

# VITRINE



## Press Release

# Eburn Sodipo On the Edge of a Sheen Cut

14 June - 27 August 2023

Preview: Tuesday 13 June, 5-8pm CET

VITRINE, Basel. Daily 24/7.

VITRINE is delighted to present the first exhibition in Switzerland of emerging artist Eburn Sodipo, who works across performance, film, sculpture and collage, and narrates constructions of a black trans-feminine self after slavery and colonialism through visual assemblages.

'On the Edge of a Sheen Cut' presents a new body of wall-based sculptural works in resin and mylar showing images from the artist's visual archive. Sodipo initially developed works in this material whilst on residency at V.O Curations over 2022 and incorporates mylar overlaid with digital prints of images assembled on the surface, both of which are then coated in resin and left to harden.

The images used in Sodipo's compositions - created in both her sculptures and videos - are sourced from the artist's growing archive of images, GIFs and videos found on the internet. The archive is an exploration into what she describes as her own formation of personal narrative, self-possession and the aestheticisation of compositional materials that reflect ideas around transformation, desire and sexuality.

In one of the large works in the exhibition 'Anonymous Admirer', the provenance of the image content includes a cropped still of Octavia St. Laurent in 'Paris is Burning', an image of Donyala Luna, one of the first black models working in the USA, a close up of Mary J. Blige's nails from a concert in New Jersey in 2000.

Text is often an initial element to her works which she uses to interpret their content and imagery, other times the artist builds her compositions around a mood or colours. Images of manga characters, memes, historical figures and film stills are present in the works with a focus on tactility and touch; hands, embraces and words.

Material plays an important role in the artist's practice. Her use of mylar and reflective surfaces imitates the shimmer of water, a natural aesthetic that the artist has had a long term attraction to, likening it to desire and lust. By catching light and making it refract in ways that the artist cannot predict, it furthers the work's filmic qualities to provide a sense of movement and shimmer.

A screening of Sodipo's recent film work 'Nasty Girl (The Sharpest Girl in Town)' (2023) will be screened to accompany the exhibition, during Art Basel week 2023. Sodipo's 24-minute film further investigates the artist's visual archive set over selected music tracks and becoming fast paced moving assemblages, exploring desire in a multivalent manner.

**Ebun Sodipo (b 1993, UK)** lives and works in London, UK. She has exhibited in institutions and galleries including: Goldsmiths CCA, London, UK; VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art, Carlow, IR; FACT Liverpool, UK; The Block Museum of Art, Evanston, USA; VO Curations, London, UK; Chaos Magic, Nottingham, UK; a space arts, Southampton, UK; Koppel Projects, London, UK; Ugly Duck, London, UK; Paradise Row, London, UK; flat70, London, UK; Every Woman Biennale (2020), London, UK; Embassy Gallery, London, UK; Narrative Projects, London, UK; Willesden Gallery, London, UK.

Residencies include: VO Curations 2022; Rhubaba Writers Residency, 2021-2022; Porthmeor Studios Artist Residency, 2021; PPILOT, 2021; LUX Working Group Residency, 2021; Gasworks Studio Residency, 2020-2021; Radical Care, AFA Masterclass, 2020; Website Residency, The White Pube, 2020; Peer Forum, Camden Arts Centre, 2019.

She has performed and read at Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK; Camden Arts Centre, London, UK; South London Gallery, London, UK; Autoitalia, London, UK; Arebyte Gallery, London, UK; Jupiter Woods, London, UK; Bergen Kunsthall, NO; Frieze London 2021, UK.

**For press enquiries, image requests, and private view accreditation please contact:  
[press@vitrinegallery.com](mailto:press@vitrinegallery.com)**

#### Notes to Editor

1. Installation views of the show will be released on Monday 12 June 2022.

2. VITRINE is focused on artistic experimentation and emerging interdisciplinary practices. The gallery was founded in Bermondsey, London in 2010, with a second space in Basel opened in 2016, a digital space launched in 2020 and a third space in London's Fitzrovia opened in Spring 2022. Over this decade, we have established a reputation as a selector and nurturer of new talent and our continued aim is to support artists' careers and the growth of their ideas.

**Our programme** is focused on interdisciplinary approaches in a variety of media, concentrating on artists working in installation, sculpture and performance. We are committed to support experimental practices that flourish site-responsively, in alternative environments to the traditional white cube, and are often underrepresented in the art market.

**Our spaces** are transparent: In Bermondsey, glass windows cover the entire 16-metre-long, panoramic space; In Basel, our space – custom designed by Swiss architects PanteraPantera - offers a 360 degree 'in-the-round' viewing experience. This transparent architecture allows all exhibitions to be viewable 24/7 from the surrounding public squares. Our Fitzrovia space is a more conventional gallery space. Glass remains a defining feature of the architecture, with windows flanking a ground floor exhibition space. All our spaces are wheelchair accessible. We further our programme through international satellite exhibitions, gallery collaborations and art fairs.

**Our business model** is a hybrid. We operate an expanding commercial gallery; representing a core group of artists and advising international clients. Our work in the public realm and commitment to supporting artists with ambitious experimental exhibitions has allowed us access to public funding, which we have carefully used over our 10-year history for specific large-scale non-profit projects.