



**Ona Ope Mi Po**

**By**

**Olaniyi Rasheed AKINDIYA Akirash**



## Acknowledgements

**YINNI YINNI KENI OSE MI**

All praises to the most high in heaven, my wife Michelle Oreoluwa Akindiya, most precious gift ever Mariam Fadekemilola Akindiya (MFA) & Okikiola Hajia Zaheen Akindiya (OHA), and to all my extended families Home and Abroad. Appreciation goes to AC Institute NY, The MAC Dallas, Texas Society of Sculpture Georgetown Texas, Oklahoma State University Museum of Art and all their staff, Oklahoma State University and their students, Bombay Sapphire Artisan Series / Art on 5th in Austin, Texas State University San Marcos and Michael A. Gracia, AURORA New Media Dallas, University of Dallas, Dr. Moyosore Okediji, Mr Isiaka Ishola Akindiya & Mrs. Fadekemilola Akindiya, Michael & Mary Perry. To all of you out there who have contributed, supported, assisted in any way to my successful 2015 journey, I can not mention you all. I SAY ESE PUPO, AJOSE WA KONI BAJE OOO, OKE OKE LE O MALO OO. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

**Am still ENIYAN LASO MI - THE AKIRASH**



**(C) ARTWITHAKIRASH FOUNDATION**



**Artist, Editor, Creator**

Olaniyi Raheed Akindiya AKIRASH

**Co-editor**

Michelle Oreoluwa Akindiya

**Front cover**

Photography from performance

BATETELE (COMING OF AGE FOR MALE)

By Jeff BENEDETTO

**Back Cover**

Artwithakirash Logo & Images of car accident with  
Akirash on 20th Sept 2015 in Oklahoma City

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**Thanks to all who collaborated with me throughout  
this year 2015.**

**The images in this book, especially those from  
performances, are contributed by:**

Megan Guerber, Gabriel Levinson, Grant Yolene,  
Shawn yuan, Jeff Benedetto, Michelle Akindiya,  
Steve Stratakos, Andy Wilson.

**[www.artwithakirash.com](http://www.artwithakirash.com)**



# ARTIST'S STATEMENT

My works focus on moments. Time, present in seconds and minutes, can only be preserved through documentation, as memory is fleeting and easily forgotten or transformed. My work is often marked by an exploration of rural versus urban life, namely the accelerated pace of development and social infrastructure. I produce works which explore the personal and the universal, which investigate the invisible systems of power that govern everyday existence and which instigate debate among viewers without conventional ink on paper. My works address social issues.

I work with a multitude of techniques and materials. The result of which may be mixed media painting, sculpture, installation, video, photography, sound or performance. Found objects that relate to a particular society or community are central in my work. They may be woven, sewn, glued, welded, nailed, collaged, cast or carved. They may be mounted on canvas as 2D mixed media painting or used as sculptural 3D work. My works invoke touch and tempt viewers to forget how to move their feet.

I am always trying new things, experimenting and challenging myself with new techniques, ideas and materials to interact with people.

I have dedicated my life as an interdisciplinary artist to easing pain and providing comfort, peace and solace. I believe art can be a balm to the soul, revealing an often quiet inner truth. My art is about the joys in life and is directly inspired by rhythm, harmony and repetition of movements.

ORA. AKIRASH

# OTO GEE

(ENOUGH IS ENOUGH)

A Performance at the closing of BABA MAGANA / Hot Issues Exhibition at AC INSTITUTE NY,  
15th January 2015

In this exhibition I look at an issue which has become untouchable. This performance piece is a ritual funeral for guns in the hopes to never to see them again in our world. We react to the news of violence the moment it happens, but in a few days we forget it again. The same news returns again and again in massive disasters, but we never take action. How can we build a life out of fear? Every day on the radio, on the television, in the newspapers, someone somewhere receives the call of last breath without notice. When parents drop their kids to school, they don't know if that goodbye kiss is the last one. When husbands, wives, dads, and mums say bye in the morning, who knows if that is the last time you will set your eyes on and feel the heartbeat of your loved ones again. We are all living in fear when our loved ones do not return at the usual time. The statistics say 30,000 souls die and 60,000 are injured from guns every year in our America. How many have heard the last call through a gun shot in the world, and yet we continue to say GUNS DON'T KILL!!! Should we say it is the BULLETS that kill? Or is it people? Are we ourselves our own enemy? We invent these weapons of destruction. Some of us have the power to stop it, but we do not because this is the source of our wealth. The authorities we give our votes to in order to protect us refuse to enforce law on the spreading of GUNS in every corner of our nation and world.

ORA. AKIRASH











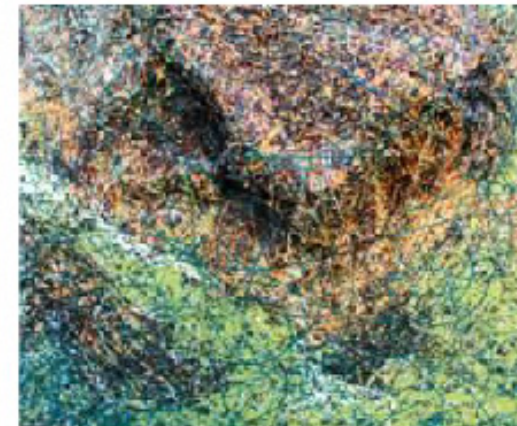
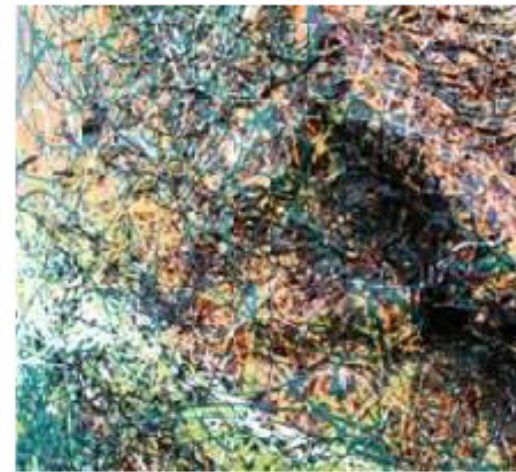






**KINDNESS, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING, 19 X 19 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





**NEW LEAF, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING, 19 X 19 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





**RISING ABOVE "1", MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, 22 X 22 X 5  
INCHES, 2015**







**THE TRUTH, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, 19 X 19 X 5  
INCHES, 2015**







**JOY, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING, 19 X 19 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





**BRIGHT DAY, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 20 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





