I had a dream

AtWork No. 12 Kampala
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Exhibition of the notebooks created by the participants during AtWork workshop conducted by Simon Njami and Elise Atangana at Maisha Garden and Makerere Art Gallery.

Exhibition
September 2 - September 11, 2018
Makerere Art Gallery

AtWork is an itinerant educational format conceived by Moleskine Foundation and Simon Njami that wants to inspire a new generation of creative thinkers.
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I had a dream

What is your dream? The mind races to aspirations, ambitions, ideals and hopes. A dream is the projection of the future, precisely impossible and improbable - Mahatma Ghandi.

"Dreams at first seem impossible, then seem improbable and finally, when we commit ourselves, become inevitable." In this text we learn that perhaps we are our own limitations. Dreams can be difficult and hard to achieve, yet no dream is too big. With willingness and hard work, anything is possible.

"There’s always a price for a ticket - James Baldwin," Simon Njami says. This examines how much we are willing to invest to achieve our dreams. How eager are we to do whatever it takes to create the change for ourselves?

After the five day workshop, there was a shift from trying to save the world to saving self creating a positive change for oneself. This learning process raises questions of what each individual wants to reach and the need to step out of their comfort zones. This allows one to think of the impossible. The process inspired deep, meaningful and life-changing mysteries. ‘I had a dream’ is a deconstruction of all the knowns to create room for other possibilities to happen. Our minds struggled to figure out how this dream can be personal. We questioned our experiences with society, religion, identity, knowledge, history, impossibilities, invisibilities and political situations. The act of stripping naked brought fears of failure, misinterpretation and doubt. We became curious about the emptiness.

During the workshop we found ourselves critically thinking and questioning broadly and this has triggered a need to fill self with knowledge.

With the help and advice from the facilitators and participants in the workshop, we were able to critically think about our dreams and create questions. Additionally we helped each other redirect, translate and interpret our dreams and use each individual’s uniqueness.

These dreams are never stopping.

Anita Kevin
My dream is to be an art curator and fashion icon

ANITA KEVIN

Born 1997, she is studying oil and gas management and running Okuki, an initiative to empower women through arts.

My dream is to break the silence

CATE NAMULONDO

I am a Ugandan born in Jinja District on the 26th March 1991

MY NOTEBOOK Linked

I have been using my notebook to document my experience in the I had a dream workshop and curating the exhibition.
It shows my learning processes on my path to becoming a curator.

MY NOTEBOOK To Be the Voice

The nails, razorblades represent the pain caused to the victims of rape.
The holes and the cuts created by the nails and blades represent the wounds that are created. These are normally too deep and they take a long time to heal. Rape is normally violent and bloody and thats why there is tearing of undergarments and blood everywhere.
I am breaking the silence by telling victims to stand up and fight for their rights.
**MY NOTEBOOK Bewitchment**

My dream talks about my bewitchment of my soul and my spirit to my liberation.

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**CLAUDE MASSASSA-BUNNY**

Born in 1990 in Gabon, she is a multimedia artist and opened Bunny Studio in 2016. She gets her inspiration from her passion for images, performance and installation. Her first exhibition was Lumiere Festival at Libreville in 2017. She also participated in the 13th Dakar Biennale 2018. She was invited by European Union as artistic director of photography to 2018 Cultural Patrimoine Festival.

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**MY NOTEBOOK Ticket(s) to Paradise**

Since my childhood I have always dreamt of becoming rich. At first I thought when one puts it in their mind it merely gets closer for instance I had a belief that if I read books written by ‘supposedly’ rich people it makes the way to riches more clear. Contrary to this, a dreamer has to think, work and have a target that must exceed the current capacity to achieve it. In this case one has to identify a need or what is missing to fill a gap. My work is an invention of ticket(s) aimed at making a direct route to heaven at a cost. I assure those interested (Various religions) that they will fly directly to heavenly places emphasized by a flying figure that I engraved on the face of the ticket. A stamp with address of Kampala for endorsing together with a black masking tape “seal-off” the tickets. At the end of the day, when more and more of my tickets are consumed I will achieve my dream.

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**EZRA KIIZA**

He is an inter-disciplinary artist, designer, illustrator and educator born in Uganda (1993). He holds a Bachelor’s degree in Industrial and Fine Arts from the Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Arts (MTSIFA) Makerere University, Kampala Uganda with a concentration in Printmaking and Illustration. In pursuit of his career, he has collaborated with different agencies in the industry of Arts and Design such as Affirmative Art The Kampala Art Biennale, Uganda Community Art Skill Development and Recycling (UCASDR), UNICEF Design Innovations.
My dream is to show that art is not a sin, because God Himself is a great artist.

