

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Selome Muleta, *Collapsing Space IX*, 2021. To be exhibited at Addis Fine Art, London in March 2022.

COLLAPSING SPACE | SELOME MULETA

Addis Fine Art, London

11 March - 16 April 2022 (Private View: 10 March from 5-8PM)

Addis Fine Art is pleased to present Selome Muleta's debut European solo show, *Collapsing Space*. This exhibition of the artist's latest works explores womanhood through the playful merging of portraiture and still life, and examines the relationship between the internal self and the external world.

In *Collapsing Space*, Selome continues her exploration of female figures captured in states of inner reflection in the midst of vibrant environments. With her chosen medium of acrylic and oil pastel on canvas, Selome's latest body of work interrogates and celebrates the rich interior worlds of her subjects, the stillness of their external forms reverberating against the vivid patterns and blossoming plants that crawl through their backdrops.

In a similar vein to the portraits of Jennifer Packer, Selome employs translucent washes of hue and busy patterns to create a sense of contemplative unity between her subjects and their respective environments. At times, the faces of her characters are obscured or cropped, and the viewer is invited instead to focus on objects that surround them. A drooping plant, a dozing feline companion, a distant crooked framed portrait – these forms stand as both symbolic and literal entry points to the interior self. Much like the bottles and bowls of Morandi and Hockney's plant-laden vases, the flattened characters and objects born from Selome's brush seem to hum serenely with the energy of their very existence.

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Biography

Selome Muleta (b. 1992) is one of the most exciting young female artists to emerge from the Ethiopian visual arts scene in recent years. Now based in Addis Ababa, Muleta studied art formally at the Abyssinia Fine Art School (2012) and Entoto Polytechnic College (2013-2014). She has had solo exhibitions at Guramayne Art Center, Fendika Art Gallery, Alliance Ethio-Francaise (2019) and most recently, Tsedal at Addis Fine Art, Addis Ababa (2020), she has also participated in group shows including From Modern to Contemporary, CFHILL gallery, Stockholm, Sweden (2020).

NOTES FOR THE EDITOR

About Addis Fine Art

In 2016, Rakeb Sile and Mesai Haileleul co-founded Addis Fine Art, creating the first white-cube gallery space for modern and contemporary art in Ethiopia. Described as one of the "Most Important Young Galleries in the World" (Artsy 2019), the gallery has since then grown to become one of the leading galleries in Africa, establishing a prominent international platform for artists from the Horn of Africa.

In October 2021, the gallery moved into an expanded premises in London, a two-storey gallery space in the heart of Fitzrovia. The London gallery programme encapsulates Addis Fine Art's commitment to heightened international exposure for, and critical reappraisal of, African art on the world stage. The gallery's Addis Ababa space continues to be an incubator for emerging talent, facilitating critical engagement within the local market and encouraging the growth and development of the artworld ecosystem on the continent. The gallery will also serve as a space for artists from the diaspora to return to the continent and share and develop their practice.

Addis Fine Art Gallery
NOAH Centrum Building,
Bole, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Monday - Saturday 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 6pm
Tel: +251 980 635 696

Addis Fine Art London
21 Eastcastle St
London, UK
Tuesday - Friday 11 am - 6 pm & Saturday 12 - 6 pm
Monday by appointment only
Tel: +44 203 488 0822

hello@addisfineart.com
www.addisfineart.com
@addisfineart

For more press information contact our press office on press@addisfineart.com or +44 7584256937

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IMAGE DOWNLOAD LINK: <https://we.tl/t-yqTvY6KwZS>



Selome Muleta
Collapsing Space VII, 2021
Courtesy of Addis Fine Art



Selome Muleta
Collapsing Space IX, 2021
Courtesy of Addis Fine Art



Selome Muleta in her Addis Ababa studio.
Courtesy of Lucy Emms and Addis Fine Art



Selome Muleta in her Addis Ababa studio.
Courtesy of Lucy Emms and Addis Fine Art