

AUTO VISTA

Where design morphs into Art

BY ADEDAPO PAUL AKINTUNDE



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by Adedapo Paul Akintunde

@

Art Pantheon Gallery
12D Bosun Adekoya Street,
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GALLERY STATEMENT

Autovista: *African Vehicle Visions*, an exhibition of car and concept designs by designer and architect Adedapo Paul Akintunde. The exhibition offers drawings and designs to chart a broader vision for the automotive and creative industries in Nigeria. A truly unique exhibition in Nigeria's history, Autovista creates a space to engage with art as a catalyst for technological advancement and national progress.

Akintunde's style is full of dynamism. "My designs look like things already in motion,". This propulsive mindset is what drives *Autovista*. The movement is forwards.

In this vision of the future, the designs in Autovista are informed by the here and now. It is just as Akintunde says: "I am making cars for here. Cars that work for Africa."

Adedapo Paul Akintunde is the Managing Director of Ivixi Design Movement Ltd. He studied Architecture at the University of Lagos (UNILAG), graduating with distinction in his final year design studio presentation. He studied Vehicle Design at the Royal College of Arts, London, graduating in 1994. After studying car design and working in the UK for some time, he returned to Nigeria and to architecture, rising to become the Group Creative Design Director of Design Union Consulting and a director of several other architectural establishments.

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the future today and here, welcome to Auto Vista.

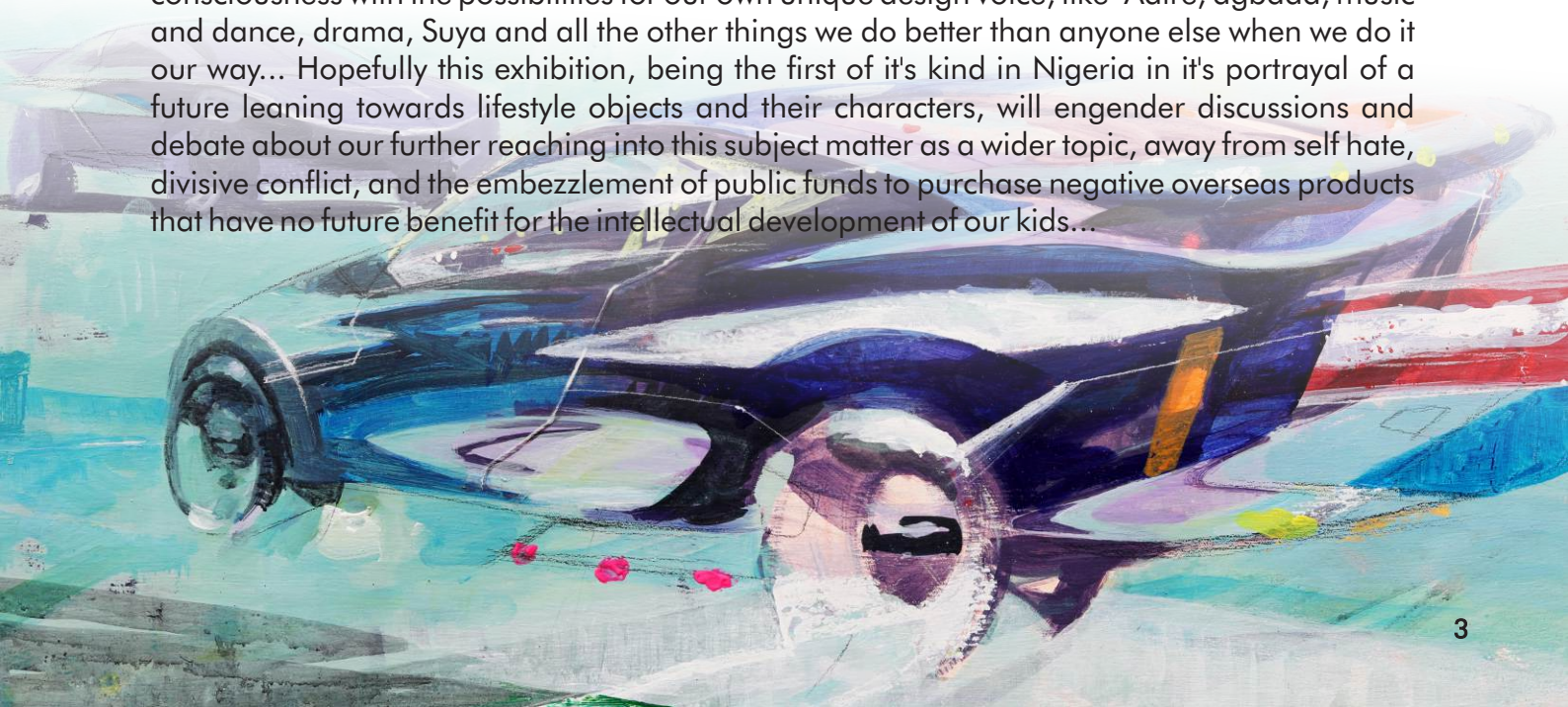
Nana Sonoiki
Art Pantheon Limited

MEET THE ARTIST

Adedapo Paul Akintunde is the Managing Director of Ivixi Design Movement Ltd. He studied Architecture at the University of Lagos (UNILAG), graduating with distinction in his final year design studio presentation. While there, he was also known for his artistic talent and went on to study Vehicle Design at the Royal College of Arts, London, graduating in 1994. His schoolmates included renowned British/Ghanaian architect David Adjaye and Turner Prize-winning painter Chris Ofili. After studying car designing and working in the UK for some time, he returned to Nigeria and to architecture, rising to become the Group Creative Design Director of Design Union Consulting and a director of several other architectural establishments.

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

After a year at Lacostech studying fine art, I decided the course didn't quite capture my imagining of future cars and environments, and no one took my car design claims seriously, so I took the next best thing: Architecture at Unilag. Here I was introduced to the basics of design, and after the RCA and working as a designer in Europe, I came back to Nigeria to sensitise consciousness with the possibilities for our own unique design voice, like Adire, agbada, music and dance, drama, Suya and all the other things we do better than anyone else when we do it our way... Hopefully this exhibition, being the first of it's kind in Nigeria in it's portrayal of a future leaning towards lifestyle objects and their characters, will engender discussions and debate about our further reaching into this subject matter as a wider topic, away from self hate, divisive conflict, and the embezzlement of public funds to purchase negative overseas products that have no future benefit for the intellectual development of our kids...



I have followed or rather 'stalked' Dapo through his ever evolving artistic incarnations .The constant however in his journey , is that Dapo unfailingly seeks the path that is a 'road less travelled'. Gently probing consciousness by questioning blindly accepted norms and continuously searching for ways to make things better for the 'common good', Dapo is an enigma.

I met him through the flourish of his pen(cil), ever eloquent and fluid as he illustrated an image that even the originator of the design could never claim as own. That is Dapo - constantly seeing beyond the possibilities and prognosticating what could be. Along his artistic journey , he morphed into a talented animator, telling digital stories with his graphics that made the pulse race with anticipation of the next adventure.

As is his nature, Dapo makes very light mention of his sojourn at the prestigious Royal College of Art where he paused to study or more aptly , fine tune his skills as an automobile designer.

Dapo's playful brilliance is very heavily masked by his humility . You would be greatly misguided to interpret this as obliviousness as evidenced by this landmark artistic expression of his exploration into contextually appropriate automobile design .

Auto Vista , 'where design morphs into art ', is an experience for us to - learn - unlearn - re learn and share a glimpse into the ever enquiring , and 'beautiful mind' of artist , master builder , automobile creator - Adedapo Akintunde .