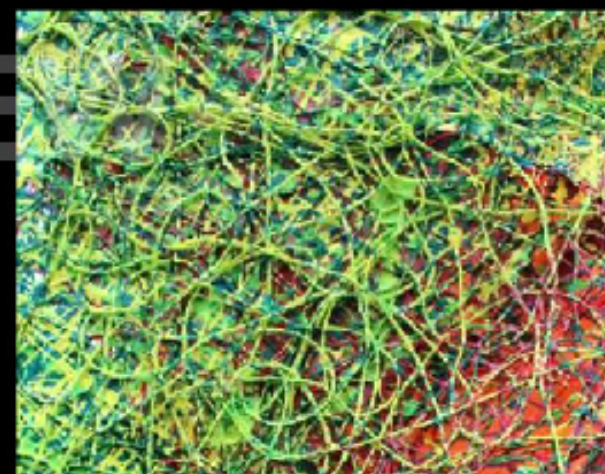
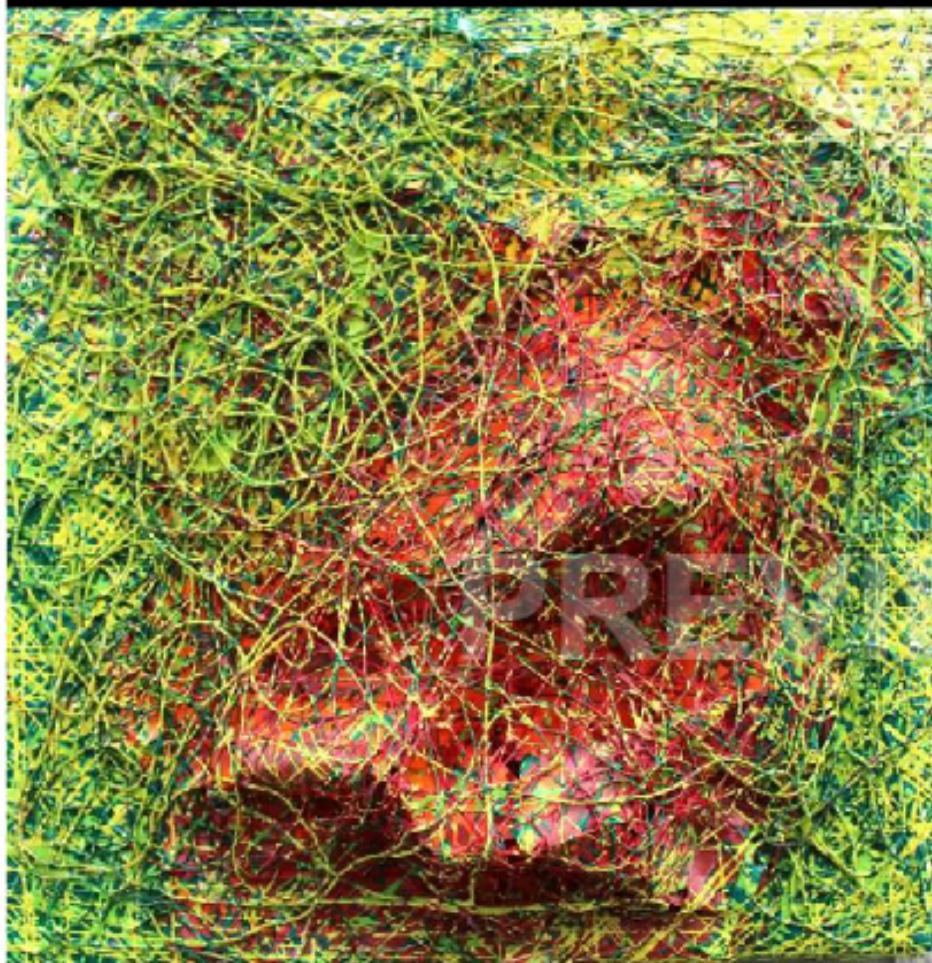
**FRESH BEGINNING , MIXED  
MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 20 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





**DRY SEASON, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, 14 X 14 X 4  
INCHES, 2015**





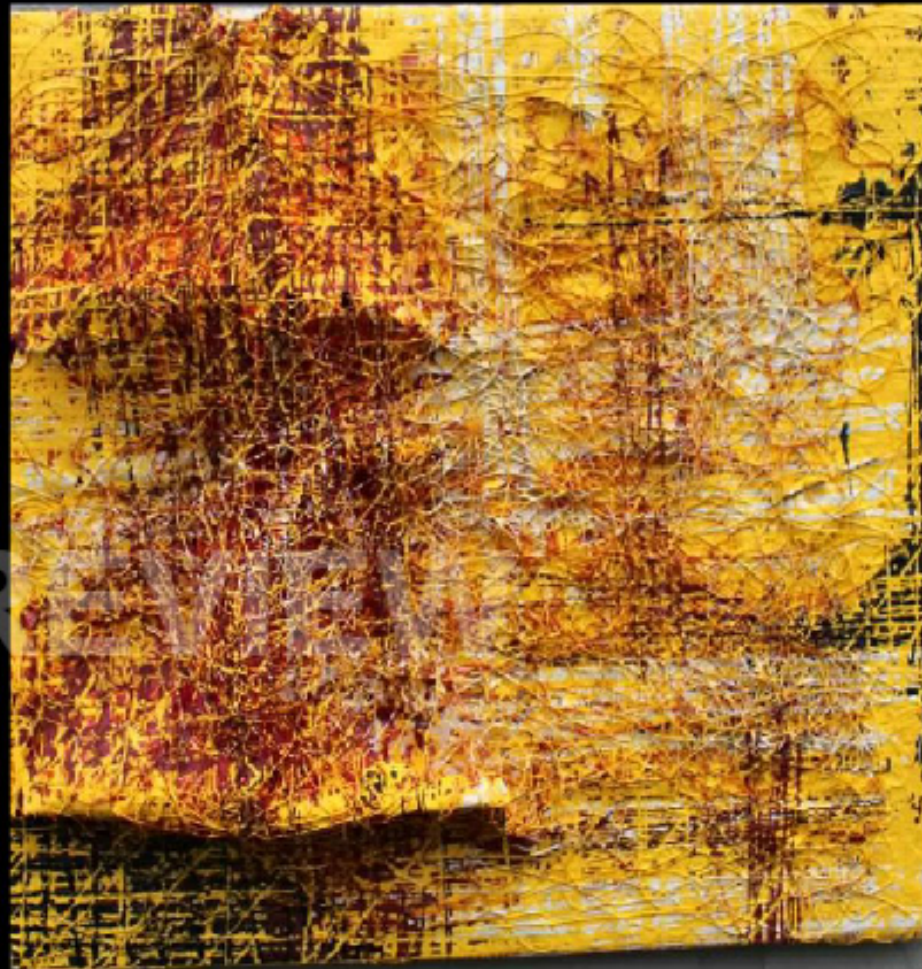
**MY GARDEN, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING, 14 X 14 X 4 INCHES, 2015**





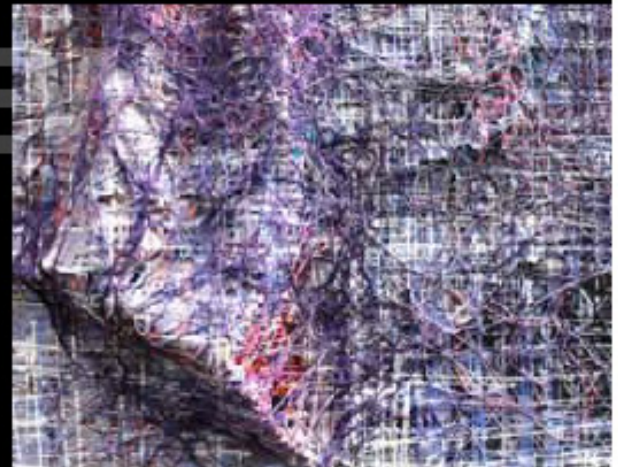
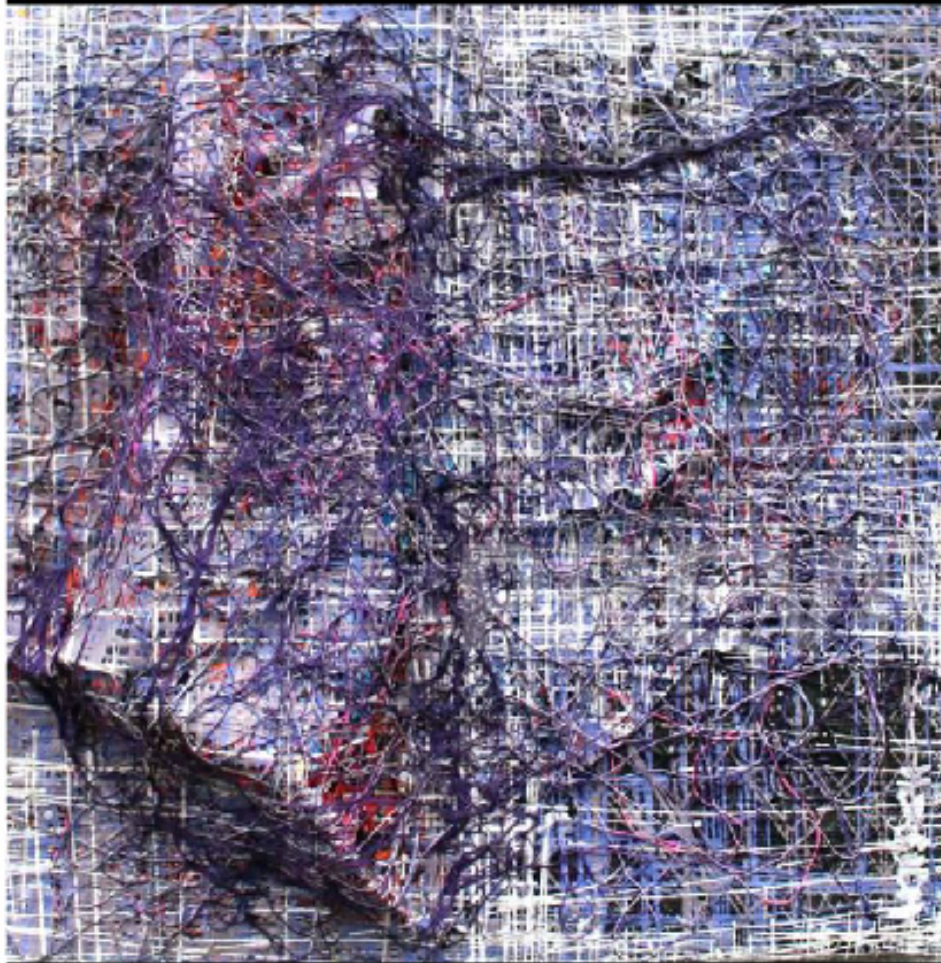
**YELLOW ROSE, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, 14 X 14 X 4  
INCHES, 2015**





