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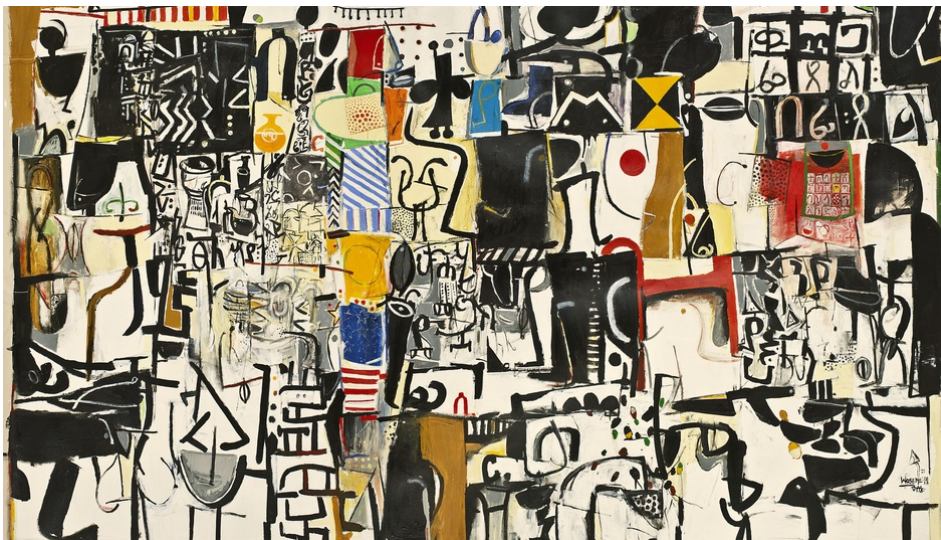
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## Wordplay: Wosene Worke Kosrof on display

Posted on June 22, 2015 by theotherlondon in News & Reviews // 0 Comments

Renowned Ethiopian artist, Wosene Worke Kosrof is currently showcasing a collection of new paintings in his exhibition Wordplay: Future Tense, in London's Gallery of African Art.



Wordplay is the fifth series of major paintings from a career spanning over 40 years. These paintings, which Wosene began working on in 2009, are expressed as a form of dialogue with the Amharic script.

Forensically, he dissects the 228 symbols that make up Amharic – distorting, elongating and reconfiguring their shapes to produce bold, expressive compositions that celebrate the visual poetry of the language. The works on show not only reveal Wosene's intimate connection with his homeland, they also incorporate his experiences as an expatriate living in the Unites States. In Night of the Red Sky II (Ethiopia 1977-79), Wosene documents life in Ethiopia during the time of communist rule under 'the Derg', before he left the country in 1978. The Derg is the shortened name of the Military Coordinating Committee that ruled Ethiopia between 1974 to 1987.

The life of the immigrant and artist living in the US is explored in My America II(2015). Here in this work recognisable US symbols co-exist with African ones.

**This exhibition is on display until 8 August.**

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