Mosunmola Ogunbanjo

Africa's pace in developing innovative products has been stagnated mainly by its limited production capacity and redundant policies resulting from underinvestment in the manufacturing sector, particularly infrastructure.

Indeed, Africa imports most finished products despite abundant human resources, raw materials and technical knowledge. Today the continent is better known for its unfulfilled potential and underutilized talents like Dapo Akintunde. He graduated with distinction from the Royal College of Art, London, winning a prize in 1994 to become the first-ever Black African to be awarded a Master's degree in vehicle design for his thesis on car design in West Africa.

He returned to Nigeria to develop an indigenous car well adapted to our local climate and peculiar needs. Sponsored by visionary and well-meaning Nigerians, Akintunde in 2018 became the first Nigerian to design a 100% indigenous car prototype. He would complete a full-working and road-going prototype in November of 2020.

With the constraints that African automotive designers face, Dapo Akintunde has risen to the challenge of creating a fascinating and innovative automobile.

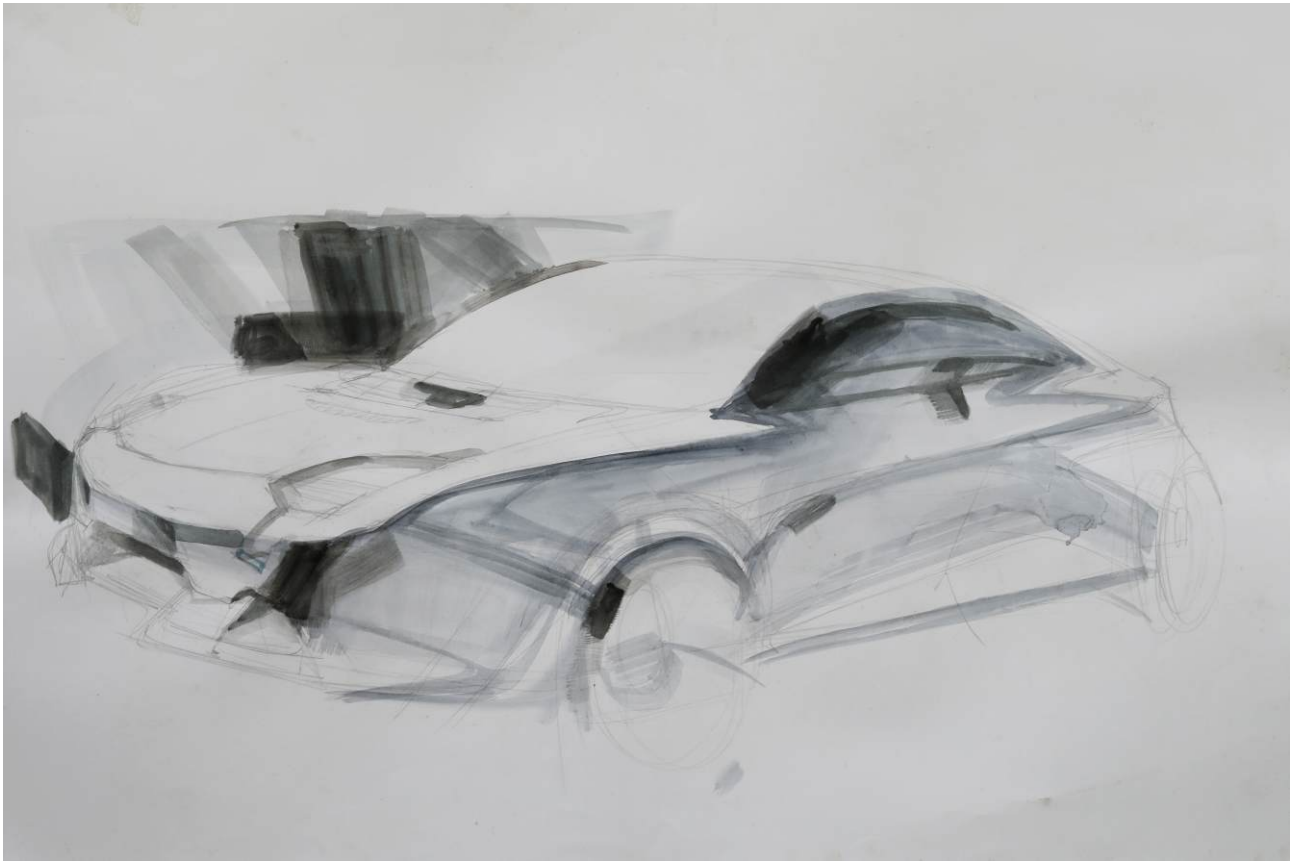
Since the lockdown occasioned by the global outbreak of the coronavirus, the automotive sector has been littered with initiatives that fail to deliver results with the latest diversity trend. This objective is in the bid for these international brands to remain relevant. But a myopic stance on diversity and inclusion isn't enough. Companies have a moral and legal obligation to promote inclusive and non-discriminatory practices.

We hope that by producing the Netflix Made by Design documentary series, with Akintunde featured in one of the episodes, some of these international automotive brands that continue to sell products that don't work for our market would collaborate with him to develop more relevant products. African designers should begin to design for Africa. Diversity, equity, and inclusion should not be trends — they are necessary.

The background is a monochromatic orange-toned abstract composition. It features faint, layered architectural sketches of a car's interior, including the dashboard, steering wheel, and seats. The sketches are rendered in a painterly, watercolor-like style with visible brushstrokes and varying shades of orange, from light to dark. The overall effect is artistic and conceptual, suggesting the intersection of design and art.

AUTO VISTA

Where design morphs into Art



SLIVER SURFACE CONTAST

2020

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



ONE WITH THE CIRCUMSTANCE...

2020

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



URBANA EROTICA: EPE
2021
Watercolor on Paper
25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)