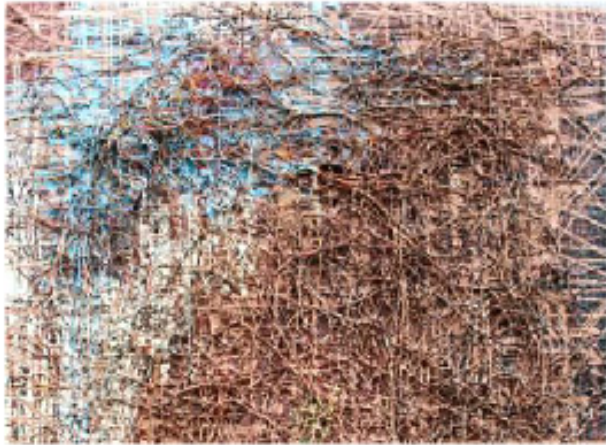
**INBETWEEN HOME, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, 20 X 20 X 5  
INCHES, 2015**





**RISING ABOVE "2", MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING, 20 X 20 X 5  
INCHES, 2015**





**RISING ABOVE "3", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING, 30 X 20 X 5 INCHES, 2015**







**RIISING ABOVE "4",  
MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 30 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**







**RISING ABOVE "5", MIXED  
MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 30 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





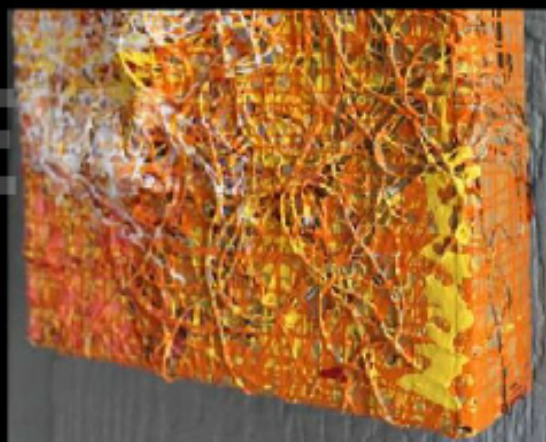
**FERTILE LAND, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
30 X 20 X 5 INCHES, 2015**





**GIFT "12", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
6 X 9 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "8", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
9.5 X 8 X 3 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "11", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
10 X 8 X 3.5 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "2", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
13 X 15 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**



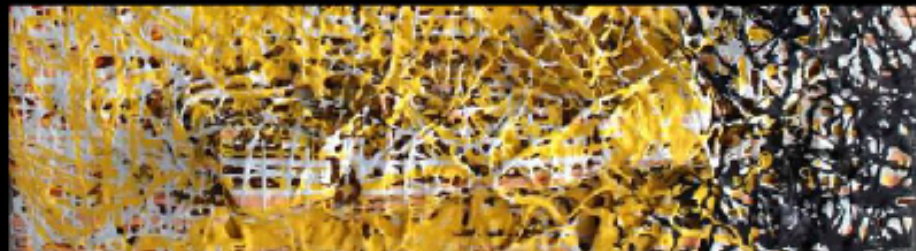


**GIFT "1", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
14 X 14 X 6 INCHES,  
2015**

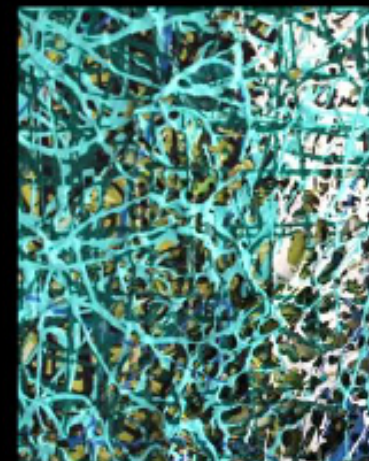
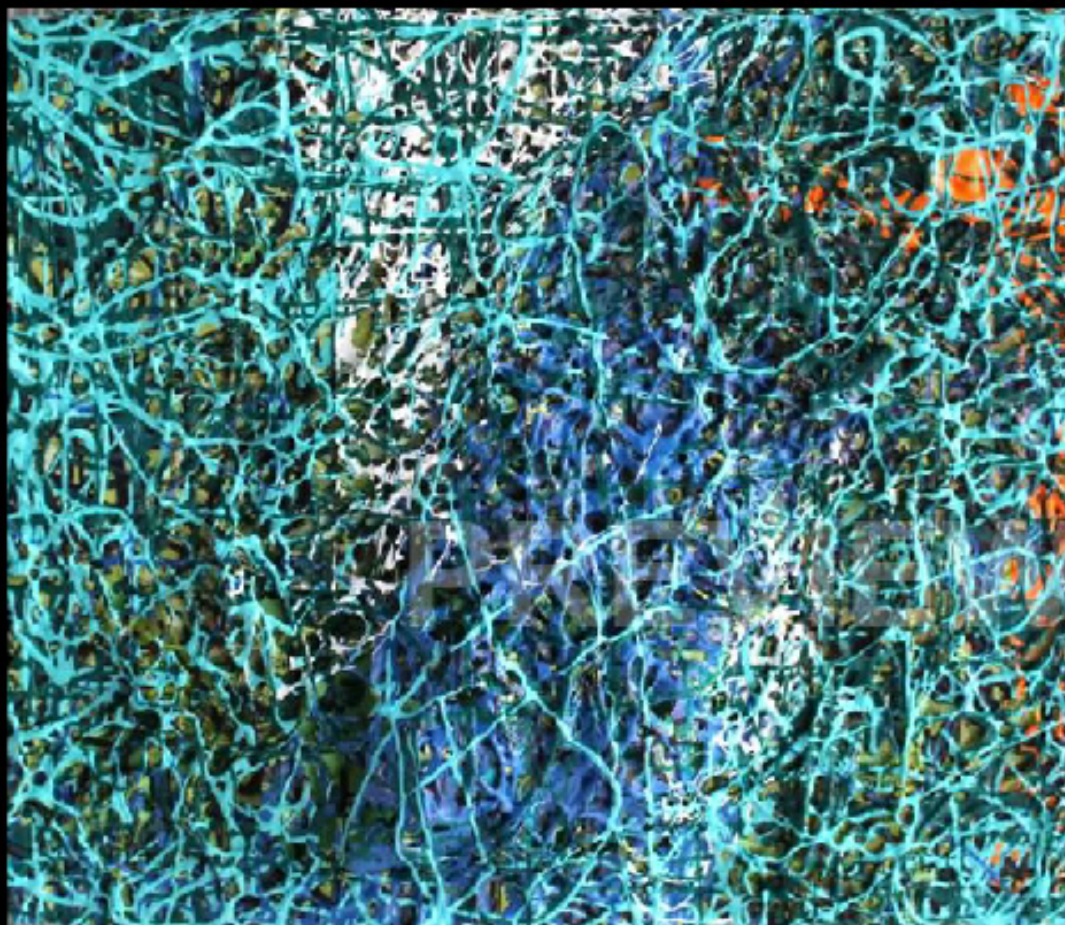




**GIFT "10", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
11 X 8 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**







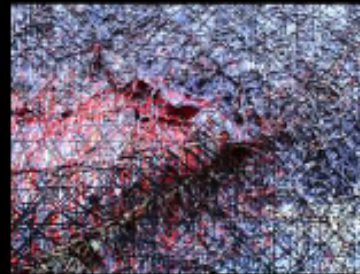
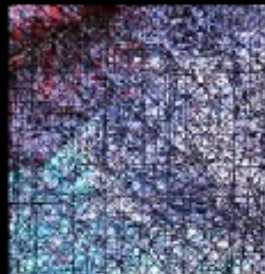
**GIFT "9", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
8 X 9 X 2.5 INCHES,  
2015**





