



## COVERAGE REPORT: ASABA MEMORIAL ART EXHIBITION

2 DECEMBER 2022



# COVERAGE SUMMARY

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**6** + **4** + **9** + **2** + **3** = **24**

Online      Print      Social Media      Newsletter      TV      Pieces of Coverage

# ASABA MEMORIAL EXHIBITION

27  
NOVEMBER  
2022

Presentation of works donated towards  
realising a fitting monument for the Asaba  
massacre of 1967

The shows runs through December 2022

Curated by: Osholeg Poo

For more information visit  
[www.asabamemorial.com](https://www.asabamemorial.com)



A WHITE SPACE CREATIVE AGENCY PRESENTS  
ASABA MEMORIAL EXHIBITION

ART X  
LAGOS

Publication: Art X Lagos

Date: November 2022

Platform: Online ([View](#))

Monthly Views: 34.2K

# 55 years after, Asaba memorial inspires remembrance, communal healing

By **Gregory Austin Nwakunor**

27 November 2022 | 4:29 am



**Publication:** The Guardian

**Date:** Sunday 27 November 2022

**Platform:** Online ([View](#))

**Monthly Views:** 4.4M

# 55 years after, Asaba Memorial Inspires Remembrance, Communal Healing

By Gregory Keshi Nwagwu

55 years after the Asaba massacre, 1000s were callously massacred in the heart of Nigeria and West, the first major show of the tragic cancer opens today at the State Gallery on Ikoyi (Ibomwe Street), Victoria Island, Lagos. The show runs December 5, 2022.

Produced by a WhiteSpace Creative Agency, the exhibition is a masterpiece of Art, Memorial, Commemoration, and awareness by Chief Chukwu Ikoku for the 55th Anniversary of the Asaba Massacre. Inspiring works by over 20 artists, including Ben Enwonwu, Bruce Onyiah, Oluwole Ojudin, Victor Okunmoroti, Sanyo Afolayan, Joseph Ogburn, Kabiyesi Oshin, Nancy Kweku, Ade Adunni, Enosa Ogburn, Adedunke Odebiyi, Chingwendu, Prince Ota, Adia Nwankwo, Kaye Okiki, Elizabeth Okunribido, Zifany Anuwalli-Diaton, Anoma Chikafun, Nwanji Okeke, Mami Martins Odoko, Rose Nwaka, Duke Auden, Wale Abasi, Jolan Ezeoma Maja Pharo, Ade Odunsi, Olan Chikafun, Philip Nwankwo and Anthony Nwagwu, the show reflects a variety of media including paper works, oil paintings and a film clip.

A captivating selection of work by Nigerian artists that promotes awareness and recognition of this tragic incident of Nigeria's history, the show aims to support the development of Asaba Memorial Park - a cultural monument in honor of victims of the 1967 massacre.

The artists bring works that reflect the healing process associated with a regenerative space.

According to the gallery the show "aims to be a memorial companion to a forgotten powerful testimony with compelling stories on the atrocity of the horror and the growing realization of the shame of the massacre during the Nigerian civil war."

The gallery aims "to simultaneously engage the government and global organizations" in action and actions that seek peace and will promote community-led associations, about the massacre, and challenge visitors to consider the responsibilities and roles artists faced by those who managed to survive from the posing widows, women and children so-women who made difficult choices, to effect change and to live on, with specific aims to help success on the 55th day."

The show features works such as In Memory, a memorial carved piece with the names of some of the victims by a 13-year-old artist, Kabiyesi, who created this work for the show and Okunribido's 2017 film (2017), part of the series which was featured at the back cover of Standard Times and Prince Okunribido's book, color, the Asaba Memorial: Dreams, Memory, and the Nigerian Challenge.

Also on view is a display of work donated by the

before, the son of a senior military officer at the Nigerian Army who provided an eye-witness account of the massacre that occurred in Asaba and involved a British designer, Kabiyesi's 2017 film (2017), part of the series which was featured at the back cover of Standard Times and Prince Okunribido's book, color, the Asaba Memorial: Dreams, Memory, and the Nigerian Challenge.

