

Sommige informatie is alleen beschikbaar in het Engels

## KWADWO AMFO-AKONNOR

Social commentary became the base of Amfo's work throughout the years ranging from societal beauty standards, identity politics, social inclusion and conformity — expanding to representations of misrepresentations, stereotypes and struggles of people in society.

Kwadwo Amfo (1990, Accra, Ghana) established an early interest in art making while growing up, which led him to enroll into the Visual Arts department in secondary school and did his elective courses in textiles, graphic design, general knowledge in art, and English literature. While in secondary school, Amfo developed his love for textile and graphic design while re-enforcing his interest in photography/filmmaking and realised that the two could go hand in hand as he pursued photography (Fiction) at the Royal Academy of Art, The Hague Social commentary became the base of Amfo's work throughout the years, ranging from societal beauty standards, identity politics, social inclusion and conformity, and topics on the self and the other. Amfo has expanded this into works that speak representations of misrepresentations, stereotypes and struggles of people of colour. Amfo's decision to almost exclusively depict black characters, individuals of African heritage, reflects his desire, born of his own experiences, to bring to the fore the inadequate and troubling representations of black people in today's media, as well as throughout history. In this way, their blackness is both a reminder of his search for truth and a microcosm of how the societies in which we live construct the value systems that affect us all. ☒ Use of video media in virtual space and augmented reality is a new feature in Amfo's ever expanding creative process. Amfo has broadly exhibited his work at the Scotia Bank Contact Photo Festival, Toronto, in Netherlands and Ghana.

### WEBSITES

[studiokwadwoamfo.com](http://studiokwadwoamfo.com)

[ronmandos.nl/artist/kwadwo-amfo/](http://ronmandos.nl/artist/kwadwo-amfo/)

[www.artsy.net/artist/kwadwo-amfo](http://www.artsy.net/artist/kwadwo-amfo)

[www.deploegh.nl/project/kwadwo-amfo/](http://www.deploegh.nl/project/kwadwo-amfo/)

[galleryviewer.com/nl/galerie/59/galerie-ron-mandos/kunstenaars/5148/kwadwo-amfo](http://galleryviewer.com/nl/galerie/59/galerie-ron-mandos/kunstenaars/5148/kwadwo-amfo)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

[www.instagram.com/studiokwadwoamfo/](http://www.instagram.com/studiokwadwoamfo/)

## LID VAN BEROEPS- / KUNSTENAARSVERENIGING

Galerie de Ploegh Amersfoort

## OPLEIDINGEN

- 2020 - Eye on Art Royal Academy of Art, The Hague + Eye Film Institute, Amsterdam
- 2021
- 2018 - Fotografie Den Haag, Koninklijke Academie van Beeldende Kunsten Diploma
- 2022

behaald

2009 - Graphic Design, Web development  
2009 OpenLabs Ghana Diploma behaald

## TENTOONSTELLINGEN

- 2024 ART ROTTERDAM Van Nella Fabriek  
Rotterdam, Nederland  
[www.artrotterdam.com/](http://www.artrotterdam.com/)  
Groep
- 2023 Bevroren Tijd Galerie de Ploegh  
Amersfoort, Nederland Fotografie is het  
vastleggen en afbeelden van  
onherhaalbare, bevroren momenten in  
de tijd. In 'Bevroren Tijd' tonen elf  
Ploegh fotografen een grote variëteit  
aan onderwerpen zoals structuren in  
muren, ramen en natuur;  
familiegeschiedenis; de oceaan;  
alleenheid en de vier elementen van de  
natuur. De exposerende fotografen  
maken gebruik van traditionele tot de  
allernieuwste fotografische technieken  
zoals fotogrammen in kallitypie,  
analoge zwart/wit fotografie,  
fotomontages, digitale beelden,  
multimedia en door Kunstmatige  
Intelligentie gegenereerde fotografie.  
[www.deploegh.nl/bevroren-tijd/](http://www.deploegh.nl/bevroren-tijd/)  
Groep
- 2022 DIPO Galerie Ron Mandos Amsterdam,  
Nederland Dipo is a rite that transitions  
a female from childhood into  
womanhood. In both the Shai and  
Krobo communities, going through the  
Dipo rite is a prerequisite in becoming a  
woman who is capable of fully  
participating in the community, being a  
wife, and having a family. In ancient  
times, those who did not do it or got  
pregnant before the Dipo rite was done  
were considered outcasts—some  
banished from the community. The  
Dipo girls are dressed in beautiful  
clothes from waist to knee level. The  
upper part of the body is exposed and  
decorated with markings and colourful  
assortments of beads, which the Krobo  
people are renowned for. During the  
rituals, the Dipo girls appear bare  
breasted. This can be juxtaposed

## PROJECTEN

- 2024 Spirit and Bone Den Haag, Nederland on-  
going project
- 2023 SUNSUM Accra, Ghana

against the widely held views in contemporary Ghana that nudity is 'indecent' and 'improper'. DIPO by Kwadwo Amfo explores the tension between nudity, sexuality, and the Ghanaian sense of modesty.