**RIISING ABOVE "6", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
30 X 20 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**



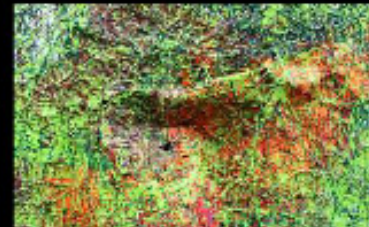
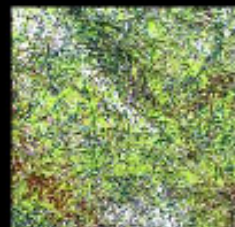
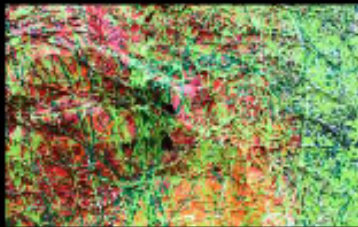


**RISING ABOVE "7", MIXED  
MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 30 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**





**RISING ABOVE "8", MIXED  
MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
24 X 36 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**

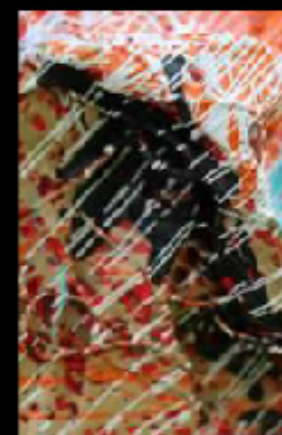






**RIISING ABOVE "9", MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 20 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "13", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
6.5 X 8.5 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**RISING ABOVE "10",  
MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
20 X 30 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





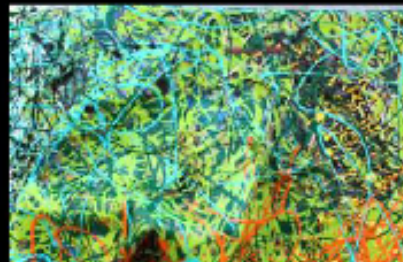
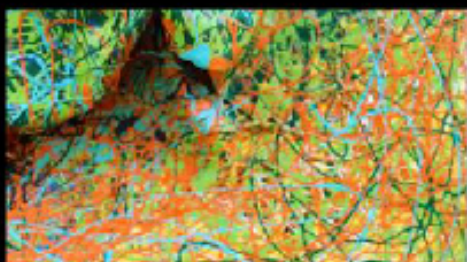
**MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
20 X 20 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "6", MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
8 X 10 X 3.5 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "7", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
12 X 18 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "5". MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 7.5 X 3 INCHES,  
2015**







**HARVEST IS HERE AGAIN,  
MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
80 X 78 X 6 INCHES,  
2015**





**BOOKSHELVE LADDER, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE, 10 X 2 X 2 FT , 2015,  
(Installed at the Georgetown Library)**





**LIBARIAN, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE, 9 X 5 X 1 FT , 2015.**  
 (Installed at the Georgetown Library)





**DURING THE WINTER, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
40 X 78 X 6 INCHES, 2015**





**DNA, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
40 X 78 X 4 INCHES, 2015**







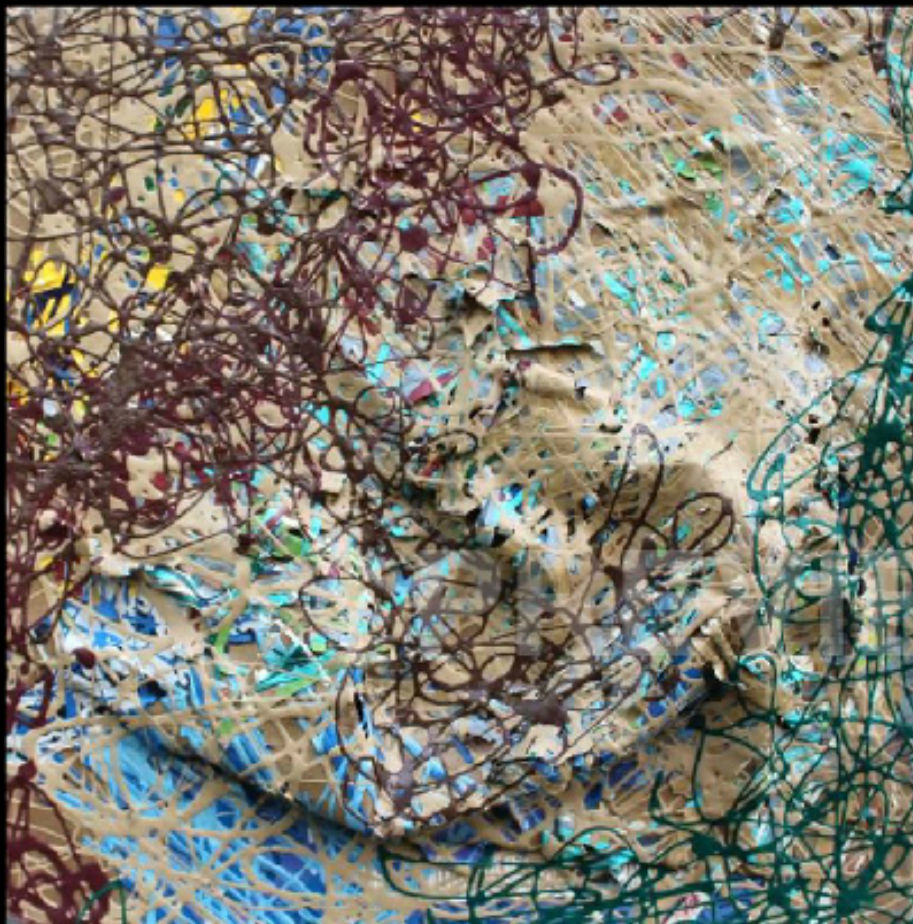
**GIFT "14", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
8 X 8.5 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





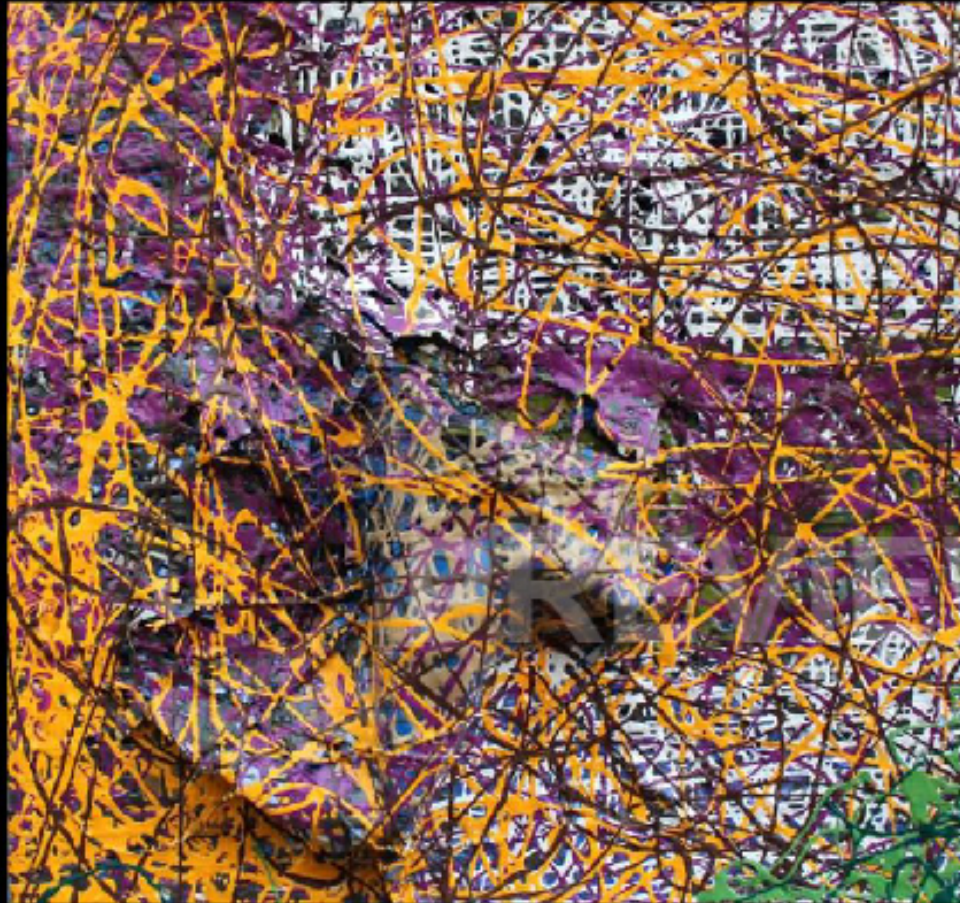
**GIFT "15", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
9 X 9 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "17", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
9 X 9 X 3 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "15", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 10 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "19", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 10 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