According to the curator, Okunribido Phil, "Asaba Memorial reflects on the 55th anniversary of over a thousand Asabians, mostly men, during the Nigerian civil war. It documents both the oppression and the lives of innocent Asabians, faced not only by those immediately connected to tragic historical events, who had a personal interest in preserving and publicizing memories of those events, but also by a wider public, among whom might exist pressing emotions who may lack the relevance or context to consider the circumstances of the events or those of the past."

He concludes, "I am inspired by the people of Asaba's constant demand and surrounding call for the massacre to be given its proper place in the telling of Nigeria's history. It is hopeful that, as this project gains supporters from across the continent and the world, we can help telling the story of Asaba through art and consciousness."

Speaking on the show, Okunribido Phil reveals, "In fact, there has been no proper inquiries or official inquiries from the federal government of Nigeria for the humanitarian crisis."

Okunribido continues, "We encourage every new visitor and explore the exhibition, it will challenge people not only to ask, 'What could have been done?' but also, 'What can we do?' This will be the responsibility of creating a memorial site that is accessible and dignified in an appropriate way to honor the victims, a place that will be a community symbol of all the lives lost and remind us to recognize cultural and historical attractions for both local and international visitors."

The exhibition is part of a series of commemorative activities to support the development of a permanent physical space - a world-class nature park, restaurants, art and cultural center in honor of all those who lost their lives and were displaced by the Asaba massacre.

The Memorial Park will have, as an illustration, 1000 trees as a symbol of all the lives lost. It will be a legacy project that finally gives homage to the victims, their families and become a place for reflection on healing.



Publication: The Guardian  
Date: Sunday 27 November 2022  
Platform: Print, Page 17  
Circulation: 120k

# Asaba Memorial, Exhibition 'll Inspire Nigerians

NIGERIA | 14 hours ago



## Sunday Okobi

The Asaba Memorial Committee has announced the opening of Asaba Memorial, a group exhibition curated by Osholeng Poo, and convened by Chief Chuck Nduka-Eze, the Isama Ajie of Asaba, to commemorate the tragic events of the Asaba Massacre in 1967.

The organisers of the memorial, at an event held in Lagos yesterday to usher in the memorial, described it as "a captivating selection of work by Nigerian artists that provokes awareness and recognition of the tragic event in



Publication: Thisday

Date: Sunday 12 June 2022

Platform: Online ([View](#))

Monthly Views: 2.4M

# Asaba Memorial, Exhibition 'll Inspire Nigerians

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The organisers of the memorial, at an event held in Lagos yesterday to usher in the memorial, described it as "a captivating selection of work by Nigerian artists that provokes awareness and recognition of the tragic event in Nigeria's history and aims to support the development of the Asaba Memorial Park - a cultural monument in honour of the victims of the Asaba massacre of 1967."

Speaking on the event, Chief

Nduka-Eze explained the importance of using art as a powerful catalyst for bringing awareness to important issues that receive only marginal attention.

He said: "To date, there has been no proper explanation or official apology from the Federal Government of Nigeria for the humanitarian crime.

"We encourage everyone to come and explore the exhibition. It will challenge people not only to ask, 'what could have been done, but also, 'what can we do?' This is the first step to creating a memorial site that is accessible and dignified in its representation to honour the victims, a place that will be a community symbol of all the lives lost and extend to encompass a cultural and recreational attraction for both local and international tourists."



