

## AMIR NOUR

Born 1936, Shendi, Sudan  
Died 2021, Chicago, USA  
Lived and worked in Chicago, USA

### EDUCATION

- 2006 Ph.D. in African Art History, University of St. Andrews, Scotland
- 1969 MFA, Sculpture & Lithography, Yale University School of Art & Architecture, New Haven, CT, USA
- 1969 BFA, Sculpture & Lithography, Yale University School of Art & Architecture, New Haven, CT, USA
- 1966 Postgraduate Study (1 year), Sculpture, Royal College of Art, London, UK
- 1962 Diploma in Fine Arts, Slade School of Fine Art, University of London, UK
- 1957 Diploma in Fine & Applied Arts, School of Fine & Applied Art, Khartoum, Sudan

### SELECTED SOLO & TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2016 *Brevity is the Soul of Wit (1965–Present)*, Retrospective, Sharjah Art Foundation, Bait Al Serkal, Arts Area, Sharjah, UAE
- 1994 *Mohammad Omer Khalil Etchings / Amir I. M. Nour Sculpture*, National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA
- 1976 Art Society of the International Monetary Fund, Washington, D.C., USA
- 1976 *Two African Artists: Amir I. M. Nour / Twins Seven Seven*, Carnegie Institute Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, USA

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Other Primary Structures*, Jewish Museum, New York, USA
- 2001 *The Short Century: Independence & Liberation Movements in Africa, 1945–1994*, MoMA PS1, New York, USA; Museum Villa Stuck, Munich, Germany
- 2000 Group Exhibition, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, USA
- 2000 *The Short Century* (cur. Okwui Enwezor), Museum Villa Stuck, Munich, Germany
- 2000 *Transatlantic Dialog: Contemporary Art In and Out of Africa*, National Museum of

- African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA
- 1995 *Seven Stories About Modern Art in Africa (Africa95)*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
- 1993 *Creative Impulses / Modern Expressions*, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, New York, USA
- 1986 Segunda Bienal de La Habana, Havana, Cuba
- 1976 Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- 1974 *African Art Today: Four Major Artists* (Skunder Boghossian, Valente Malangatana, Twins Seven Seven, Amir I. M. Nour), African-American Institute, New York, USA
- 1973 Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA

## **PUBLIC COMMISSIONS / PUBLIC ART**

- 1983 *Unity, Association*, Asilah, Morocco (with UNESCO)
- 1983 Chicago Council on Fine Arts, Per Cent for Art Commission
- 1980 *Equation / Calabash 4*, Chicago, USA
- 1973 *Horned Gate*, Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, USA
- 1969 *Grazing at Shendi*, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA

## **COLLECTIONS**

National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA  
 City of Chicago Public Art Collection, Chicago, USA  
 Sharjah Art Foundation, Sharjah, UAE  
 Asilah Municipality / UNESCO, Asilah, Morocco  
 The Hood Museum of Art, Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, USA  
 Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA  
 The Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida, USA  
 Southern Illinois University Museum, University of Illinois, Chicago, USA  
 Private collections in the United States, Europe, Middle East & North Africa  
 Bank of Paris, New York City, USA  
 Chase Manhattan Bank, New York City, USA  
 Cheltenham Ladies College, U.K  
 Fourth District of Chicago, Eva Maddox and Associates, Chicago  
 Chicago Council in Fine Arts, Cultural Center, Chicago, USA  
 Fisk University, Nashville, USA  
 Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, USA

## **AWARDS / FELLOWSHIPS**

- 1969 New Haven Festival of Art Prize, New Haven, CT, USA
- 1968 African Arts Magazine Prize for Graphic & Plastic Arts (for *Ancestor*)
- 1967 Rockefeller Fellowship, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA

## **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- 2017 Salah M. Hassan, "Brevity is the Soul of Wit: Amir Nour Between Minimalism and Africanism," *NKA: Journal of Contemporary African Art*, No. 41
- 2016 *Amir Nour: Brevity is the Soul of Wit (1965–Present)*, Exhibition Guide (Arabic/English), Sharjah Art Foundation
- 2005 *The Short Century: Independence & Liberation Movements in Africa, 1945–1994*
- 1995 *Seven Stories About Modern Art in Africa*, exhibition catalogue, Whitechapel Gallery /

Africa95  
1974 *African Art Today: Four Major Artists*, exhibition publication, African-American  
Institute, New York