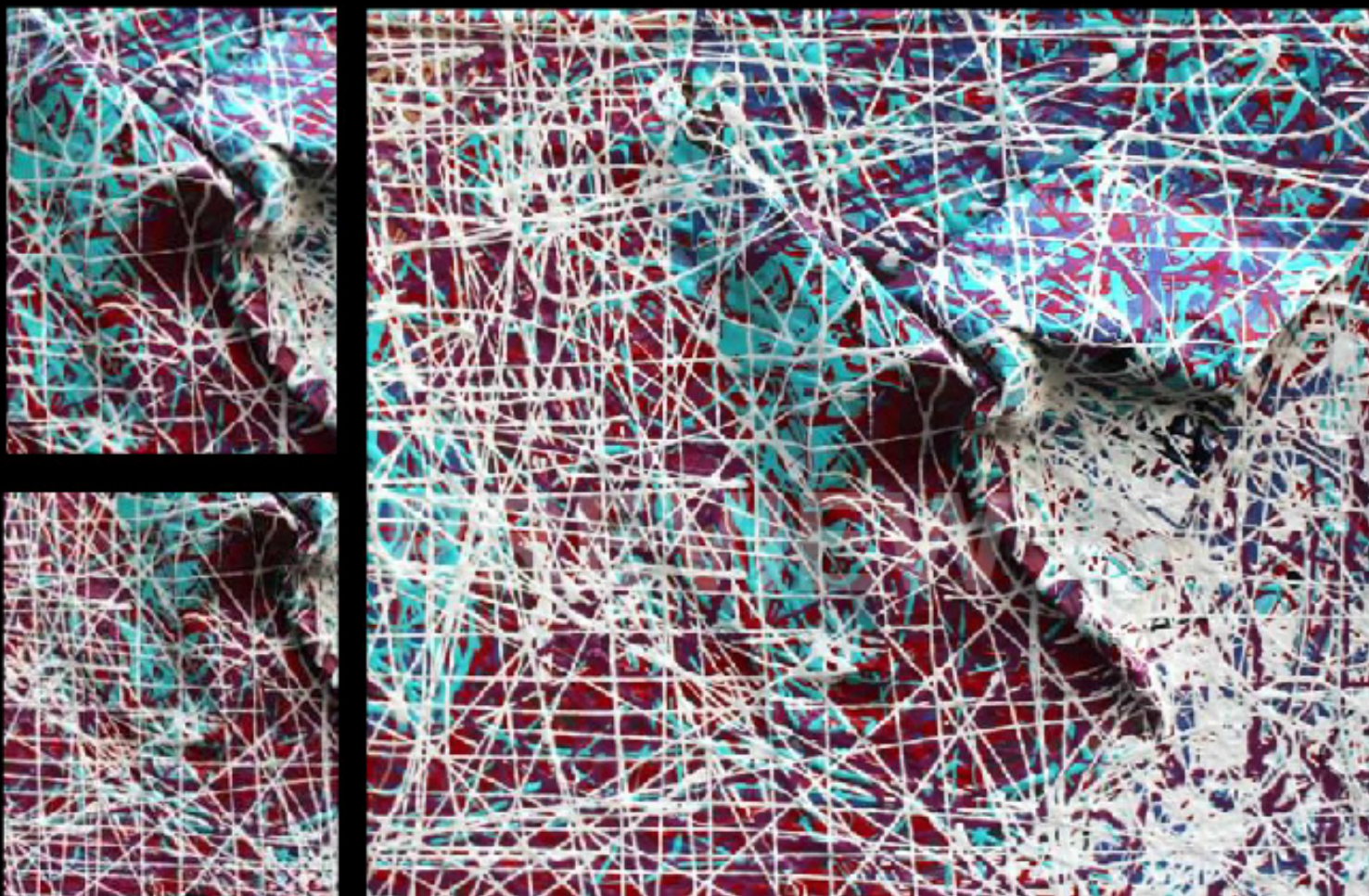
**GIFT "22", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 10 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "23", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 9 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "24", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 9 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





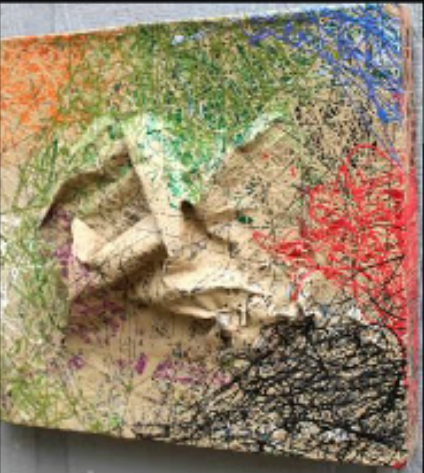
**GIFT "25", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
8.5 X 9 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "26", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 9 X 4 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "30", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
16 X 14 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "29", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10.5 X 14 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "30", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10.5 X 14 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**



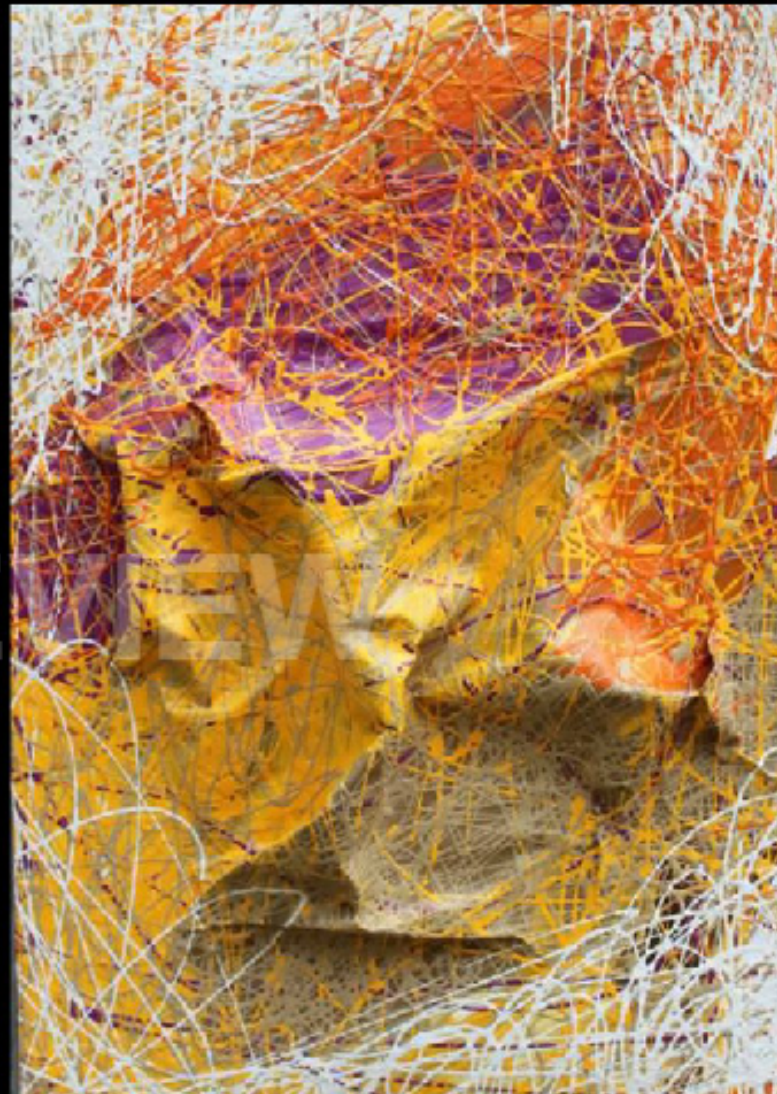


**GIFT "31", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10.5 X 14 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**