**Publication:** Thisday

**Date:** Sunday 12 June 2022

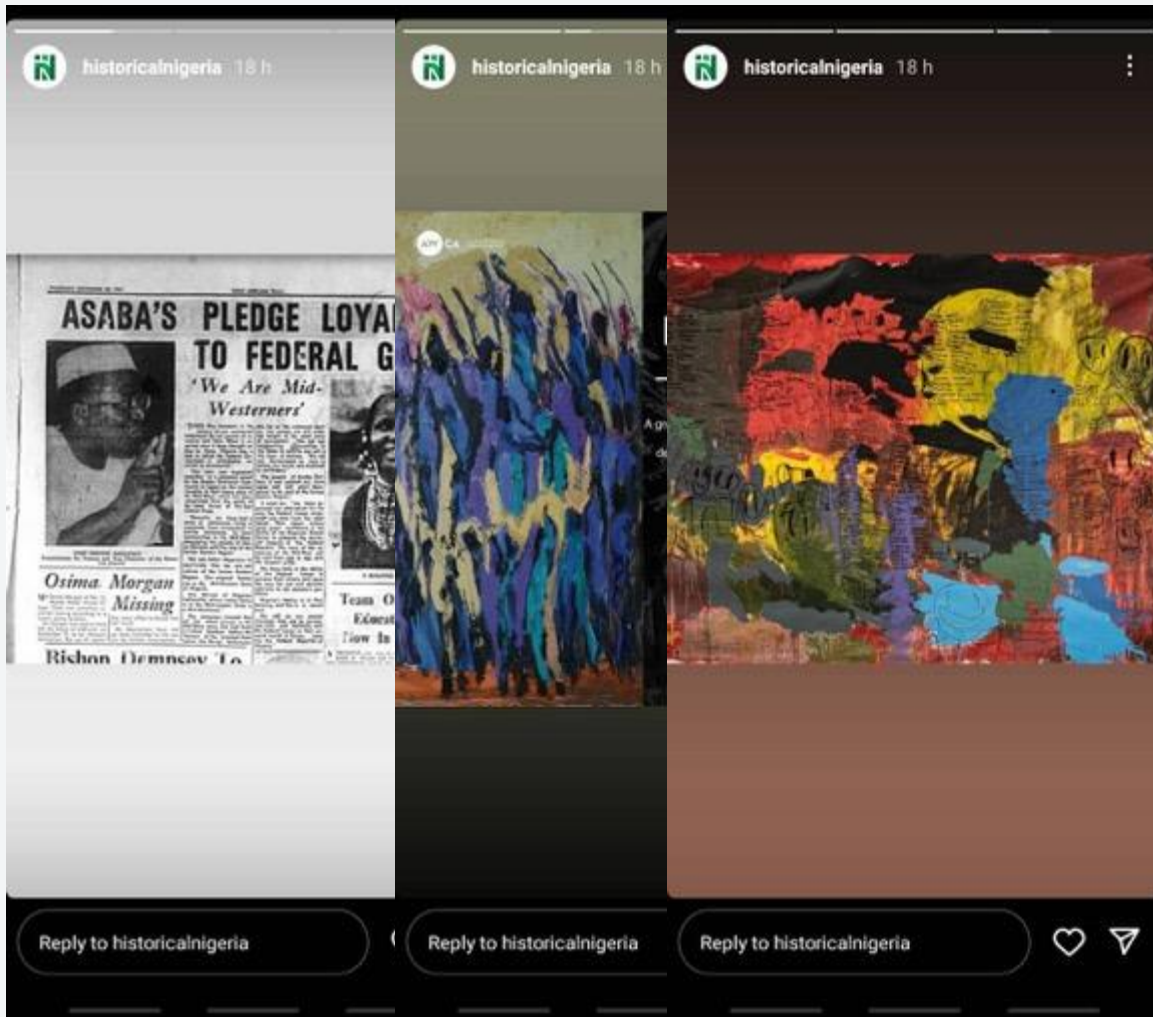
**Platform:** Print, page 52

**Monthly Views:** 100K



**Publication:** The Lagos Weekender  
**Date:** Saturday 26 November 2022  
**Platform:** Instagram ([View](#))  
**Circulation:** 14.9k





**Publication:** Historical Nigeria  
**Date:** Tuesday 29 November 2022  
**Platform:** Instagram Stories  
**Circulation:** 54.4k



Publication: Historical Nigeria  
Date: Tuesday 29 November 2022  
Platform: Instagram ([View](#))  
Circulation: 54.4k



Historicalnigeria

November 29 at 3:18 PM · 🌐



Asaba Memorial is on view now! Do not miss this exhibition at Red Door Gallery, 51 Bishop Oluwole Street, Victoria Island Lagos.

