

Arts & Culture

## Artists to watch at this year’s 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair



NEW AFRICAN | 14/10/2021 | 0 COMMENTS



[1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair](#) returns to Somerset House from Thursday 14–Sunday 17 October 2021 for its 9th London edition, the largest yet. *New African* previews 15 of the artists whose work is on display.



### Helina Metaferia

#### Addis Fine Art

*Born 1983 in Washington D.C., US; lives and works in New York*

Helina Metaferia is an interdisciplinary artist working across collage, assemblage, video, performance, and social engagement. Through a hybrid of media, Metaferia’s practice is concerned with exploring overlooked stories relating to the Black experience, mainly in the context of the West.

She approaches this by centring Black bodies, mostly women, in positions of power and vulnerability to interrogate complex histories of systemic oppression, questioning how it informs personal experiences and interpersonal relationships. As a research-based artist, Helina’s work is informed by written and oral archives, dialogical art, and somatic practices.

Metaferia received her MFA from Tufts University’s School of the Museum of Fine Arts and attended the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture. She is currently an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow/Assistant Professor at Brown University. Her solo exhibition, *Generations*, will open at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in autumn this year.