FATUMA HUSSEIN

Fatuma Hassan is an abstract painter who lives and works in Kampala, Uganda but is native of Ndjamena, Chad. Her colorful paintings pay homage to African Traditional Culture. Her distinctive personal style stems from the joy, love, peace and music that express the vibrant spirit and atmosphere of the African culture.

MY NOTEBOOK Breakthrough

During my studies at the university, my parents were not happy about the course I chose and made it hard for me to hang my works. Some would even be hidden from sight; implying that the work I create is symbolic of evil. My notebook is about me learning to be open to my self and breakthrough that prison that I’ve been kept in. Barbed wire material symbolizes courage and strength to express myself, the thread symbolize my sensitiveness to the nature of criticism I face back at home, as well as my willingness to carry on creating.

FAVOUR NSUUTAMUKAMA

My name is NSUUTAMUKAMA FAVOUR, am a Ugandan born on the 29th/12/1996. I am 21 years old and a student at Kyambogo University pursuing a bachelor’s degree in Industrial Art and Design. I major in painting and sculpture.

My dream is to become a professional artist globally.

MY NOTEBOOK My Globe

I am unique because of my left hand, which in my culture was called a cat’s hand (Buganda). As a little girl questions like why do you have to use it instead of the right were commonplace. The depth created within the outline of my left hand painted in red shows the print, expressing what makes me unique, reaching out to the world through my work. The palm print which is surrounded with the colours of nature (blue, green and brown) A map of my dreams... my Globe. This book, this structure is my own map. What do you see?
Gilbert Bogere is a 25 year old artist living and working in Uganda with a Bachelors degree in Industrial and Fine art from Makerere University. He is a freelance storyboard artist and illustrator. He has worked with leading publishing companies in Uganda like MK, Fountain Publishers and the National Curriculum Development Centre. He is currently participating in the Kampala Art Bienniale under the master Radenko Milak.

My dream is to open my own production studio

My dream is to buy my way to heaven

Hamza Kimera is a visual artist from Uganda, born 1st Feb 1991, who works across painting, fashion and print making, he found being an artist is not a choice but a need. His works are colourful and full of vitality as he seeks to explore themes of freedom, love, beauty and sadness. Hamza’s works celebrate everyday mundane and unspectacular moments.

By sharing private moments in paint, he promotes empathy to those who view his work.

My dream is to buy my way to heaven

CBHIJA

My book is titled CBHIJA Gospel. My concept was to create a one religion which can bring all religions together because my dream is to buy my way to heaven.

My dream studio is circular in shape and is inspired by the traditional hut. My studio is going to be an underground studio and with artificial aeration. The studio will produce all kind of animation work and also publish comic books.

My Notebook My Dream Studio
ISAAC WADDA

WADDA ISAAC is a creative artist and designer born in Uganda Kampala in 1993. He explores purpose driven innovative works, design projects, drawing, painting, sculpture and art installations. He was raised in Kampala city, started practicing the Art of drawing and canvas painting at the age of 8 years and by 2008 the artist painted The Messiah on the Cross. He has continued to develop brilliant concepts for art, science and technological design, as he gained more passion for innovation, art and design.

MY DREAM IS TO ACHIEVE A STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF FLIGHT

MY NOTEBOOK: Books in flight.

Books in Flight expresses my passion for flight and the desire to write ideas in a notebook. It starts with the search to be liberated in life using a book as a tool to keep opinions, and sketches about flying vessels. Using a notebook is the first step of innovation using it to keep drawings. I believe Moleskine is the book of the future because it influences all sectors, beliefs and thus in books we trust. A book is a key to gather strategies, follow objectives and keep history. If to achieve flight a force is required, then a notebook is the first force to power man flight.

JARED ONYANGO

Jared was born and raised in Nairobi, Kenya. He spent his early school life in Korogocho, Nairobi with his grandmother in Kajimbo village of Upper Nyakack in Kisumu. He trained at P.A.R.T.S, an international performing arts and research school in Brussels Belgium. He has participated in a series of workshops at Ecole des Sables in Toubab Dialaw, Senegal. He is currently based in Nairobi, Kenya where he dances and makes performances.