A group exhibition curated by Otsholeng Poo, produced by A White Space Lagos, and convened by Chief Chuck Nduka-Eze - the Isama Ajie of Asaba - reflects on the 1967 Asaba massacre during the Biafra war.

The Exhibition opens on November 28 and closes on December 7, 2022.... [See more](#)



Publication: Historical Nigeria  
Date: Tuesday 29 November 2022  
Platform: Facebook ([View](#))  
Circulation: 297

# ASABA Memorial Exhibition, Inspiring Remembrance and Communal Healing through Art

© NOVEMBER 30, 2022    COMMENTS (0)    EVENTS, NEWS, SLIDER, TRENDING    LIKE  
27 November – 7 December 2022

*The first major exhibition to institute a memorial park in honour of the victims of the Asaba massacre of 1967.*

**Lagos, Nigeria – 27 November 2022:** The Asaba Memorial Committee is pleased to announce the opening of **Asaba Memorial**, a group exhibition curated by Otsholeng Poo, and convened by Chief Chuck Nduka-Eze – the Isama Aje of Asaba – to commemorate the tragic events of the Asaba Massacre in 1967. A captivating selection of work by Nigerian artists that provokes awareness and recognition of the tragic event in Nigeria's history and aims to support the development of the Asaba Memorial Park – a cultural monument in honour of the victims of the Asaba massacre of 1967. **Asaba Memorial**, produced by A Whitespace Creative Agency opens on the 27th of November, 2022, at Red Door Gallery, 51 Bishop Oluwole Street, Victoria Island, Lagos.



**Publication: Asiri**

**Date: Wednesday 30 November 2022**

**Platform: Online ([View](#)) + Newsletter**

**Circulation: 100K**

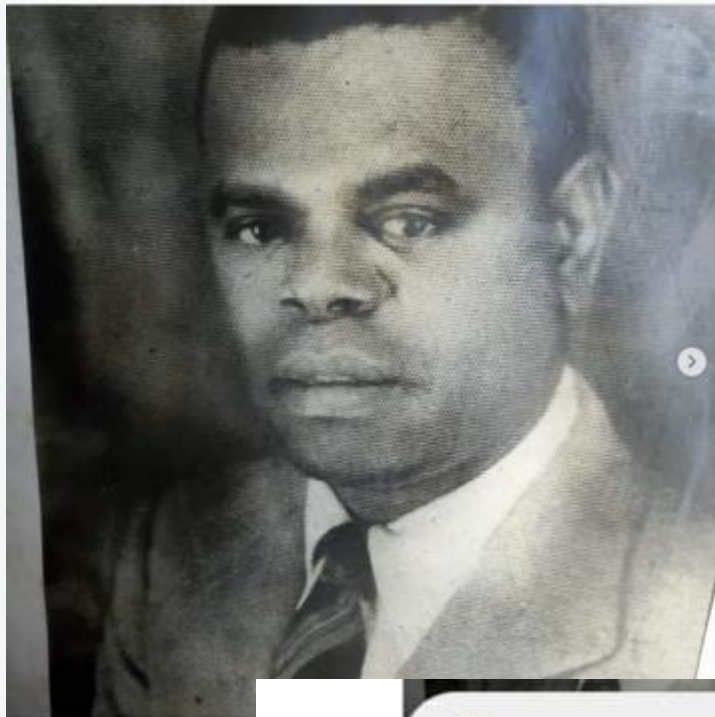


Publication: Asiri

Date: Wednesday 30 November 2022

Platform: Instagram Stories

Circulation: 50.8k



asirimagazine · Follow

Asaba Town



On the morning of October 7th 1967, the Nigerian civil war had just started months earlier, Ogbuoshi Leonard Nwanonyei Okogwu was scheduled to deliver a welcome note to the Federal Troops as they entered ASABA that day.