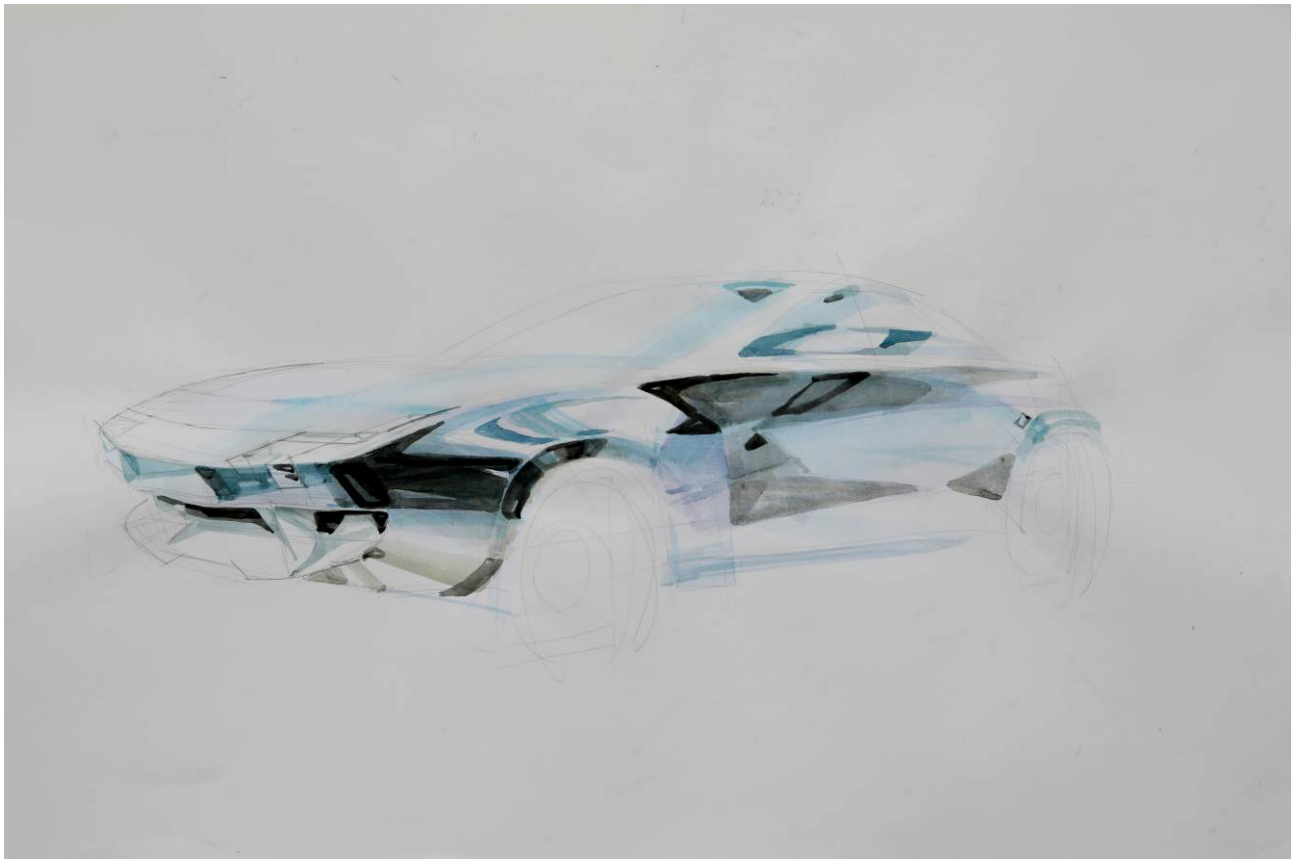


SURFACE STUDY IN RED

2021

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



BLACK CHROME BLADE

2021

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



UTILICA AFRICANS

2021

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)

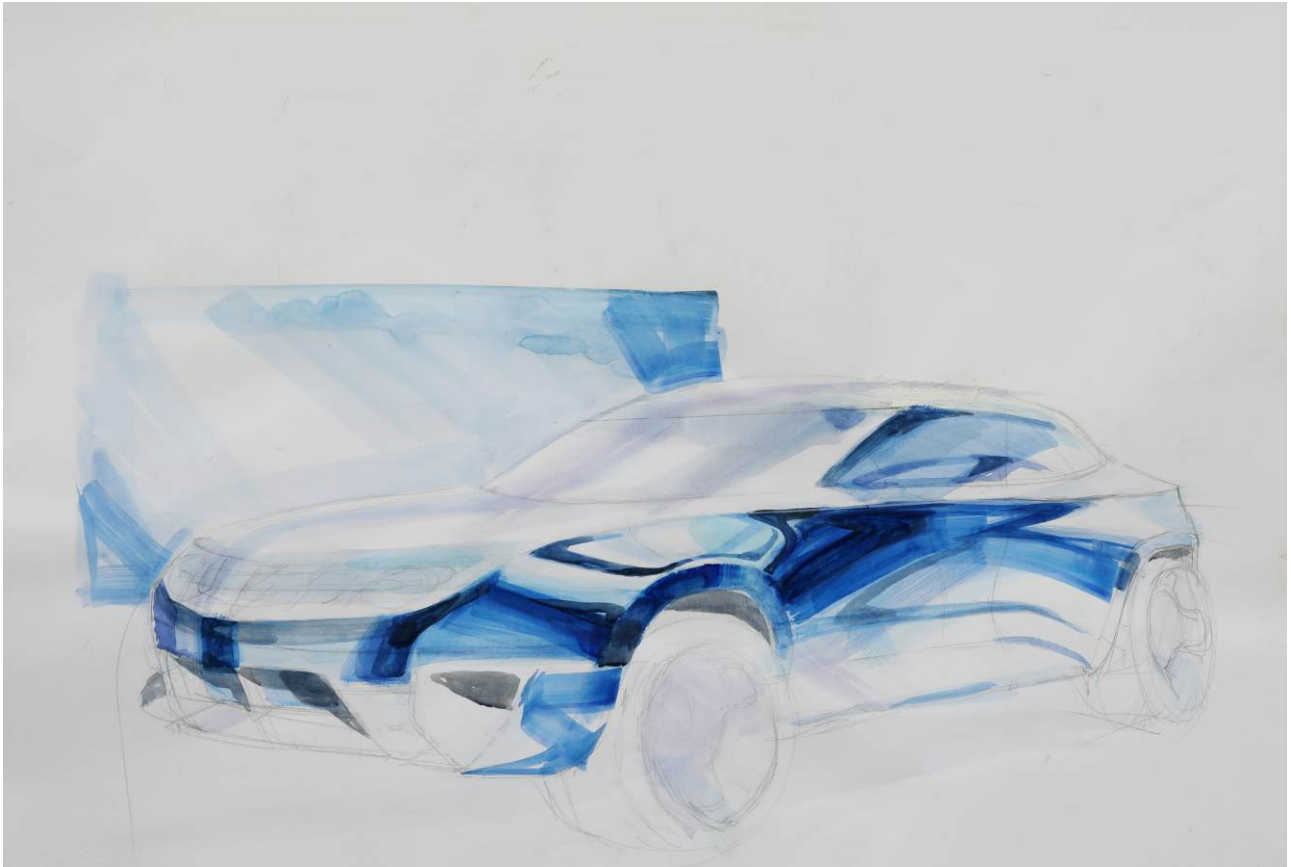


CLIMATE COLOURS

2021

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



EXOTICA IN BLUE MONOCHROME

2021

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



CRYSTALLINE PURPLE
2021
Watercolor on Paper
25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)