MY DREAM IS TO OWN MY OWN PERFORMANCE SPACE

MY NOTEBOOK Performance Manifesto

Performance Manifesto is the dream of a dancer to own a performance space. Looked at the other way round, the wish to own a performance space is a metaphor for a strong desire of the dancer to possess his own body space, his own person, to find himself. To own a performance space is a life long ambition that the dancer hopes to fulfil in bits. This is symbolised by the locked padlocks which he hopes to unlock at different stages of his journey.
JOANITA NAKIGUDDE

She is a Ugandan professional artist and an award winning fashion designer. Her brand name is kongo-liro. Her major is multimedia Art, crafts and graphics designing and concept Art from found materials both organic and inorganic like maize cobs, plastic bottles and bottle tops, leather, clay, cloth offcuts, plastic jerrycans, banana fibres, eggshells, calabash, barkcloth. She strongly believes that nothing can become something.

MY NOTEBOOK Light (ekitangaala)

Amidst all confusion, stickness, being locked up, frustrated, ignorant, stupid, not open, this that was going on in my life, I found myself, I am free now, I was transformed. Why not start another chapter of my life here and now!!!!!

Matt Kayem is a Ugandan contemporary visual artist. Born Michael Matthew Kayiwa on 5th June 1991, he holds a certificate and diploma from Michelangelo College of Creative Arts, Kisubi. He is interested in the complex and interesting relationship between art, beauty, money, fame, religion, death and pop culture. His work also explores politics, culture, race and the overall human experience.

MY NOTEBOOK The Gospel of Matt Kayem

I want to be a cultural icon who will be revered. So I set out to make a holy book. The book mocks and pokes at Christianity which has brainwashed and mentally enslaved Africans. It also connects black people to ancient Egypt. With this I hope to help my brothers and sisters seek a lot of knowledge through reading but also question what they consume because most of it is written with a certain motive. I also want them to connect with their cultural heritage.
**MIRIAM WATSEMBA**

I am a Ugandan Documentary photographer. My dream is to share people’s stories through photography.

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**MY NOTE BOOK Unseen**

The 'Unseen' is a representation of Aloka Mark Trevor (20) a.k.a KIDO, who is venturing into the world of art to find himself and Dr.Nabuliime Lillian (55), an educator and sculptor at Makerere University, who is living her golden years as an artist. The Unseen brings to light the things that the Artist says without saying throughout their life’s journey with Art. That is who they are, where they belong, their little pleasures in life, their time, identity and self. In the notebook, artists speak in first person.

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**MY NOTEBOOK Lost in Finding**

As I go through my journey of finding myself and my true identity within language and environment, I end up at a starting point where I find me, myself and I. Lost in Finding is a piece of work expressing the back and forth in search of self realization. The piece is in the form of an infinite symbol with a point of entrance and exit portraying a common ground of being sure yet uncertain. The self illustrations facing opposite sides is a symbol of mirror reflections.

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**NICHOLAS ODHIAMBO**

Born in Kisumu, Kenya, Nicholas Odhiambo, also known as 'Nikomambo', earned a diploma in arts and design from Mwangza Art School in 2014. He uses a mixed media and found objects as a tool to create imagery that is both real and surreal, laced in ideology.

'In an attempt to create an allegory, I cobine my ideas and observance of daily social activities and behavioral changes, reactions on war and conflicts.'
MY NOTEBOOK I will tear down this temple and rebuild it in three days

The burnt coffin I created from the notebook is symbolic of the death of my past and my rebirth. It’s inspired by the Hindu concept of Samsara (rebirth). The coffin is a metaphor for the death I felt in the long pursuit of self. In the coffin is my old diary that is burnt up and also ashes to illustrate the destruction and detachment from my old past. On the front of the coffin is a date I was born which is a hundred years before my actual year of birth and the year I died which the actual date I was born because I feel like I died the day I was born into a world divided by a lot of isms. On the back of the coffin is the year I was reborn, the year I found meaning in life.

OLIVIA MARY NANTONGO

Born on the 27th of January, 1994
I am a multi-talented girl. I love singing, dancing, eating (a lot), reading and writing a little bit of poetry, i have a thing for fashion and a serious weakness for jewelry. I am an oil and acrylics painter, a sculptor, graphics designer and good at drawing human figures especially the nude.