**GIFT "32", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10.5 X 14 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**







**GIFT "33", MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10.5 X 14 X 5 INCHES,  
2015**





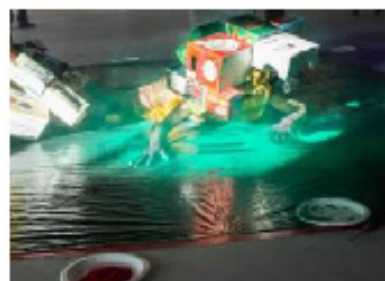
**BOOK COFFEE TABLE, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE,  
5 X 5 X 2 FT, 2015**









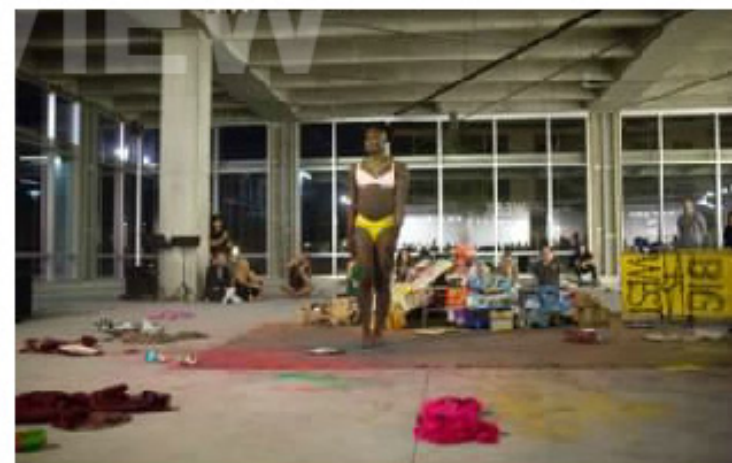






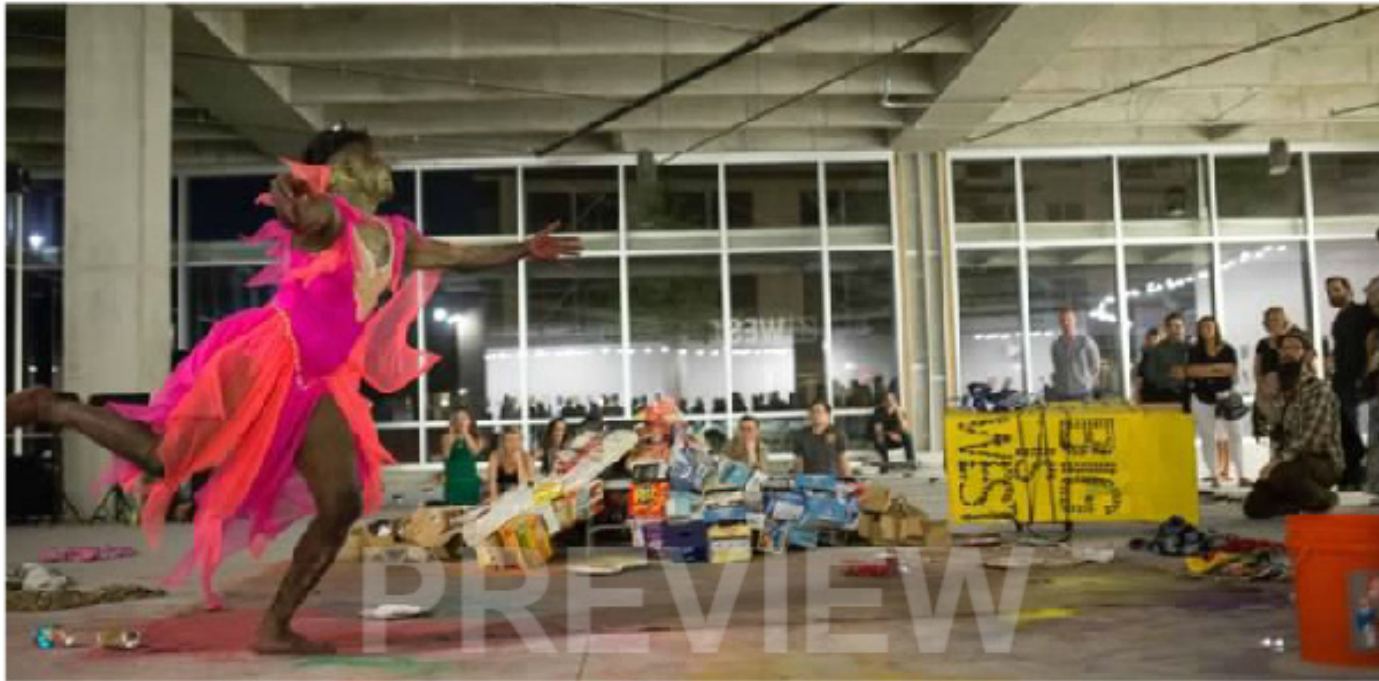
**COLORS LIBATION, PERFORMANCE,  
AT THE UNIVERSITY PARK AUSTIN 2015**





AKIRASH IS CHECKING OUT, PERFORMANCE, AT THE UNIVERSITY PARK AUSTIN 2015













IMPORT & EXPORT TRADE,  
MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE  
INSTALLATION,  
25 X 15 X 20 FT,  
2015





# ADITTU

(Puzzle)

at  
The McKinney Avenue Contemporary  
16th May - 27th June 2015





**ADITTU/PUZZLE, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 x 15 FT,  
2015**





**IGBE YAWO/WEDDING CEREMONY, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
6 X 7 FT,  
2015**





**OPO/WIDOW, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
6 X 7 FT,  
2015**





**QUEST, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
6 X 7 FT,  
2015**





**IBERE/QUESTION, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
6 X 7 FT,  
2015**





**OMO L'ASO, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
7 X 10 FT,  
2013**







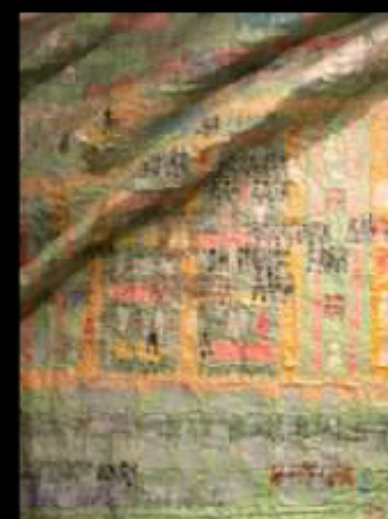
**AMO L'EWA/BEAUTY IS WITHIN, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
10 X 12 FT,  
2013**