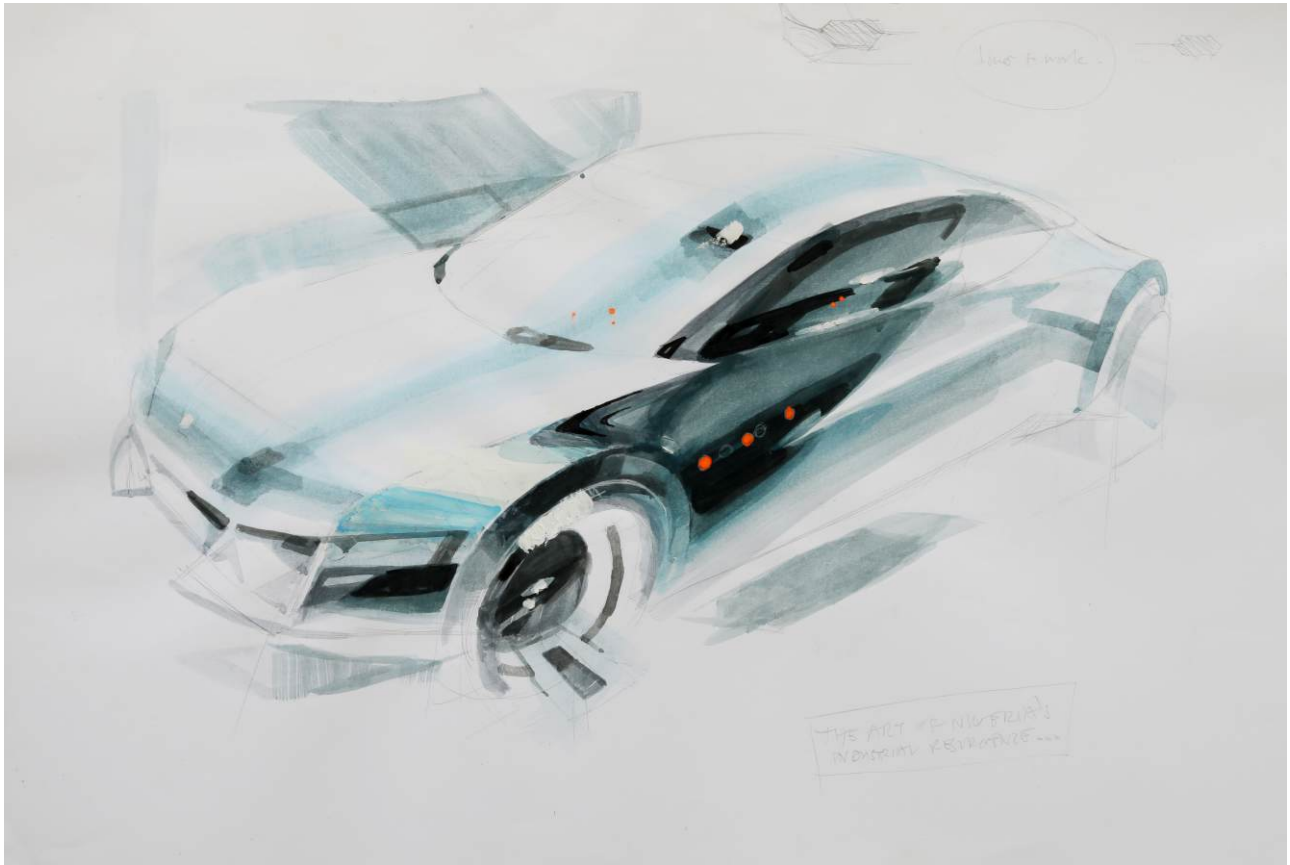


DANCE OF THE FIREFLIES

2020

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)

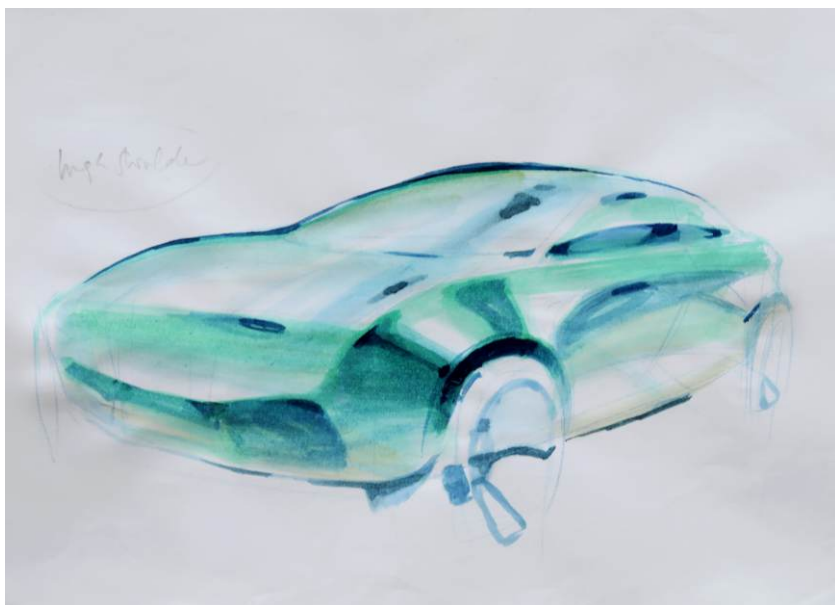


SIGNATURA ELECTRICA

2020

Watercolor on Paper

25 x 36in (64 x 92cm)



WILD IMAGINATION
2021
Watercolor on Paper
18 x 25in (46 x 64cm)



CHIAROS...
2021
Watercolor on Paper
18 x 25in (46 x 64cm)



LESS IS MORE

2020

Watercolor on Paper

18 x 25in (46 x 64cm)



EROTICA

2021

Watercolor on Paper

18 x 25in (46 x 64cm)



SEARCHER URBANICA

2021

Watercolor on Paper

13 x 19in (33 x 49cm)

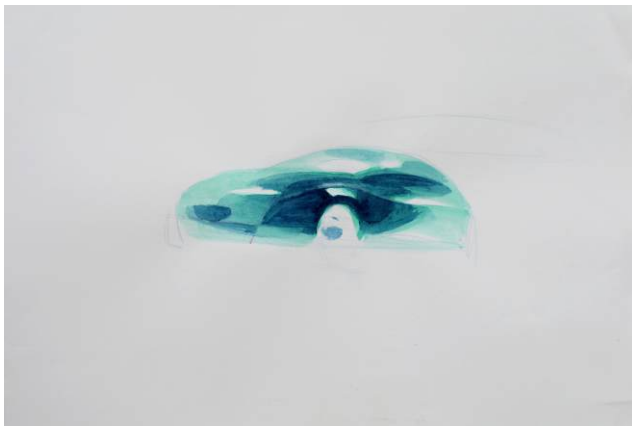


CONTRAST IN ROUGE...

2021

Watercolor on Paper

12.5 x 18in (32 x 46cm)



TRAUM A VERT...

2021

Watercolor on Paper

12.5 x 18in (32 x 46cm)



RAISED SOARER

2021

Watercolor on Paper

12.5 x 18in (32 x 46cm)



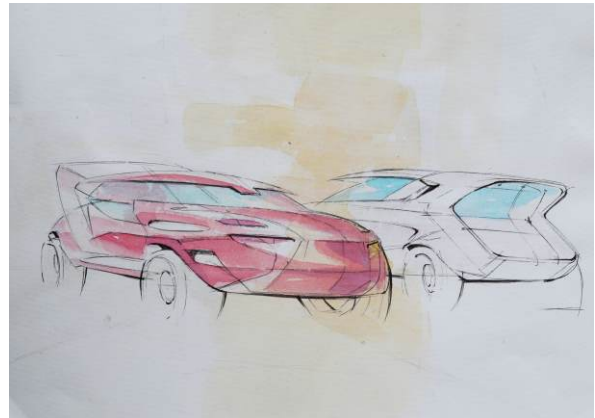
HIGHLIGHTS AND LOWLIGHTS (A STUDY IN RED)
 2021
 Watercolor on Paper
 12.5 x 18in (32 x 46cm)



FIREFLIGHT
 2021
 Watercolor on Paper
 11.5 x 16.5in (29 x 42cm)



AS IN A DREAM...
 2021
 Watercolor on Paper
 11.5 x 16.5in (29 x 42cm)



AFRICAN CHARACTERS
 2021
 Watercolor on Paper
 11 x 15in (28 x 38cm)



INSIDE OUT

2021

Watercolor on Paper

11 x 15in (28 x 38cm)

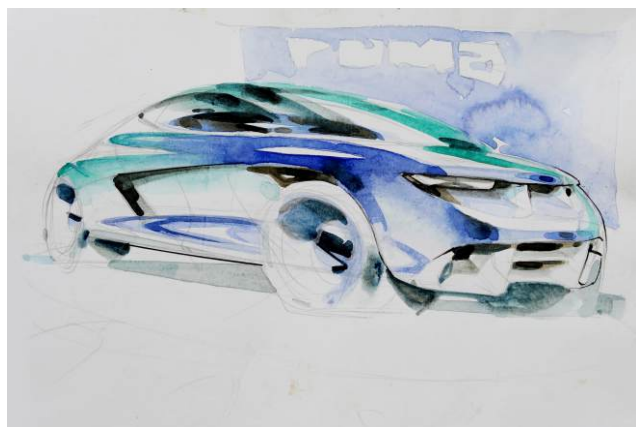


FLAIR

2021

Watercolor on Paper

11 x 15in (28 x 38cm)



