

## TAHIR KARMALI CV

Born 1987, Nairobi, KE  
Lives and works in New York, NY, US

### EDUCATION

MFA Digital Photography, School of Visual Arts, New York, NY, US  
BBA Marketing and Communications, Les Roches, CH

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 UNTITLED, ART, Bode Projects, San Francisco, CA, US
- 2019 *Fibers of Being*, Bode Projects, Hamburg, DE  
*Tahir Carl Karmali: PAPERwork*, Strongroom, Newburgh, NY, US
- 2018 *Paper Planes*, Sotheby's Institute, New York, NY, US
- 2017 *PAPER:work*, Pioneer Works, New York, NY, US
- 2016 *Value*, Brooklyn College Library, New York, NY, US  
*Jua Kali*, United Photo Industries, New York, NY, US
- 2014 *Untitled*, Art Cabinet, Nairobi, KE  
*Jua Kali*, Kuona Trust Arts Centre, Nairobi, KE  
*Value*, Kuona Trust Arts Centre, Nairobi, KE

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 *Second Careers*, Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH, US (Upcoming)
- 2019 *No More Water*, The Old Stone House, New York, NY, US  
*OPEN CALL*, The Shed, New York, NY, US
- 2018 *PRIZM art fair*, Alaina Simone Inc, Miami, FL, US  
*Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*, Blanton Museum, Austin, TX, US  
*Tracing Obsolescence*, Apex Art, New York, NY, US  
*CODE Art Fair*, Bode Projects, Copenhagen, DK  
*Factors of Production*, Rachel Uffner, New York, NY, US  
*Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*, Albuquerque M., Albuquerque, NM, US  
*New Threads*, Circle Art Agency, Nairobi, KE  
*Immigrant Artists and the American West*, Tacoma Art Museum, WA, US
- 2017 *UPROOT Smack Melon*, New York, NY, US  
*Sea of Trace*, 505 Johnson Studios, New York, NY, US  
*How We Come and How We Go*, Trestle Projects, New York, NY, US  
*PAPER:work & Jua Kali*, 1:54, London, UK  
*Making Africa*, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA, US  
*Brassage Photographique*, Villers-la-Ville, BE  
*My Collection*, MoCADA, New York, NY, USA  
*Biennial Fotografica Bogota 2017*, Bogota, CO  
*PAPER:work*, Art Africa Fair, Cape Town, ZA  
*Figure 8*, Foley Gallery, New York, NY, US

- 2016 In Dialog II - Photobastei, Zurich, CH  
Addis Foto Festival, Addis Ababa, ET  
*Jua Kali* as part of "Making Africa", Kunsthal Rotterdam, NL  
*Tumia* part of Frontiers of The Present Exhibition, Circle Art Agency, Nairobi, KE  
*Jua Kali*, Africa Reframed, Copenhagen, DK  
*Tumia*, Afreaka Festival, Galeria Olida, São Paulo, BR  
*Jua Kali* as part of "Making Africa", CCCB, Barcelona, ES
- 2015 *Displaced* as part of "FUUSE", SVA Gallery, New York, NY, US  
*Jua Kali* as part of "Making Africa", Guggenheim, Bilbao, ES (Travelling exhibition DE, CH, CV, ES, MA, MY, NG, TN)

## RESIDENCIES

- 2020 Watermill Center Artist Residency  
BRICLab Performing Arts Residency  
Lower East Side Printshop Key Holder Residency
- 2019 THE SHED Open Call Commission
- 2018 Triangle Artist Residency
- 2017 Pioneer Works Visual Artist Residency  
Trestle Gallery Visiting Visual Artist Residency
- 2016 MacDowell Visual Artist Residency  
BRIC visual artist in residency

## AWARDS & GRANTS

- 2019 Pollock-Krasner Grant
- 2017 Forbes 30 Under 30 Arts & Style
- 2015 IPA – International Photography Awards – Honorable Mention Professional Fine Art College  
International Contemporary African Photography awards  
POPCAP' 2015  
Candidate at The New York Times Portfolio Review  
Editor's Choice Selection for GuatePhoto
- 2014 Kuona Trust Conceptual Exhibit Grant for "Jua Kali"  
Kuona Trust Conceptual Exhibit Grant for "Value"

## SELECTED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 2020 „Transgenerational Vision: The Empathetic Paperwork of Emma Nishimura and Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Journal of the Mid American Print Council*, 2020 Vol. 30/31, by Johnny Plastini.  
„Paper Borders: Emma Nishimura and Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Hand Papermaking*, Vol. 35, No. 1, Summer 2020, by Lisa M. Cirando.  
*Second Careers. Two Tributaries in African Art*, Cleveland Museum of Art, by Ugochukwu -Smooth C. Nzewi, January 2010.
- 2019 „Fragile Borders and Rituals of Remembrance“, *Hyperallergic*, by Billy Anania, October 2019
- 2018 “Decentralizing Art: The Hype and Hope of Blockchain”, Foley Gallery, New York, NY, US  
UNGA - “African Identities Across the Arts: Second Generations”, Africa House  
“High Tea: A Discussion with Tahir Carl Karmali and Cullen Washington, Jr.”, Rachel Uffner Gallery, New York, NY, US

- 2017 “Not African Enough?: In conversation with African Diaspora Youth“, Panel, McGill University, Montreal, CA
- 2016 ‘Artist Identity in “Contemporary African Art”’, Brooklyn College, New York, NY, US  
“African Art Design and Entrepreneurship”, SOM Panel, Yale University, New Haven, CT, US

## SELECTED PRESS & BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2020 Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi: *Second Careers. Two Tributaries in African Art*, Cleveland Museum of Art (Cleveland: Yale University Press 2020).  
„Watermill Center Artists-in-Residence To Discuss Their Works During Digital In Process“, *Hamptons*, by Nicole Barylski, November 2020  
„Paper Borders: Emma Nishimura and Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Hand Papermaking*, by Lisa M. Circando, Vol. 35, No. 1, Summer 2020  
„Transgenerational Vision: The Empathetic Paperwork of Emma Nishimura and Tahir Carl Karmali“, *MAPC Journal*, by Johnny Plastini, March 2020  
„Artists Who Teach: Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Vanguard*, by Jack Coleman, February 2020
- 2019 „Collaborative Creation: Tahir Karmali Interviewed by Danni Shen“, *Bomb Magazine*, by Danni Shen, December 2019  
„PAPER BORDERS: EMMA NISHIMURA AND TAHIR CARL KARMALI“, *International Print Center New York*, by Kelly Baum, October 2019
- 2018 „On Photography and the Now: A Conversation With Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Enkare Review*, by Roseline Olang, May 2018
- 2017 „Alumni Interview: Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Les Roches*, April 2017  
„Art Takeover: Tahir Carl Karmali“, *Art Africa*
- 2016 „Kenyan Photographer Suspends Reality With Portraits Of Nairobi's Informal Economy Workers“, *Okay Africa*, by Alyssa Klein, March 2016  
„Celebrating the junkyard genius of Nairobi's informal workers – in pictures“, *The Guardian*, March 2016