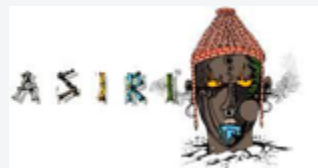
What was supposed to be just a pacifying rally that would put an end to the killings and the civil war, ended in a massacre of young men, women and children.

Hundreds of men, women, and children, many wearing the ceremonial akwa ocha (white) attire paraded along the main street, singing, dancing, and chanting "One



Liked by [acandlelitdinner](#) and others

9 HOURS AGO



Publication: Asiri

Date: Wednesday 30 November 2022

Platform: Instagram ([View](#))

Circulation: 50.8K



samdedesdx Great. If you know your history, you have identity.



ASIRI

10h · 🌐



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What was supposed to be just a pacifying rally that would put an end to the killings and the civil war, ended in a massacre of young men, women and children.

Hundreds of men, women, and children, many wearing the ceremonial akwa ocha (white) attire paraded along the main street, singing, dancing, and chanting "One Nigeria." At a junction, men and teenage boys were separated from women and young children and gathered in an open square at Ogbe-Osowa village.

Federal troops revealed machine guns, and orders were given, reportedly by Second-in-Command, Maj. Ibrahim Taiwo, to open fire. Most of the killings ended by 7 October.

The Late Ogbueshi Leonard Nwanonyei Okogwu is the father of the wife of Nigeria's former Military Head of State; Chief Mariam Babangida.

Asaba Memorial is on view now! Do not miss this exhibition at Red Door Gallery, 51 Bishop Oluwole Street, Victoria Island Lagos.



**Publication:** Asiri

**Date:** Wednesday 30 November 2022

**Platform:** Facebook ([View](#))

**Circulation:** 165.4K



L-R: Chuck Nduka-Eze, the Isama Ajie of Asaba & Convener of Asaba Memorial Exhibition, Otsholeng Poo, Curator of Asaba Memorial Exhibition, and Papa Omotayo, Architect and Founder A Whitespaces Creative Agency, at the opening of Asaba Memorial Exhibition at Red Door Gallery in Lagos

**BUSINESS DAY**

**Publication:** Businessday  
**Date:** Thursday 1 December 2022  
**Platform:** Print, Page 16  
**Circulation:** 80k



## Art exhibition in Lagos boosts awareness of Asaba massacre

 Anthony Udugba – Dec 1, 2022



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In October 1967, four months into the civil war, Nigerian Federal troops entered the small town of Asaba killing over 1000 civilians in what is now known as the infamous "Asaba Massacre". 55 years later, on November 27, 2022, the first major art exhibition

**BUSINESS DAY**

Publication: Businessday

Date: Thursday 1 December 2022

Platform: Online ([View](#))

Circulation: 944k



**LIL FEATURES**

**ASABA MEMORIAL**

A group exhibition presenting a collection of works whose proceeds will support the development of the Asaba Memorial Park.

**28 NOVEMBER - 7 DECEMBER 2022**

Venue: Red Door Gallery, Victoria Island, Lagos  
Curated by: Osholeg Poo

For more enquiries, contact  
info@lostinlagos.com  
or visit [www.lostinlagos.com](http://www.lostinlagos.com)

**ASABA MEMORIAL IS ON VIEW NOW!**

Do not miss this exhibition at Red Door Gallery, 51 Bishop Oluwole Street, Victoria Island Lagos. A group exhibition curated by Osholeg Poo, produced by A White Space Lagos, and convened by Chief Chuck Nduka-Eze - the Isama Ajie of Asaba - reflects on the 1967 massacre of over a thousand Asabans during the Biafra war. The Exhibition runs on November 28 and closes on December 7, 2022.



**Publication:** Lost in Lagos  
**Date:** Thursday 1 December 2022  
**Platform:** Newsletter  
**Circulation:** 5k+



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Harry Styles • As It Was



lagosartshowsnyc  
@lagosartshowsnyc 2022.

\*Gallery caption;

Asaba Memorial is on view now! Do not miss this exhibition at Red Door Gallery, 51 Bishop Oluwole Street, Victoria Island Lagos.