FELINE

2019

Watercolor on Paper

9 x 12in (23 x 31cm)

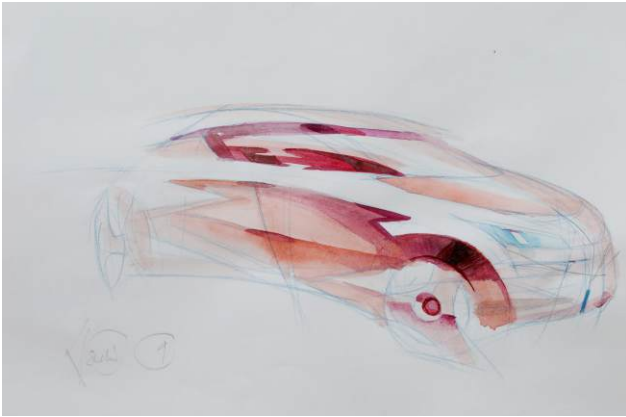


RED GEM

2021

Watercolor on Paper

8.5 x 12in (22 x 31cm)

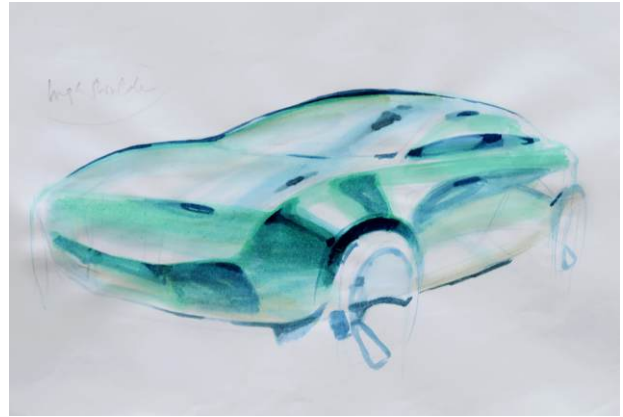


RED GEM STUDY II

2021

Watercolor on Paper

8.5 x 12in (22 x 31cm)



EMERALDA

2021

Watercolor on Paper

8.5 x 12in (22 x 31cm)



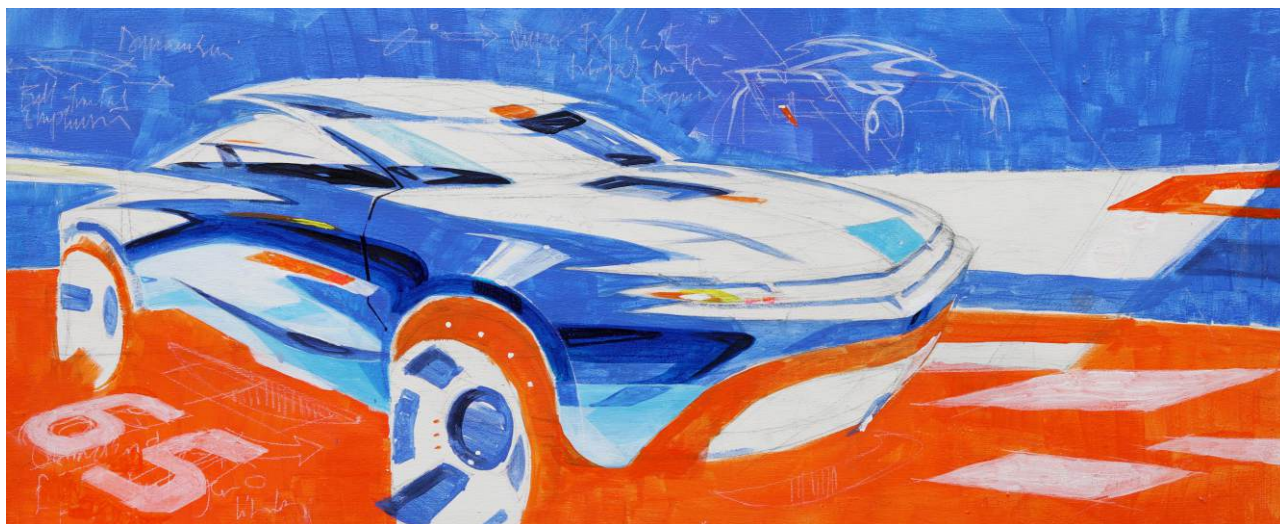
AFRIC ELEVATION ELECTRICA

2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



THE REAL EKO ATLANTICA

2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



BLUE ELECTRICA

2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



AFRICAN ELEGANCE

2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



VERNAKULA

2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



ALAUZA UNDER NANA

2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



CIRCA..
 2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)



GREEN REVOLUTIONS
 2021, Acrylic on Canvas, 20 x 47.5in (51 x 120cm)

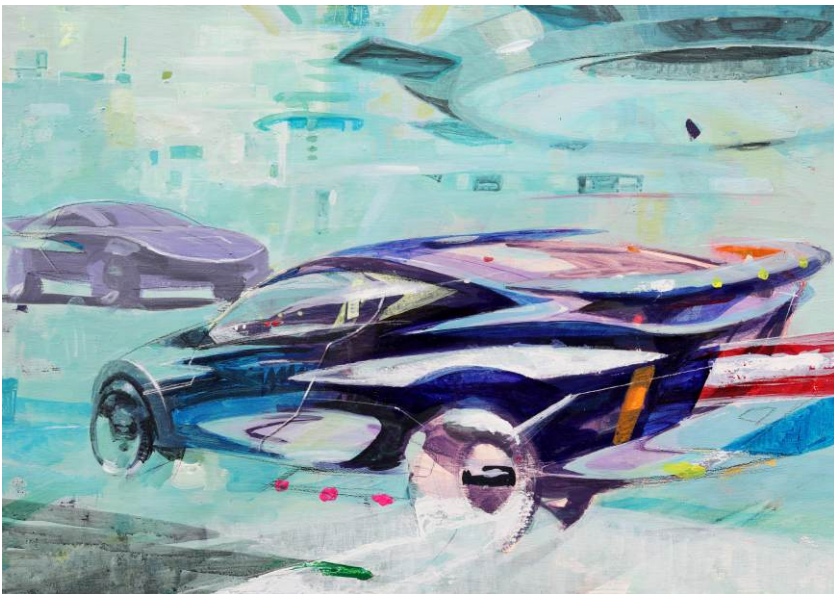


SHIFTING SANDS

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



EMOTICA

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



IDENTICA AFRICANO

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



2050 NIGHT SILHOUETTE

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



ZAHA
 2021
 Acrylic on Canvas
 24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



EBONY IRONY
 2021
 Acrylic on Canvas
 24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



MAMA WE'VE ARRIVED!
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



VISTA VISAGE
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



WARM DREAMS OF AN
EVOLVED AFRICAN VISION...
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
24 x 33.5in (61 x 85cm)



LIQUID MERCURY
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



VISIONARY
2021
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



INSIDE OUT
2019
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



GRAND PRIX TIWA
2020
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



URBANICA II

2020

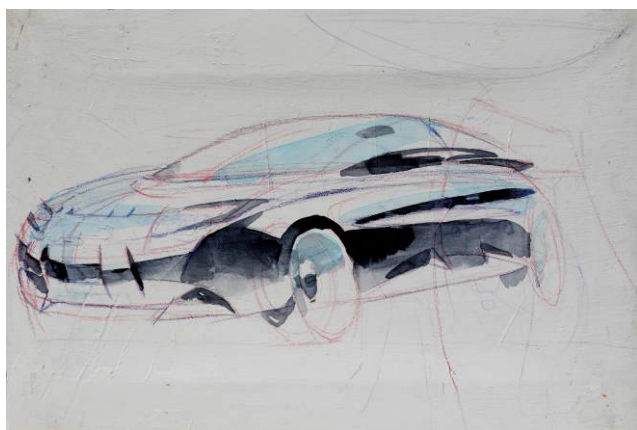
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