**OGIRI L'ETI/WALLS HAVE EARS, MIXED MEDIA  
TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
10 X 12 FT,  
2013**





**AJODUN EWE/CHILDREN'S HARVEST, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
11 X 11 FT,  
2013**





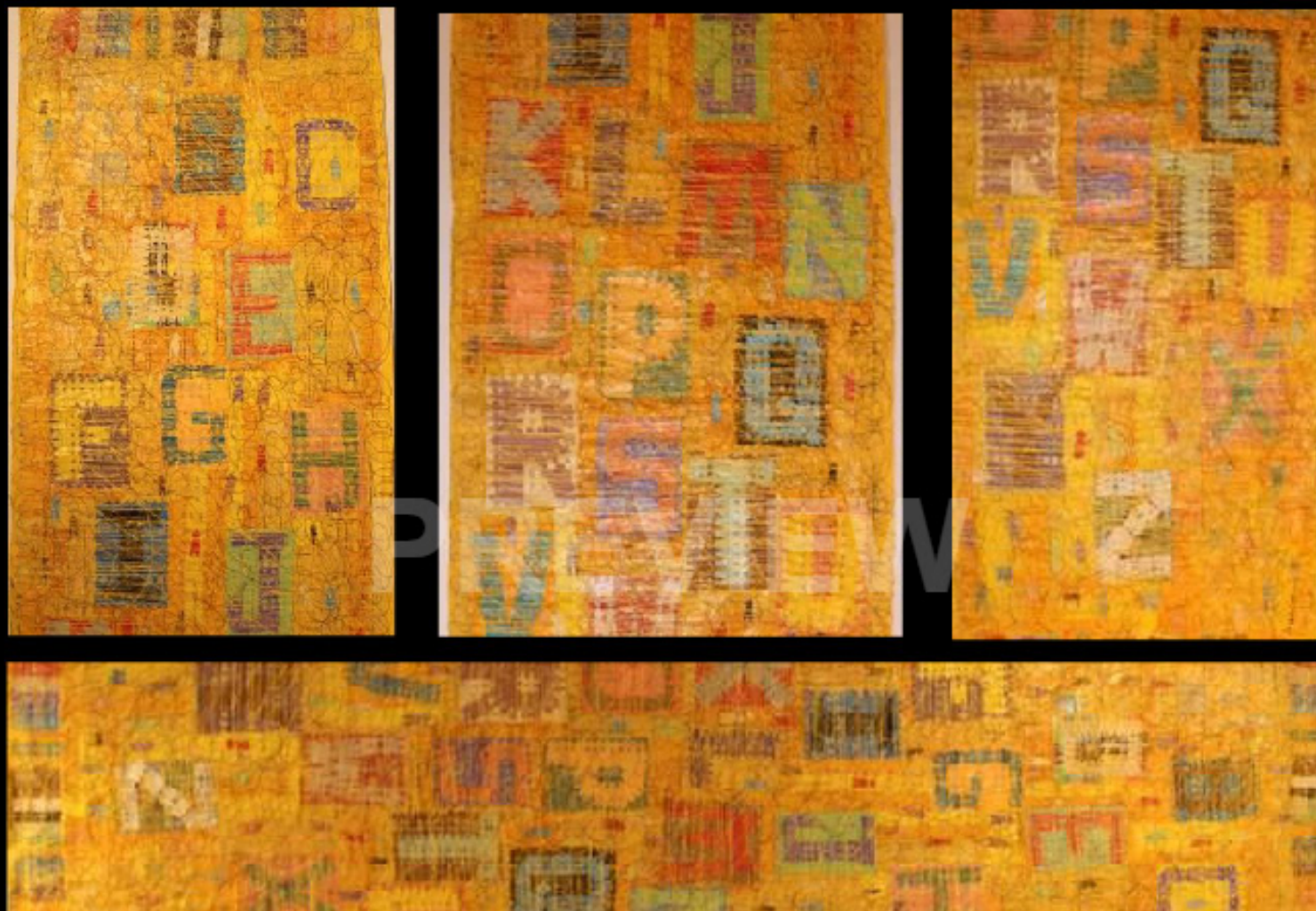
**ATINUKE/CHILDREN ARE TO BE PAMPERED, MIXED  
MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
8 X 7 FT,  
2014**





**IGBA ERUN/SUMMER TIME, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
11 X 8 FT,  
2014**





**ORO/WORD, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
4 X 18 FT,  
2014**





**ORO THROUGH THE NEEDLE , MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE  
INSTALLATION/TAPESTRY PAINTING, 16 X 5 X 5 FT, 2015**









GALLERY VIEW OF ADITTU/PUZZLE EXHIBITION AT THE MCKINNEY AVENUE CONTEMPORARY DALLAS  
MAY-JUNE 2015







**TILL DEATH DO US PART, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
8 X 8 FT,  
2014**









**TRANSIT, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 8 X 8 FT, 2015.**





**INFINITY, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 8 X 8 X 1 FT, 2015.**





**OYIN LADUN, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 7 X 12 X 13 FT, 2015**





# WAKATI

TIME SHAPES AFRICAN ART

At  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART  
AND  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SEPT 17TH, 2015 - JAN 16TH, 2016





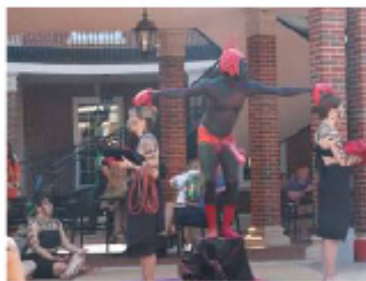
**IJOKO AWON AGBA/COUNCIL OF ELDERS, MIXED MEDIA  
SCULPTURE INSTALLTION, 15 X 25 X 30 FT , 2015**



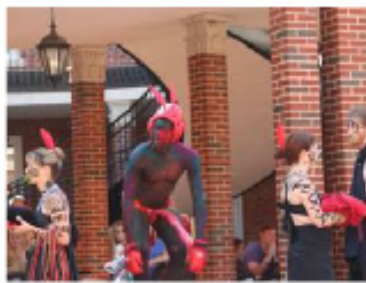


**ORI LABABO, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION  
2015**

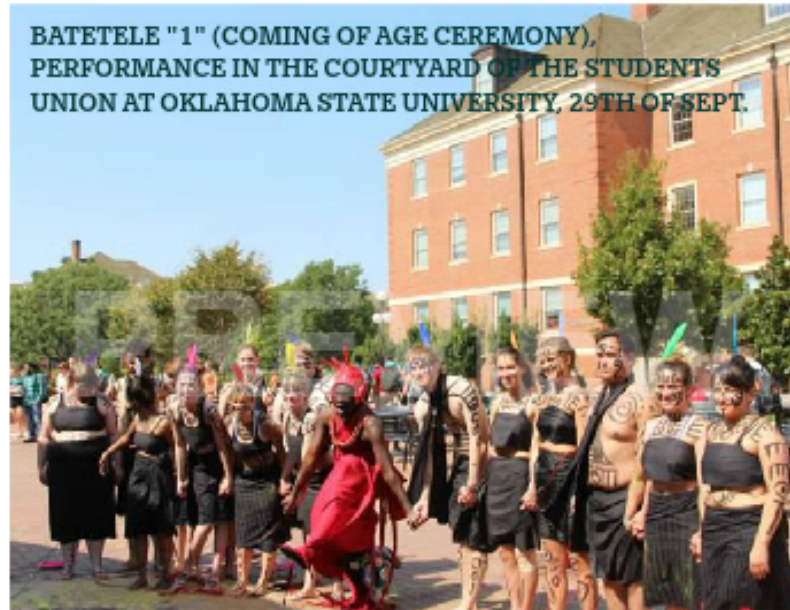








BATETELE "1" (COMING OF AGE CEREMONY),  
PERFORMANCE IN THE COURTYARD OF THE STUDENTS  
UNION AT OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, 29TH OF SEPT.