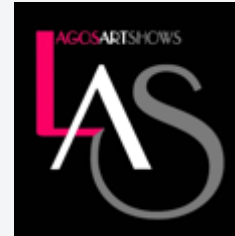
A group exhibition curated by Otsholeng Poo, produced by A White Space Lagos, and convened by Chief Chuck Nduka-Eze - the Isama Ajie of Asaba - reflects on the



Liked by [superaide](#) and others

17 HOURS AGO

Comments on this post have been limited.

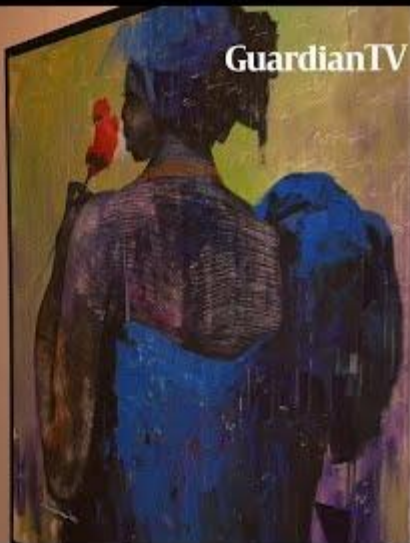


**Publication:** Lagos Art Shows NYC  
**Date:** Thursday 1 December 2022  
**Platform:** Instagram Reel ([View](#))  
**Circulation:** 15.6K

**EVENT**

**ASABA  
MEMORIAL  
ART EXHIBITION**

GuardianTV



**Publication:** Guardian TV

**Date:** Friday 2 December 2022

**Platform:** Online TV ([View](#), [View](#)  
& [View](#))

**Monthly views:** 61.8K | 105.5 M |  
6.50M



 **molar\_wood** · Follow ...

 **molar\_wood** A first encounter and a return to two exhibitions yesterday with writer-sister, cultural dialogist and Goethe Medal winner @zukiswawanner. First stop was the Asaba Memorial exhibition at @reddoorng, featuring works by artists including Kainebi Osahenye, Rom Isichei, 12-year-old Kanye Okeke, Bruce Onobrakpeya, Juliet Ezenwa Maja-Pearce and Victor Ehikhamenor. Proceeds from this exhibition will go towards the creation of the Asaba Memorial Park on which will be planted a thousand trees in memory of the victims of the massacre, one of the darkest episodes of the Nigerian Civil War. Exhibition is on till December 7.

Liked by **nonoroyal** and others  
51 MINUTES AGO

 Add a comment... [Post](#)

**Freelancer:** Molar Wood  
**Date:** Friday 2 December 2022  
**Platform:** Instagram ([View](#))  
**Followers:** 1,648



•L-R: Isama Ajie of Asaba/convener, Asaba Memorial Exhibition, Chuck Nduka-Eze; curator, Asaba Memorial Exhibition, Otsholeng Poo; and architect/founder, A Whitespaces Creative Agency, Papa Omotayo, during the opening of Asaba Memorial Exhibition in Lagos... recently. Photo: AME

**PUNCH**

Publication: Punch

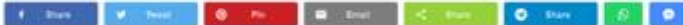
Date: Friday 2 Dec 2022

Platform: Print, Page 6

Circulation: 120k

# Immortalising the victims of Asaba Massacre

LIFE & STYLE | 13 hours ago



An exhibition at the Red Door Gallery Lagos, set against the backdrop of Asaba Massacre to raise funds towards the development of the Asaba Memorial Park dredges up conversations around collective trauma, memory and communal healing. Yinka Olatunbosun reports

There were gunshots. Followed by tears, sorrow and deaths. The year was 1967. Fast-forward to 2022, the video installation inside Red Door Gallery, Victoria Island Lagos showed a young autistic artist, Kanye Okeke creating 'In Memoriam' a striking large sized painting with names of all the victims of the Asaba massacre written all over the colour drips.



**Publication:** Thisday

**Date:** Friday 2 December 2022

**Platform:** Online ([View](#))

**Monthly Views:** 2.4M

**END**