CHROMATOZOAN

2011

Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



EBONICS 2025

2021

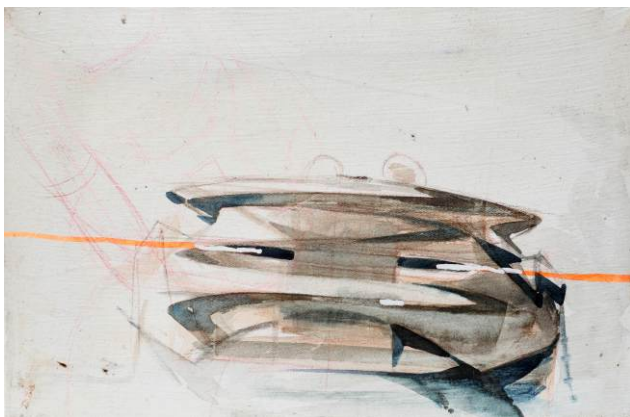
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



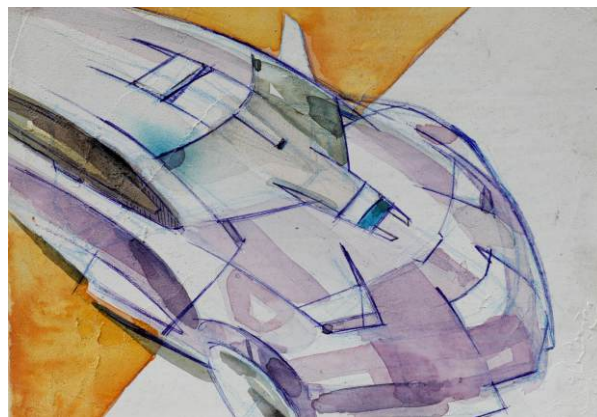
STERLING

2020

Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



REAR VIEW
2020
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



CHROMATOZOAN
2011
Watercolour on Canvas
8 x 12in (20 x 30cm)



KINETIC ENERGY

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)



VIBRALTO IN YELLOW
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)

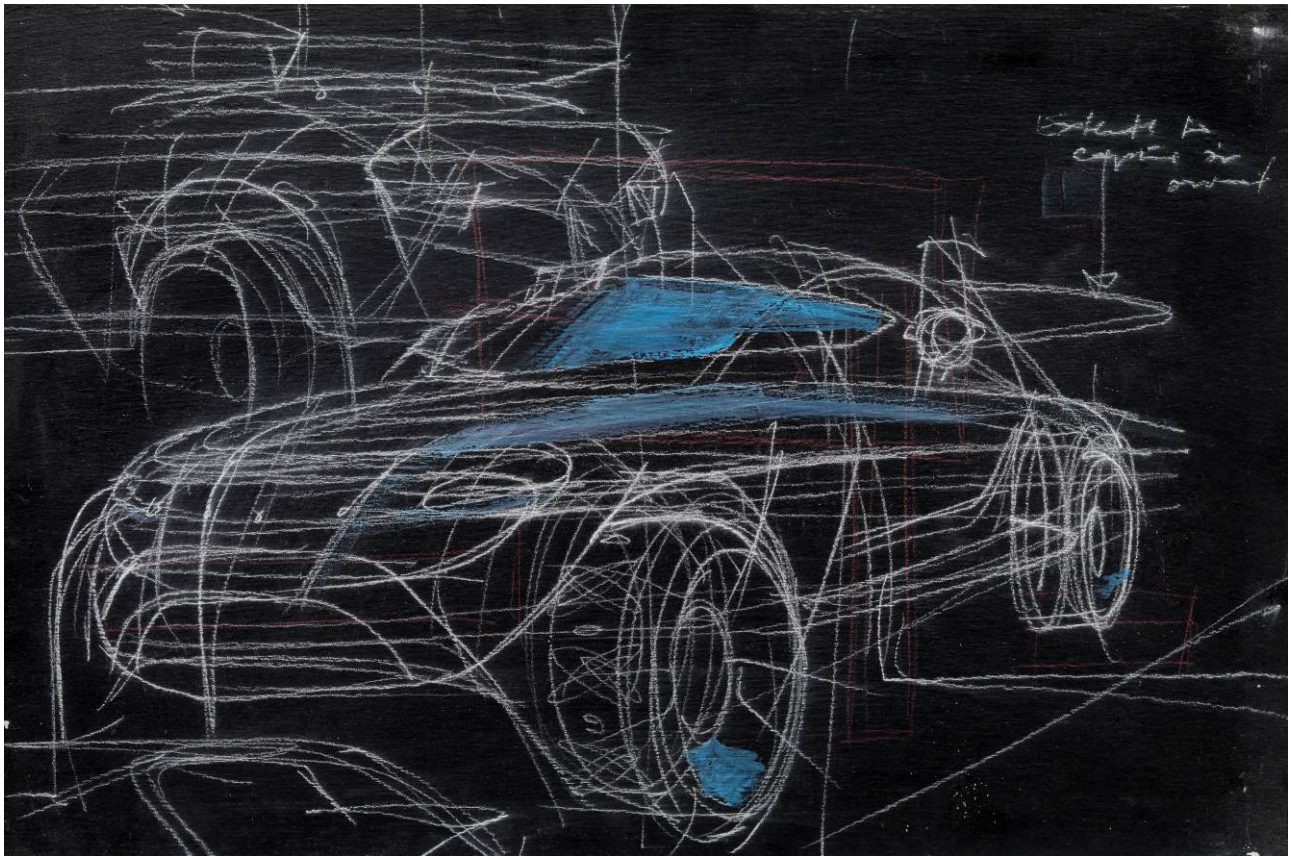


REGIONAL CHARACTER

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)