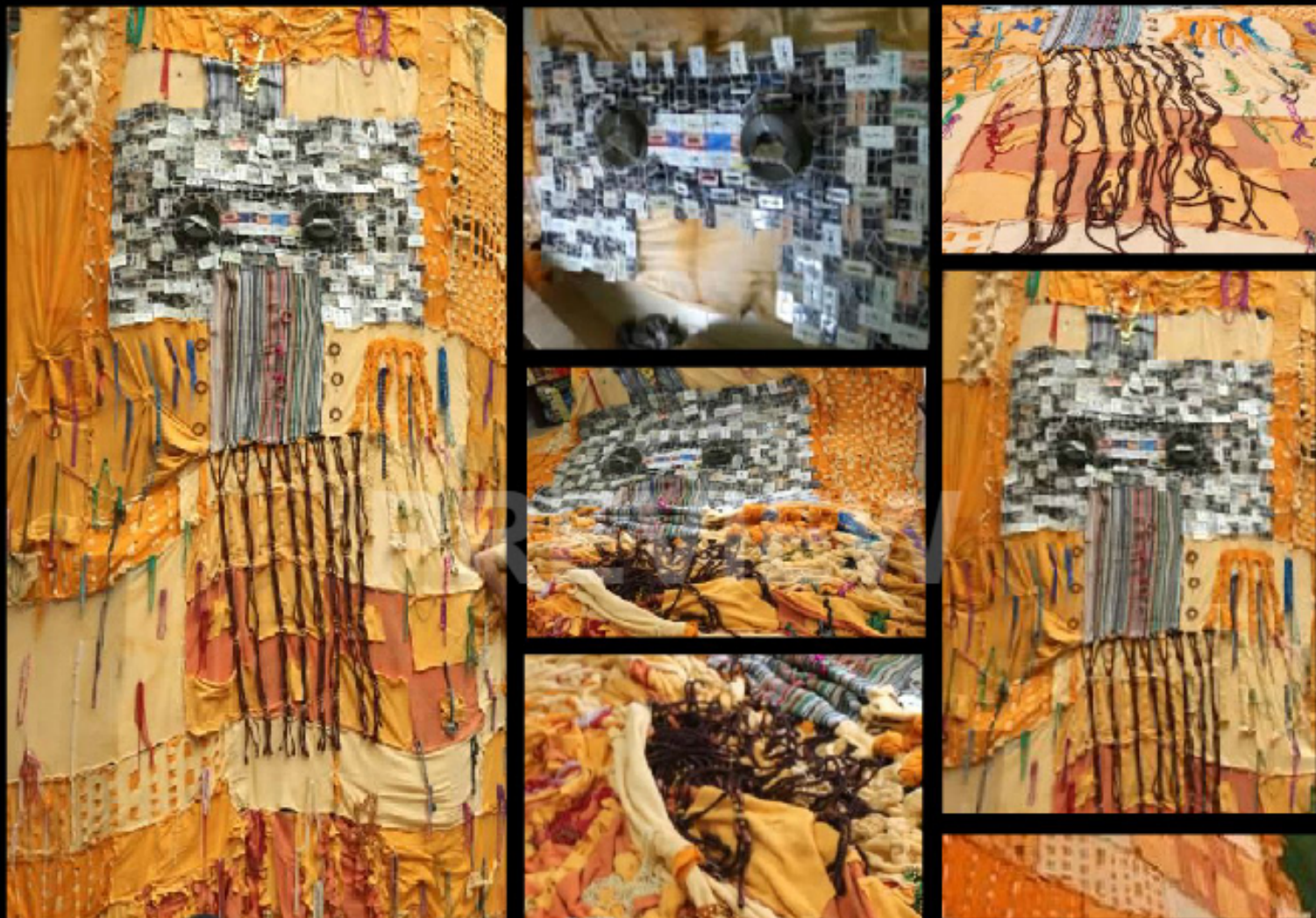












**ORIN OWE/SONGS OF PROVERB, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY SCULPTURE, 40 X 20 X 1 FT, 2015**





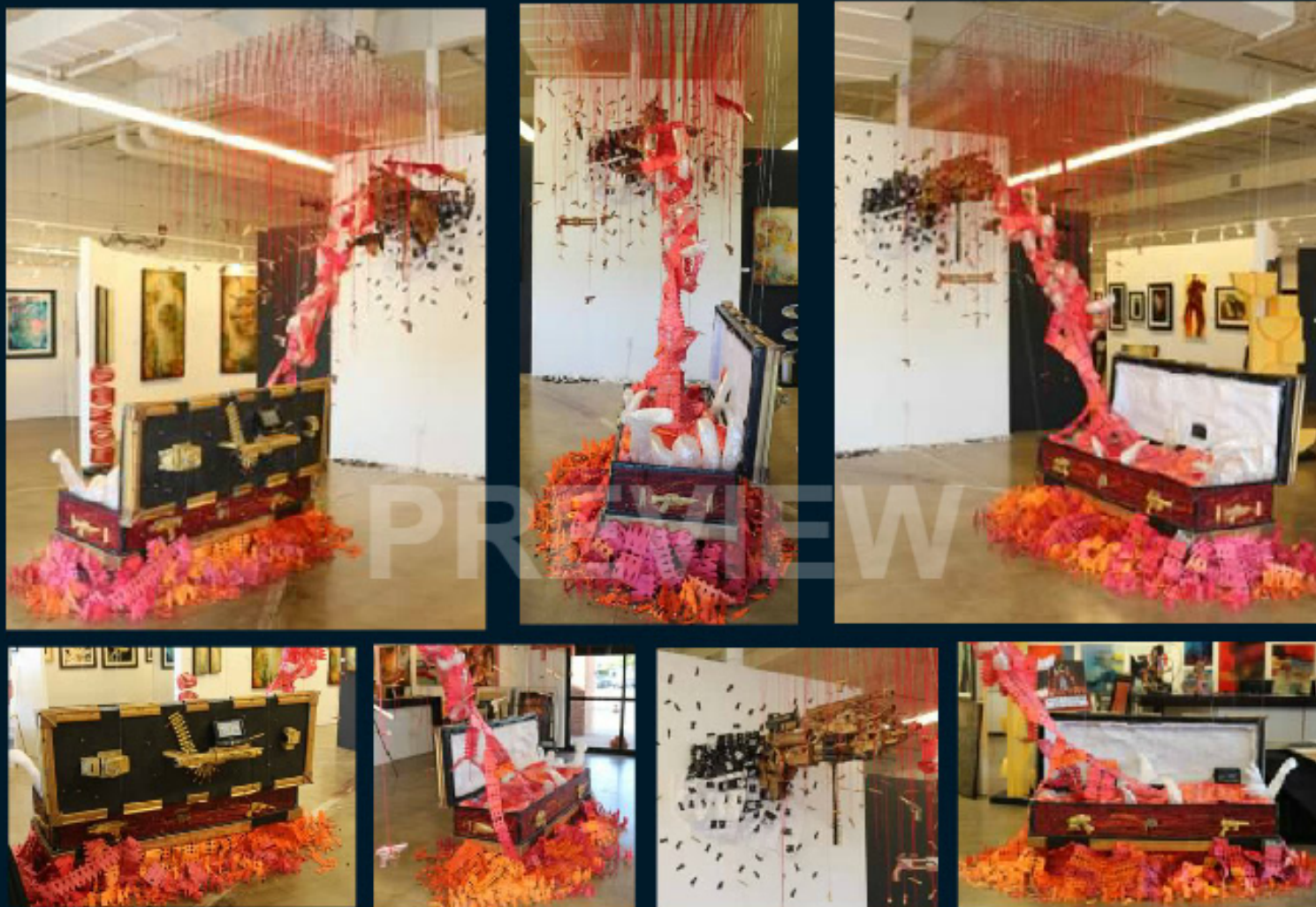
**ORIN OWE/SONGS OF PROVERB, MIXED MEDIA TAPESTRY PAINTING,  
20 X 13 X 2 FT, 2015**





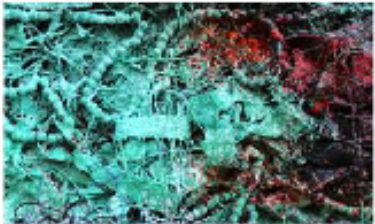
**MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 12 X 20 X 20 FT, 2015  
 INSTALLED AT LA TIERRA EXHIBITION  
 AT TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY, SAN MARCOS.**





**GBAJU GBAJA/CELEBRITY, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE/VIDEO INSTALLATION,  
14 X 20 X 10 FT, 2015, AT ART ON 5TH AUSTIN  
DURING THE ARTISAN SERIES OF BOMBAY SAPPHIRE**





STITCHING "3", MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 4 X 4 FT, 2015





**STITCHING "2", MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 4 X 4 FT, 2015**





**STITCHING "1", MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 41 X 51 INCHES, 2012**





**IN BETWEEN WRONG & RIGHT, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 10 X 4 X 4 FT, 2015  
INSTALLED AT FOOK EXHIBITION, ISSYRA GALLERY, NEW YORK**





**CAUGHT IN BETWEEN  
WRONG & RIGHT, MIXED  
MEDIA TAPESTRY  
PAINTING,  
8 X 6 FT,  
2015**





**OYIN LADUN, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE INSTALLATION, 2 X 2 X 2 FT, 2015, INSTALLED AT WEATHERPROOF,  
THE MAC MEMBERSHIP EXHIBITION, DALLAS**





**2015 AURORA NEW MEDIA PUBLIC SPACE EXHIBITION, DALLAS**  
**SHOPPING LIST, MIXED MEDIA SCULPTURE/ VIDEO PERFORMANCE/INSTALLATION, 2014**  
 Every weekend people flock to malls, shopping centers and grocery stores like the congregations of a house of worship. There, goods are displayed as if they are art installations. The supermarket is an art gallery of processed foods. There are more processed foods now in fancy packaging than the real food that used to be the norm. At the same time, all of these new food technologies add to the economy of the world. 'Shopping List' is a creative venue that uses these packaging boxes from various production companies to explore the role these processed food play in our modern lives







AKIRASH AT WORK





AKIRASH AT WORK



