist's Efforts to Make Arts Attractive.* *Tribune Online*, April 30, 2020. Arts and Reviews.

In this lecture, Akande emphasized the importance of artists learning to monetize their works and leveraging technology, particularly social media, to showcase their art globally.

Akanni, D. O., & **Akande, F. O. (2021).** *Nira and Kobo Paradigm of Vocational Art Education in Schools of Higher Learning in Nigeria.* Proceedings of the 10th Biennial National Conference/Exhibition, Organized by the School of Secondary Education (Vocational and Technical Programmes), Federal College of Education (Special), Oyo, Nigeria (October 5–8, 2021).

Egunjobi, F. B., & **Akande, F. O. (2016).** *Degrading Value of Ibadan Environmental Sculpture.* Proceedings of the 4th International Conference of the Faculty of Environmental Studies (FES), Conference Centre, The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria, (June 14–16, 2016), p. 14.

Akande, F. O. (2014). *Panacea to Inherent Hazards of Ceramic Tiles Usage in Modern Building in Nigeria.* Proceedings of the 3rd International Conference of the Faculty of Environmental Studies (FES), Assembly Hall, The Polytechnic, Ibadan, Nigeria, (June 3–5, 2014).

## Collections

- 2023 Michael Roque Collins, HCU, Artist in Residence, Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2023 Tiffany Bergeron, Chair, Department of Visual Arts, Houston Christian University, Houston, TX, USA
- 2023 Rachel Gardner, Department of Visual Arts, Houston Christian University, Houston, TX, USA
- 2023 Carlos Canul, Department of Visual Arts, Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2023 Stancy Kuropata, Department of Visual Arts, Houston Christian University, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2022 <https://www.artbykevo.com>, Houston, Texas, USA
- 2020 St. Caroline Private School, Gbekuba, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
- 2019 Department of Creative Arts, University of Lagos, Nigeria
- 2019 The Fine and Applied Arts Department, Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Nigeria
- 2018 Vine Branch Church, Dandaru, G.R.A., Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2018 Fine and Applied Arts Department, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria
- 2017 Gym and Art Gallery, Akobo, Ibadan. Oyo State, Nigeria
- 2017 Orita-Mefa Baptist Church, Orita Mefa, Total Garden, Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2013 WHY ART Foundation, Surulere, Lagos State, Nigeria
- 2012 Professor Femi Osofisan,. Residence -Femi Osofisan Close, Ojoo, Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2012 Professor O.I. Pogoso, Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2010 Susanne Wenger Garden, Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2009 Prof. (Mrs) Peju Layiwola, Department Creative Arts, Faculty of Art, University of Lagos. Nigeria

## Commissions

- 2020 Mural/Relief Sculptural Painting Design, at St. Caroline Private School, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
- 2019 Design and Production of 20 Concrete Garden Chairs, Faculty of Art, University of Lagos, Nigeria

- 2018 Stained Glass Design, Approach View, Vine Branch Church, G.R.A., Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2017 Stained Glass Design & Restoration, Approach View, Morita-Mefa Baptist Church, Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2012 Designed 16 concrete educational verandah posts for Professor Femi Osofisan of the Department of Theatre Arts, University of Ibadan. Located at his residence - Femi Osofisan Close, Ojoo, Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria
- 2010 Restoration of the late Susanne Wenger (an Australian-born Nigerian artist) Sculptural Art Works and African Pots, located at the Susanne Wenger Garden, Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2009 Designed a Monumental Bust of Leonard Cheshire for the Cheshire Home, Poly Road, Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2009 Design of 2009, Season's Greeting Cards, for The Institute of African Studies, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- 2009 Design, *BENIN 1897.COM Art and The Restitution Question*, by Prof. (Mrs) Peju Layiwola, Department Creative Arts, Faculty of Art, University of Lagos, Nigeria
- 2009 Brochure Design for the graduating class of 2007/2008, Visual Arts unit, Department Creative Arts, Faculty of Art, University of Lagos, Nigeria