

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

## Group Exhibitions

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

- Identity not proven*, 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 42<sup>nd</sup> Kassel Documentary Film and Video Festival, Germany  
22<sup>nd</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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

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  
*MUSCLE*, Fondazione in between Art Film, Italy, The Renaissance Society, USA and Camden Arts Centre, England  
 2024 *Machine Boys*, 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 *Plateau*, Film commission, Fondazione In Between Art Film, Italy  
 ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius scholarship, Hamburg, Germany  
 2020 *Saltmine* 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 Jarman 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                                                        |