

UNA

UNA is pleased to announce ***Chapter 1: May my vision be your present***, the first solo exhibition of **Adji Dieye** (*1991, lives and works between Milan and Dakar) in the gallery.

The exhibition brings together a series of newly produced works that range from installations using fabrics to pictorial elements, through which Adji continues her investigation into the relationship between architecture, archival material, and the public sphere in the construction of post-colonial national identity. Starting from a critical reinterpretation of Asymmetric Parallelism, an architectural principle conceived by the first president of Senegal, Léopold Sédar Senghor, and in line with the architectural trends of the former colonies of the 1940s and 1950s, Adji explores the paradoxes and complexities of architecture as a tool for epistemological rewriting of a country, highlighting how these paradoxes continue to manifest in contemporary urban space.

Inspired by the theories of Senegalese economist and writer Felwine Sarr on the relationship between culture, perceptions, attitudes, and collective choices, Adji views Asymmetric Parallelism not only as a form of architectural expression (even though, as an architectural principle, it was never truly defined) but also as a vehicle for self-representation. Through works that combine the use of silkscreen printing, pictorial elements, and large-scale installations, Adji explores the tension between the ideas that constitute the aesthetic of modernity, self-representation, and "development," reflecting on how buildings and public space have contributed, and still contribute today, to the formation of a collective and individual identity.

The exhibition is part of the **XNL Aperto** circuit, a project coordinated by XNL Arte and its director Paola Nicolini, which for the third consecutive year brings together exhibitions, events, and special projects in a joint opening, creating an emotional map of contemporary art in the city of Piacenza and the surrounding villages.

Opening: September 14th, 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Exhibition: September 14th – December 31st, 2024

Hours: Tue-Fri 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM | Sat 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM + by appointment

Adji Dieye (*1991, Milan) lives and works between Dakar, Senegal, Milan, Italy, and Zurich, Switzerland. Adji earned a degree in New Art Technologies from the Brera Academy of Fine Arts in Milan, Italy, and an MFA from the Zurich University of the Arts (ZHDK) in Zurich, Switzerland. She has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including: Una boccata d'arte, Magrè sulla Strada del Vino (Bolzano); The Norval Sovereign African Art Prize, Norval Foundation (Cape Town, SA, 2024); A Matter of Time, Cultural Summit (Abu Dhabi, UAE, 2024); Gucci Art Program (Milan, 2024); Ducato Art Prize, Volumnia (Piacenza, 2023); À vendre (solo exhibition), Fondation H (Paris, 2023); Aphasia (solo exhibition), Fotomuseum Winterthur (Winterthur, 2022); Fais nous confiance (solo exhibition), Cecile Fakhoury (Abidjan, CI, 2022); Cultura Persa e Imparata a Memoria (solo exhibition), AR/GE Kunst,

(Bolzano, IT, 2021); Culture Lost and Learned by Heart, C/O Berlin (2021); La Biennale d'art contemporain de Lyon (2022); Dak'art Biennale (Dakar, 2022); La 13e édition des Rencontres de la Photographie Africaine (Bamako, 2022); La 12e édition des Rencontres de la Photographie Africaine (Bamako, 2019); Of bread, wine, cars, security and peace at Kunsthalle Wien (Vienna, 2019); at Clark House art center (Mumbai, 2019); Time Has Gone Lagos Photo Festival (Lagos, 2018). In 2024, Adji was nominated for the Norval Sovereign African Art Prize, and in 2023 she received the Ducato prize - Contemporary Award and won the Photographic Encounters competition at Fotomuseum Winterthur. In 2021, she won the C/O Berlin Talent Award and the FOAM Talent Award granted by FOAM Magazine. Among the private and public collections that have acquired her works are the Vontobel Collection, Zurich, CH; C/O Berlin, Berlin, DE; Muzeum Sztuki Nowoczesnej w Warszawie, Warsaw, PL; Fotomuseum Winterthur, Winterthur, CH. Winthertur, Winterthur, CH.