

Karimah Ashadu

Biography

1985	Born London, England lives and works between Hamburg, Germany and Lagos, Nigeria
2014-2016	De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2011	Chelsea College of Art, London, England
2007	The University of Reading School of Arts and Communication, Berkshire, England

Solo Exhibitions

2026	KM21, Hague, The Netherlands <i>Tendered</i> , The Renaissance Society, Chicago IL, USA <i>Machine Boys</i> , The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago IL, USA <i>Crystalline</i> , Kestner Gesellschaft, Hanover, Germany <i>Machine Boys</i> , Deichman Bjørvika, Oslo, Norway
2025	<i>Tendered</i> , Camden Arts Centre, London, England <i>Machine Boys</i> , Canal Projects, New York NY, USA
2023	<i>Plateau - Interwoven Histories</i> , Galerie Ursula Walter, Dresden, Germany
2021	<i>Plateau</i> , Secession, Vienna, Austria <i>Plateau</i> , Produzentengalerie, Hamburg, Germany
2018	<i>Power Man</i> , De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
2014	GoetheOnMain Project Space, Goethe-Institut, Johannesburg, South Africa

Group Exhibitions

2026	<i>On Mining, Matter, and Memory</i> , Mönchehaus Museum Goslar, Goslar, Germany <i>Beyond the Manosphere. Masculinities Today.</i> , Kunstmuseum St.Gallen, St. Gallen, Switzerland <i>Waste. An exhibition about the global routes of rubbish</i> , Museum Ostwall, Dortmund, Germany
2025	<i>18th Istanbul Biennale – The Three-Legged Cat</i> , Istanbul, Turkey <i>The Gatherers</i> , MoMA PS1, New York NY, USA <i>Shelf Life</i> , Trautwein Herleth, Berlin, Germany
2024	<i>The Miraculous Arms</i> , François Ghebaly, Los Angeles CA, USA <i>Foreigners Everywhere</i> , Venice Biennale, Italy <i>Sous la terre, les dragons</i> , Frac des Pays de la Loire, Carquefo, France
2023	<i>Who Are We if Not Nature</i> , M.Bassy, Hamburg, Germany
2022	<i>A Different Now is Close Enough to Exhale on You</i> , Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa Kunstpreis der Böttcherstraße, Kunsthalle Bremen, Germany <i>The Show is Over</i> , South London Gallery, England <i>Identity not proven</i> , Bundeskunsthalle Bonn, NEUES MUSEUM, Nürnberg and Museum Gunzenhauser Chemnitz, Germany

- Penumbra*, Fondazione in between Art Film, Ospedaletto and Church of Santa Maria dei Derelitti, Venice, Italy
- 2021 Rotary Contemporary Art Prize, Bonner Kunstverein, Bonn, Germany
Scratching the Surface, Hamburger Bahnhof - Museum für Gegenwart, Berlin, Germany
- 2020 *Shoreline movements*, Taipei Biennial 2020, Kunstverein in Hamburg, Germany
- 2019 *ars viva 2020*, Galerie für Zeitgenössische Kunst, Leipzig, Germany
- 2018 *64th Robert Flaherty Seminar*, Syracuse, New York NY, USA
MANJAR, Solar dos Abacaxis, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2017 *Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement*, Faena Forum, Miami Beach FL, USA and Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 2016 *Potlatch*, De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 Arbeitsstipendium für bildende Kunst, Hamburg Kunsthaus, Germany (shortlisted)
VISIO, *Outside the Black Box*, Lo schermo dell'arte Film Festival, Florence, Italy
Biennale de l'Image en Mouvement, Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève, Switzerland
 Marl Medienkunst-Preise, Skulpturenmuseum Glaskasten Marl, Germany (shortlisted)
- 2014 *New Participants*, De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 Maison des arts George et Claude Pompidou, Cajarc, France

Selected Screenings and Festivals

- 2026 *Machine Boys*, Deichman Bjørvika, Oslo
On View – Power, Palais Populaire, Deutsche Bank, Berlin, Germany
 Berlinale Forum Expanded, Berlin, Germany
- 2025 42nd Kassel Documentary Film and Video Festival, Germany
 22nd In The Palace International Short Film Festival, Bulgaria
 E-flux Screening Room, New York NY, USA
Machine Boys, IndieLisboa, Lisbon, Portugal
Machine Boys, 71st International Short Film Festival Oberhausen, Germany
Unsettled Grounds, Monangambee Film Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria and ICA, London, England
Machine Boys, 22nd In the Palace International Short Film Festival, Pernik, Bulgaria
Machine Boys, Kunsthall Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark
Machine Boys, Eye Filmmuseum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Unsettled Grounds, Monangambee, Lagos, G.A.S. Foundation, Nigeria
- 2024 13th Avant-Garde Film Festival, Athens, Greece
 Recontres Internationales Paris/Berlin, France
Machine Boys, Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur, Switzerland
Machine Boys, VIENNALE, Vienna, Austria
Machine Boys, IDFA, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Machine Boys, La Roche-sur-Yon International Film Festival, France
Machine Boys, 62nd New York Film Festival, New York NY, USA

