

Esmaa Mohamoud

Born 1992, London, ON, Canada

Lives and works in Brooklyn, NY

Education

- 2016 Master of Fine Arts, Interdisciplinary Program, OCAD University, Toronto, ON, Canada
2014 Bachelor of Fine Arts, Honours Specialization in Studio Arts, Western University, London, ON, Canada

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *What Does Webster's Say About Soul?* Robert Projects, Los Angeles, California
2024-25 *Complex Dreams*, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, Michigan
2023 *Let Them Consume Me In The Light*, Kavi Gupta Gallery, Chicago, Illinois
2022 *It Cannot Always Be Night*, Arsenal New York, New York, New York
2019 *Esmaa Mohamoud: To Play in the Face of Certain Defeat*, travelling from Museum London travelling to: Art Gallery of Hamilton, Ottawa Art Gallery, Winnipeg Art Gallery, and Art Gallery of Alberta (publication)
2018 *Element*, Georgia Scherman Projects, Toronto, Ontario
The Draft, U-M Institute for the Humanities Gallery, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (included a Residency)
Three-Peat, ltd los angeles, Los Angeles, California
2016 #000000 VIOLENCE, YYY Artists' Outlet, Toronto, Ontario

Selected Group Exhibitions

- On-going *Sports Culture*, travelling exhibition, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California (2024-25); Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville, Arkansas (2025-26); and Perez Art Museum, Miami, Florida (Forthcoming)
2026 *Game On*, Aga Khan Museum, North York, Ontario (Forthcoming)
2025 *Sport and Spectator*, The McNay Museum, San Antonio, Texas
Sports, Sports, Sports, Art Windsor Essex Gallery, Windsor, Ontario
2023-24 *Resistance Training*, Eli and Edith Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, Michigan
2023 *Disembodied*, Nicodim Gallery, New York, New York
2023 *Resistance Training*, Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum, East Lansing, Michigan
2022 *Crossing*, Kotaro Nukaga, Tokyo, Japan
2022 *Garmenting: Costume as Contemporary Art*, Museum of Art and Design, New York, New York
2022 *In These Truths*, Albright-Knox, Buffalo, New York
2019 *Here We Are Here: Black Canadian Contemporary Art*, curated by Julie Crooks, Dominique Fontaine, Silvia Forni, Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada; travelling from the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario (publication forthcoming)
Self, Made, Exploratorium, San Francisco, California
2018 *My Silences Had Not Protected Me*, part of "For Freedoms: 50 State Project," Fort Gansevoort, New York, New York

- Cry for Victory and Short Walks to Freedom*, curated by Modou Dieng, part of “For Freedoms: 50 State Project” at Projects Plus Gallery, The Kranzberg Center for Arts, billboard, St. Louis, Missouri (publication)
- Here We Are Here: Black Canadian Contemporary Art*, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario (publication forthcoming); Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, Montreal, Quebec (travelling)
- 2017 *Every.Now.Then: Reframing Nationhood*, Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto, Ontario (publication)
- 2016 *Solace*, The Gladstone Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- The Way the Wind Blows*, The Drake Devonshire Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
- 2015 *Scratching Where It's Itching*, YTB Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

Selected Awards/Residencies

- 2021 Artist Residency, Kehinde Wiley's Black Rock Senegal, Dakar, Senegal
- 2019 Artist Prize, Toronto Friends of the Visual Arts
- 2018 Artist Prize, William and Meredith Saunderson Prize for Emerging Artists, Hnatyshyn Foundation
- Artist Residency, Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA
- 2017 SSHRC Grant, Arts Against PostRacialism Project, McGill University, Montreal, Quebec
- Artist Residency, Drake Devonshire, Wellington, Ontario
- 2016 Nora E. Vaughan Award, OCAD University, Toronto, Ontario
- Medal Winner, Interdisciplinary Arts, Media & Design Graduate Award, OCAD University, Toronto, Ontario

