

[Boafo at Roberts Projects](#)

[Boafo at Mariane Ibrahim](#)

[Boafo at We DEY](#)

[Boafo's Instagram](#)

Amoako Boafo (Ghanaian, b. 1984)

Boafo's first solo exhibition, [I See Me](#), was held at Roberts Projects, Los Angeles in 2019. The artist was initially discovered by [Kehinde Wiley](#) on Instagram.

Read about how Boafo went from living in Ghana and selling his paintings for \$100 each to support his mother and grandmother to headlining Art Basel Miami Beach in a few short years. Nate Freeman's "The Swift, Cruel, Incredible Rise of Amoako Boafo: How Feverish Selling and Infighting Built the Buzziest Artist of 2020" in Artnet traces the [artist's exponential rise](#).

Belinda Kazeem-Kamiński [interviewed](#) Boafo in 2020 about navigating life between Accra, Ghana, and Vienna, Austria.

"Amoako Boafo on His Incredible Portraits: 'I Paint to Show What I Am'" was published in the [Wall Street Journal](#) upon the opening of his solo exhibition [I Stand By Me](#) at Mariane Ibrahim.

Read a [studio visit interview](#) with Boafo in Artnet, where he talks about listening to Afro-Pop in the studio and his new series of portraits that feature shadows. The new series was first displayed in the 2021 exhibition [Singular Duality: Me Can Make We](#) at Roberts Projects.

Watch a [video](#) from Arts.21: "Amoako Boafo – Pictures in his Head."



Boafo, c. 2021

Photograph: Nolis Anderson

Boafo was on the [2021 Time 100 Next](#) List.

Boafo collaborated with Dior for the [men's summer 2021 collection](#). [Read the article](#) or [watch the video](#) entitled "The Story Behind Amoako Boafo's Deeply Personal Collection with Dior." Also watch a [conversation between Boafo and Idris Elba](#) about the project, their respective creative processes, fashion, common heritage, and music.

A 2021 interview with [GQ Magazine](#) discusses Boafo's discovery on Instagram and the collaboration with Kim Jones for Dior. Another interview with the artist in [Numéro](#) covers similar topics.

The 2021-2022 exhibition *Amoako Boafo: Soul of Black Folks* was curated by Larry Ossei-Mensah and on display at both [Contemporary Arts Museum Houston](#) and the [Museum of the African Diaspora](#). The exhibition featured 20 works created between 2018 and 2021, offering "a timely exploration into the varying strategies that Boafo employs within his practice to capture the essence of the Black figure." Read a [review](#) of the exhibition in the San Francisco Chronicle.



Boafo in his studio, 2021
Photograph: Lyndon French

Amoako Bofo (Ghanaian, b. 1984)

White Off Shoulder Dress, 2021

Oil on canvas

Collection of Lizzie and Steve Blatt; L2021:158.1

Amoako Bofo was born and raised in Osu, Ghana, before attending the Ghanatta College of Art and Design in Accra and the Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna, in Austria. Now based in Vienna, Bofo is co-founder of We DEY, an art space for amplifying queer, trans, inter, non-binary, and BIPOC voices in Austria. As a painter, Bofo works to challenge tropes of portraiture that dehumanize or stereotype Blackness; instead, he highlights Black subjectivity, diversity, complexity, and joy. Like other works in Bofo's oeuvre, **White Off Shoulder Dress** was largely painted with his fingers and other appliqué techniques that add texture to the skin tone. The portrait is also part of a new series that emphasizes figures' shadows. Interested in the juxtaposition of positive vs. negative space and dark vs. light, Bofo's shadows acknowledge the complex dimensionality of his subjects.

On view February 2 – May 8, 2022