- Plateau*, Notes on Air, Salt Beyoğlu Forum, Istanbul, Turkey
Machine Boys, Sole Luna Doc Film Festival, Palermo, Italy
Machine Boys, World Premiere, Visions du Réel, Nyon, Switzerland
- 2023 *History is not the past*, Wolf Cinema, Berlin, Germany
Double Feature, Schirn Kunsthalle, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2022 *Plateau – Another Eye* series, Kunstverein Düsseldorf, Germany
Penumbra Expanded, MAXXI – Museo nazionale delle arti del XXI secolo, Rome, Italy
Plateau, Starr Cinema, Tate Modern, London, England
Visions du Réel, Nyon, Switzerland
- 2021 *Black is not a Colour*, Kunsthalle Schirn, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2020 *KunstBewusst x Afrika Film Festival*, Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany
From Soil, Sand, and Salt Crystals: Films and Natural Processes, University of Chicago IL, USA
- 2018 *An Evening with Karimah Ashadu*, *Modern Mondays* series, MoMA Museum of Modern Art, New York NY, USA
Affinities or The Weight of Cinema, National Gallery of Art, Washington DC, USA
- 2017 *Frameless series*, Munich, Germany
- 2016 54th Ann Arbor Film Festival, Michigan MI, USA
VIDEOFORMES International Digital Arts Festival, Clermont-Ferrand, France
- 2015 *Does Not Equal*, W139 Space for Contemporary Art, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Triangle Gallery, Chelsea College of Art, London, England
Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival, Prague, Czech Republic
EUROVIDEO Festival, Liege, Belgium
- 2014 Traverse City Film Festival, Michigan MI, USA
ICA Artists' Film Biennial, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, England
European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück, Germany
52nd Ann Arbor Film Festival, Michigan MI, USA
New Participants, De Ateliers, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Bienal de la Imagen en Movimiento, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Athens Video Art Festival, Athens, Greece
Split Film Festival, Croatia
- 2013 Festival Internacional de VideoArte, Buenos Aires, Argentina
Onion City Experimental Film and Video Festival, Chicago IL, USA
Facade Video Festival, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
VIDEOEX Experimental Film and Video Festival, Zürich, Switzerland
Media City Film Festival, Windsor, Ontario, Canada
Experimental Film Festival Portland, Portland OR, USA
- 2012 European Media Arts Festival, Osnabrück, Germany
Transmediale Festival for Art and Digital Culture, Berlin, Germany

Selected Fellowships and Residencies

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2021	Abigail R. Cohen Fellow - Columbia Institute for Ideas and Imagination, Paris, France
2020	Fogo Island, Canada
	Chrysalis fellowship, Media City Film Festival, Ontario, Canada
2018 - 2020	Edith Breckwoldt Foundation - Studio fellowship, Künstlerhaus FRISE, Hamburg, Germany
2019	Künstlerhaus Edenkoben, Germany
2016	Association Ferme-Asile, Sion, Switzerland
2014	GoetheonMain, Goethe-Institut, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Maison des arts George & Claude Pompidou, Centre d'art Contemporain, Cajarc, France

Grants and Commissions

2026	Kunstkommission, Düsseldorf, Germany
2025	Public Art PASSAGE, Munich, Germany
	Alexander Tutsek-Stiftung, Germany
	<i>MUSCLE</i> , Fondazione in between Art Film, Italy, The Renaissance Society, USA and Camden Arts Centre, England
2024	<i>Machine Boys</i> , Fondazione in between Art Film, Italy
	Moin Filmförderung Hamburg Schleswig-Holstein, Germany
2022	Fine arts project funding, Department for Culture and Media, Hamburg, Germany
2021	<i>Plateau</i> , Film commission, Fondazione In Between Art Film, Italy
	ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius scholarship, Hamburg, Germany
2020	<i>Saltmine</i> Script development grant, Filmförderung Hamburg-Schleswig Holstein, Germany
	Travel fellowship, Neue Kunst in Hamburg, Germany
	Production grant, Hamburgische Kulturstiftung, Germany
	Publication grant, Hamburg Behörde für Kultur und Medien, Germany (in association with Edith Breckwoldt Foundation)
2019	Production grant, The African Culture Fund, Bamako, Mali
2016	Centre d'Art Contemporain Genève
2014	Arts Council England and British Council AIDF Grant, England

Public Collections

The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago IL, USA
 Akeroyd Collection, London, England
 Kunsthalle Bremen, Germany
 FRAC des pays de la Loire, Nantes, France
 Fondazione in between Art Film, Roma, Italy
 Federal Collection of Contemporary Art, Germany
 MoMA The Museum of Modern Art, New York NY, USA
 Fonds Municipal d'Art Contemporain de la Ville de Genève, Geneva, Switzerland

FRAC Corsica, Corte, France

Awards

2025	Lichtwark-Förderpreis, Hamburg, Germany Shortlisted – Film London German Award, London, England
2024	Silver Lion for a Promising Young Participant in the International Exhibition, 60th Venice Biennale, Italy
2023	Longlisted – Film London Jarman Award, London, England
2022	Prize of the Böttcherstraße in Bremen, Germany Longlisted – Jarman Award, London, England
2021	Shortlisted - Wi Di Mimba Wi : The AKB & SAVVY Contemporary Commission Prize, Germany Longlisted - Preis der Nationalgalerie, Germany
2020	Contemporary art prize, Rotary Club Bonn, Novara and Strasbourg, Germany
2019	ars viva prize, Kulturkreis der deutschen Wirtschaft, Berlin, Germany Nominated - Video Art Production Award, Hans Nefken Foundation-Arco, Madrid, Spain
2015	Video Innovation Prize, EUROVIDEO Festival, Belgium