Selected Public Projects

- 2022 *The Brotherhood* (physical sculpture), Contact and City of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
- 2021 *Double Dribble*, The Bentway Conservatory, Toronto, Ontario
- 2021 *The Brotherhood (Fubu)*, Scotiabank Contact Photo Festival, Toronto, Ontario
- 2019 *Bryan Espiritu and Mohamoud: Peace for the Past, Reach for the Future*, Nuit Blanche Toronto - Raptors 25th Anniversary, co-commissioned by the Toronto Raptors and City of Toronto (Nuit Blanche Fall)

Selected Public Collections

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts
 Winnipeg Art Gallery
 The Eli and Edythe Broad Museum
 The Brooklyn Museum
 Steelcase
 21C Art Museum
 National Gallery of Canada
 Art Gallery of Ontario
 Art Gallery of Hamilton
 Weatherspoon Museum Art
 Institute for the Humanities, University of Michigan

Museum London
University of Victoria Legacy Art Galleries

Selected Publications

2023 Shawn Ghassemitari, Esmāa Mohamoud Probes Into “Black Body Politics” in New Kavi Gupta Exhibition” July 12.

Daniel Cassady, “Esmāa Mohamoud Finds New Understandings of Blackness in Dandelions and Cadillacs” *ArtNews*, April 14.

2022 Givani, Shinan. “Can’t Believe it’s Shea Butter: Esmāa Mohamoud’s Surprising Sculpture.” *Toronto Star*, October 30.

Gillmore, Alison. “Blackness and the Deceptive Seduction of Professional Athletics.” *Galleries West*, August 8.

Dubé-Moreau, Florence-Agathe. “In the Studio with Canadian Artist Esmāa Mohamoud.” *Elle*, July 21.

Beauford, Sean. “8 Rising Artists Using Basketball to Address Social Injustices.” *Artsy*, June 10.

2021 Gabrielle Moser, Critics Pick “The Bentway—Double Dribble”, *Art Forum*, July 7.

Antoine J. Girard “Art As Activism: Esmāa Mohamoud” *GOAT*, June 18.

Publication, *Here We Are Here: Black Canadian Contemporary Art*, curated by Julie Crooks, Dominique Fontaine, Silvia Forni, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, ON, Canada.

2020 Sheppard, Samantha N. “Sporting Blackness: Race, Embodiment, and Critical Muscle Memory on Screen.” *University of California Press*, 2020.

2019 Reeve, Charles. “How Artist Esmāa Mohamoud Reveals the Dark Heart of America Athletics.” *Frieze Magazine*, March, Issue 201.

2018 Davidson, Meghan. “Stay Mad Baby: Esmāa Mohamoud confronts injustice—and her critics.” *S/magazine*, summer issue, pp. 48-49.

Gagnon-Paradis, Iris. “Esmāa Mohamoud: render tangible l’intangible,” *LaPresse.ca*, May 22.

Nuttle, Rupert. “Esmāa Mohmaoud: Three-Peat...,” *C Magazine*, Summer Issue 47, pp. 46-47.

2017 Loisseau, Benoit. “meet the artist who dresses basketball players in ball gowns.” *Vice i-D*, December 15.

Flack, Derek. “The top 10 artists to check out at Art Toronto this year.” *blogTO*, October 27.

“Strange Fruit.” *Transition Magazine*, Issue 124, Harvard University, October 27.

“One of The Boys.” *Metro Toronto*.

Parris, Amanda. “Why Esmāa Mohamoud is bringing blackness and basketball into the Gallery.” *CBC*, July 20.

Rattan, Chris. “AGO exhibition reframes the idea of Canada.” *NOW magazine*, July 5.

Whyte, Murray. “Canada revisited at the Art Gallery of Ontario.” *Toronto Star*, July 3.

Castelo, Krista. “What to See at Every.Now.Then: Reframing Nationhood at the AGO.” *Toronto.com*, June 27.

Reframing Nationhood. The Art Gallery Ontario, 2016.

2016 Cascone, Sarah. "14 Emerging Women Artists to Watch in 2017." Artnet, December 21.

Lee, Yaniya. "How Canada Forgot Its Black Artists." The Fader, August 3.

Mistry, Anupa. "Sports Culture Is the Catalyst for Esmaa Mohamoud's Art." The Fader, March 31.