[ronmandos.nl/exhibition/kwadwo-amfo-dipo/](https://ronmandos.nl/exhibition/kwadwo-amfo-dipo/)

Solo

2022 SILHOUETTE Unseen Amsterdam  
Amsterdam, Nederland  
[Groep](#)

2022 SILHOUETTE Galerie Ron Mandos  
Amsterdam  
[Groep](#)

## OPDRACHTEN

2023 DIPO ArtFix Den Haag, Nederland

2023 Vogue talent VOGUE Amsterdam,  
Nederland

## AANKOPEN/WERKEN IN COLLECTIES

2024 SUMSUM - Aunty Olivia Ministerie van  
Buitenlandse Zaken Nederland

2022 SILHOUETTE - no.2 The Social Hub  
Amsterdam, Nederland

2022 SILHOUETTE - no.2 Ministerie van  
Buitenlandse Zaken Nederland

2022 SILHOUETTE - no.3 Ministerie van  
Buitenlandse Zaken Nederland

## PRIJZEN EN STIPENDIA

2022 Stitching tot Stuen Royal Academy of  
Arts, The Hague Den Haag, Nederland

2022 Photo Talent Award YoungBlood  
Award Amsterdam, Nederland

2022 Nomination/Special mention Global  
Design Graduate show London,  
Verenigd Koninkrijk

2022 Nomination/Special mention  
BLURRING THE LINES Paris, Frankrijk

## VERTEGENWOORDIGING

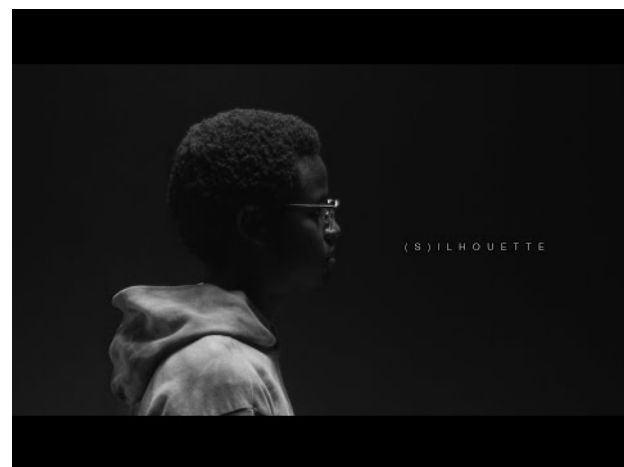
-- Galerie Ron Mandos Amsterdam, Nederland  
<https://ronmandos.nl/>



SUNSUM, 2023  
Photography, 70 x 90 cm



SUNSUM, 2023  
Photography, 70 x 90 cm

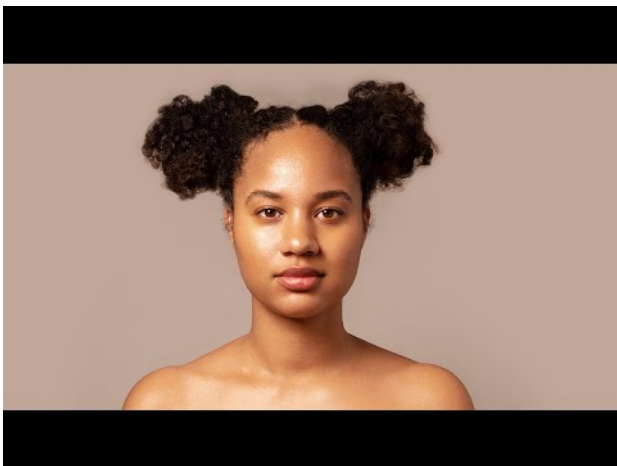


SILHOUETTE, 2022  
5:11

SUNSUM, 2023  
Photography, 70 x 90 cm



copy of copy of copy of happiness, 2021  
7:07



Lissom, 2021  
4:53



Lissom, 2021  
6:01



I AM, 2020  
1:19



SILHOUETTE  
Photography, Augmented Reality, 100 x 125 cm / 60 x 75  
cm



SILHOUETTE  
Photography, Augmented Reality, 100 x 125 cm / 60 x 75  
cm