MY NOTEBOOK Break Free

The mystery behind this notebook talks about how to free oneself from all negativity and bad energy; to focus on the good and positive things that can help one move forward.

The first half of the notebook represents the Dark world that i call “MY PRISON”. I show what is really happening in my mind when i am in a “black and grey” mood. The second half of the notebook has colorful papers, positive words to heal the heart, mind and soul. I designed the second half of the book this way to show that i have finally got the strength to move on even if it may hurt me. I am a PHOENIX, I rise up from the ashes, fight back, and BREAK FREE.
My dream is to find my dream

MY NOTEBOOK Quarter Life

Quarter Life is a chronicle of my aspirations till now. First I wanted to be an artist, then a lawyer, teacher and a myriad of other things. My dreams now called mirages have always had a need to save the world. I believed if people needed me, then they loved me. Looking back, it has all been a search to be accepted and for the first time I want to be selfish with my goals and dreams. Quarter Life is an examination of my dreams thus far and how they have led me to this point. I need to find that one thing which I truly care about which has absolutely nothing to do with anybody but myself.

PAMELA ENYONU

32, Born in Kampala –Uganda, Mixed media artist – Collage, photography and assemblage.
I am inspired by stories, materials and the process it takes to transform them.

My dream is to see street art growing in Uganda

MY NOTEBOOK Me and the Spraycan

In my life I met a friend who has changed my life; “spraycan.” For my notebook I made the shape of the spray can symbolising the friend who came into my life, and the pages symbolise my life time. The mirror shows me and my life

PETER LUBEGA

Lubega peter aka Sparrow Uganda born in Kampala Uganda,1995, is founder of afri-cans street art festival. He is a street art artist, activist, photographer and a teacher. Sparrow’s use of graffiti as a medium creates expressive artistic visuals that beautify spaces for communities and spreads knowledge that impacts the community and society positively.
SAMANTHA PHYLLIA TANETA

I was born on the 18th Feb 1996 in the district of Arua-Uganda. I am a sculptor, a painter and a photographer.

MY NOTEBOOK The Dreamcatcher

The concept in this work, involves pins, spiders and spider webs, a puzzle of my face, and some strings. The pins represent the pieces or things that are keeping me together and at the same time you realize that the sharp end pierces through the puzzle showing they are also reasons for my confusion and wanting to rush my growth to the end results. The spiders or spider web as we all know anything that fly’s into the web gets caught up within it. The pieces of the puzzle which when arranged represent me are a sign of the state of my mind so many things I would like to achieve caught up in my head like a web. I must free myself with my dreams but where do I start? Too many people are expecting too many things from me.

MY NOTEBOOK The Schemes of Heaven

My notebook is the beginning of a manuscript of the anthology of folk tales I hope to write, illustrate and have published one day. In it, I retell the tale of Kintu and Nambi and fill in the gaps in the story.

SARAH IJANGOLET

Sarah is passionate about vector illustration and portraiture and is fascinated by Ugandan folklore and mythology, a lot of her work being an exploration of the rich world of Ugandan fantasy and mythos as passed down from generation to generation. She chooses not to be limited in her depiction of Ugandan deities and supernatural beings, allowing her imagination to stretch and mould their visages and appearances to accommodate how truly extraordinary the tales about them are. In doing so, she hopes to conserve as many of these folk tales as possible.
**MY NOTEBOOK Seek and Find**

Welcome to this strange society of seekers. We are all on a quest for something but not critical enough to see it yet it lies within.

I have provided you with knowledge embedded on the mysterious chest. The answer to all your questions. I remain the greatest HRA. Seek and Find.

**MY NOTEBOOK Library**

My life is a library. Full of books, full of stories of my life. Some looking quite ragged because they have been reread many times, others only once. People come and go, taking their time, browsing a bit. Maybe even helping to write the next chapter without knowing it. My life is a library, a treasure made of words, of human interactions.

**TREVOR ALOKA**

Aloka Trevor Mark, 20 years

**WILLY KAREKEZI**

Willy Karekezi is an Rwandan visual artist whose work is driven by his social and political engagement. He believes that art is without boundaries, enabling him to tell stories and communicate important messages to a broad audience. His work aims to share his reality and the conditions experienced by others. He uncovers unseen and erased images from the realities of others. Willy has explored alternative platforms for sharing his work in-line with his social engagement. He wants his work to contribute to communities and benefit them practically.
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……..for dreaming with us!

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