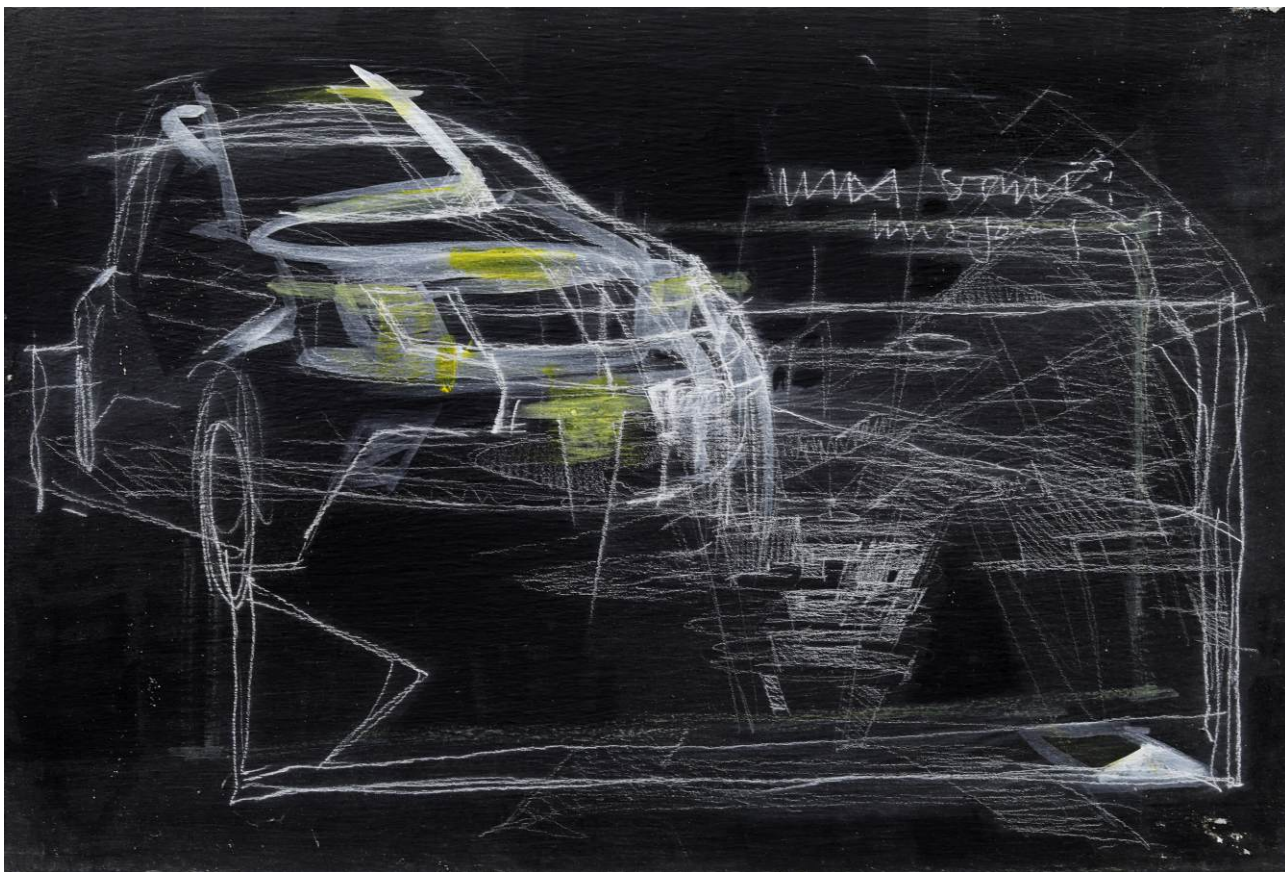


STURDIO

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)



CONFIDO
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)



COLOURWAY ON THE MOTORWAY

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)

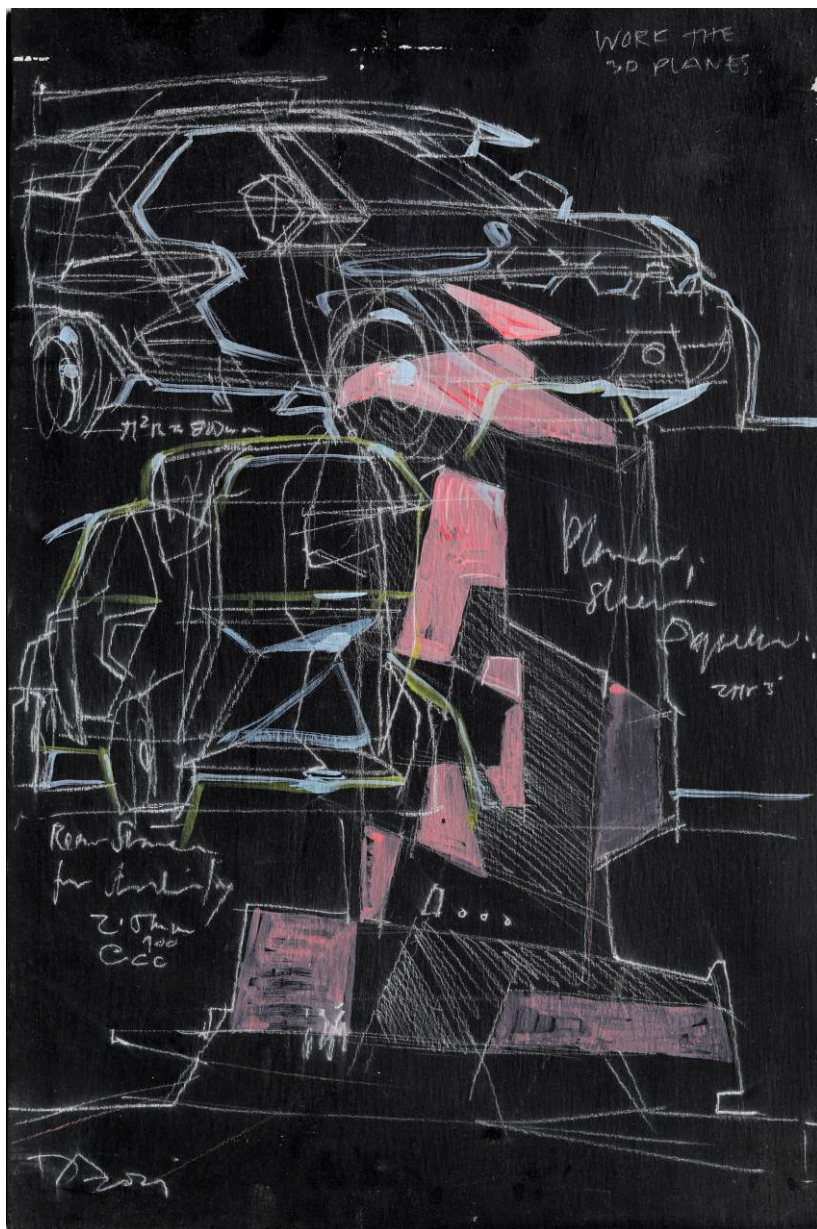


SUPERVISCOSITY

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)



AUV EXPLODED

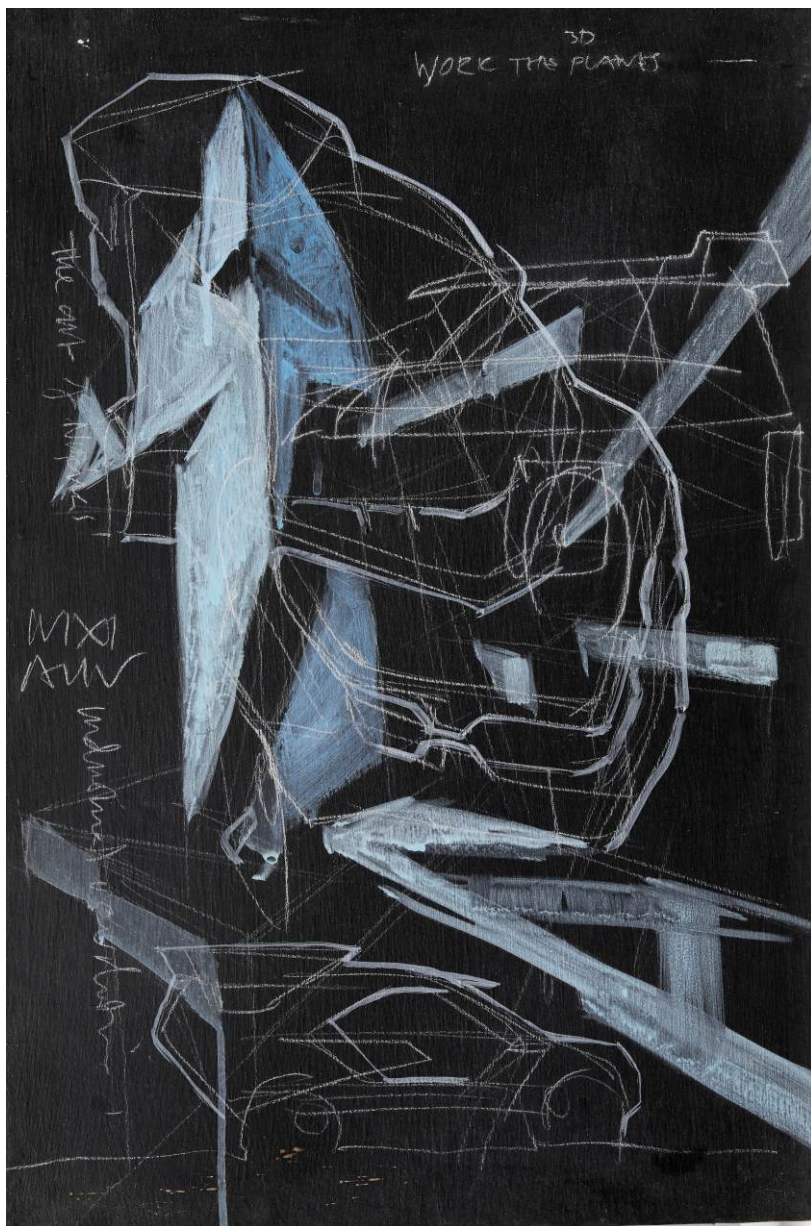
2021

Acrylic on Canvas

24 x 16in (61 x 41cm)



RADICA. P.
2021
Acrylic on Canvas
16 x 24in (41 x 61cm)

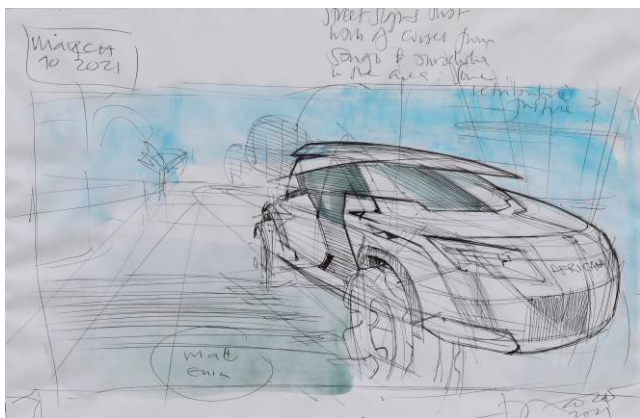


AUV PLANNER

2021

Acrylic on Canvas

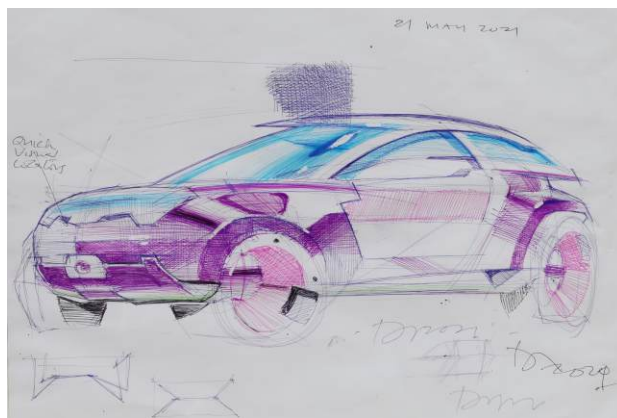
24 x 16in (61 x 41cm)



CHARACTER AFRIQUE

2021

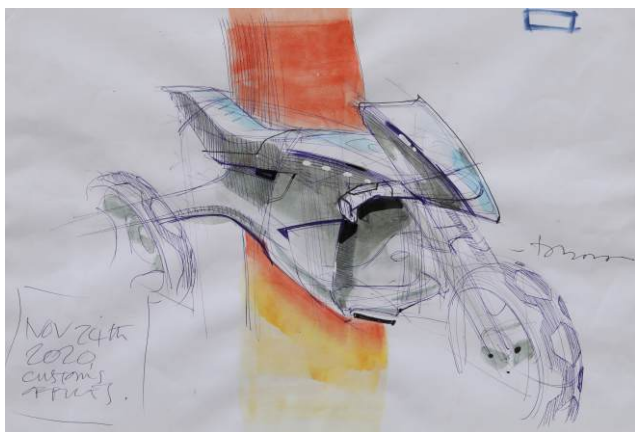
ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



CHROMAGO

2021

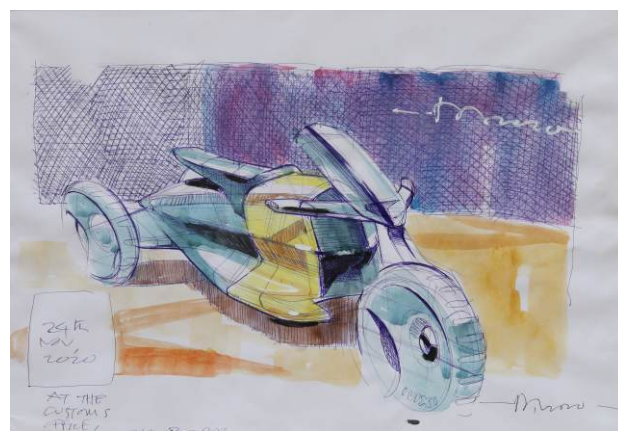
ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



OKADA IDERA

2020

ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



TROIKA

2020

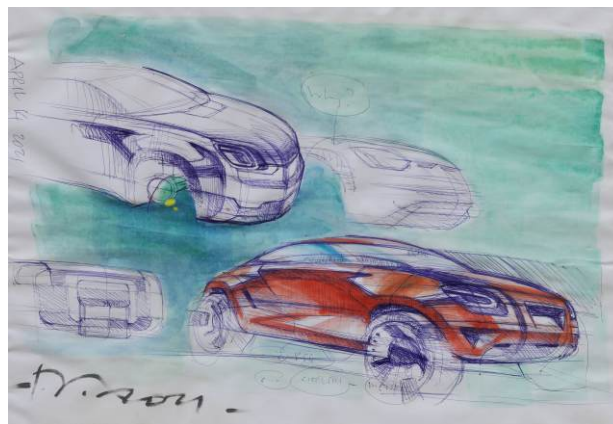
ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



SAFELY HERE

2018

ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



ARTISTIC FORAYS...

2021

ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



TRIKA II

2020

ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



MIDAS EKO

2021

ink on watercolour on paper
11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)

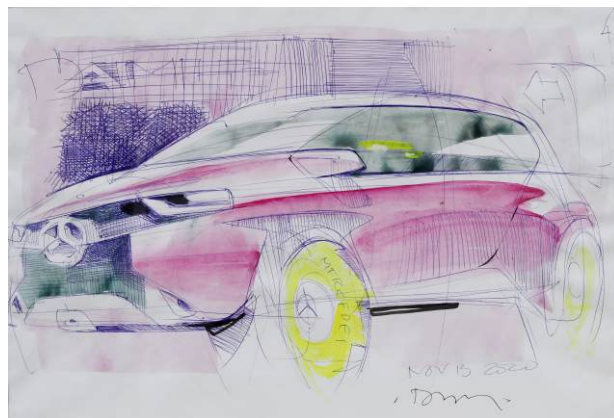


FORM SHADOW STUDIES

2020

ink on watercolour on paper

11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)



AFRICAN ELECTRIC SUV:HIGH SECTION RESEARCH

2020

ink on watercolour on paper

11 x 16in (28 x 41cm)

SPECIAL THANKS TO

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Mr Patrick Illorin
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Mr Femi Williams
Mr Yemi Adeola
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Mr I A Akintunde
Mr Adekunle Ogunniyi
Mr Adebayo Adeoye
Titi Ogufere
Patrick Koshoni
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Sunny Shokunbi
Mr Kole Esan
Chief Chima Ugo
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Ladi Abiodun
Auntie Mosun
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