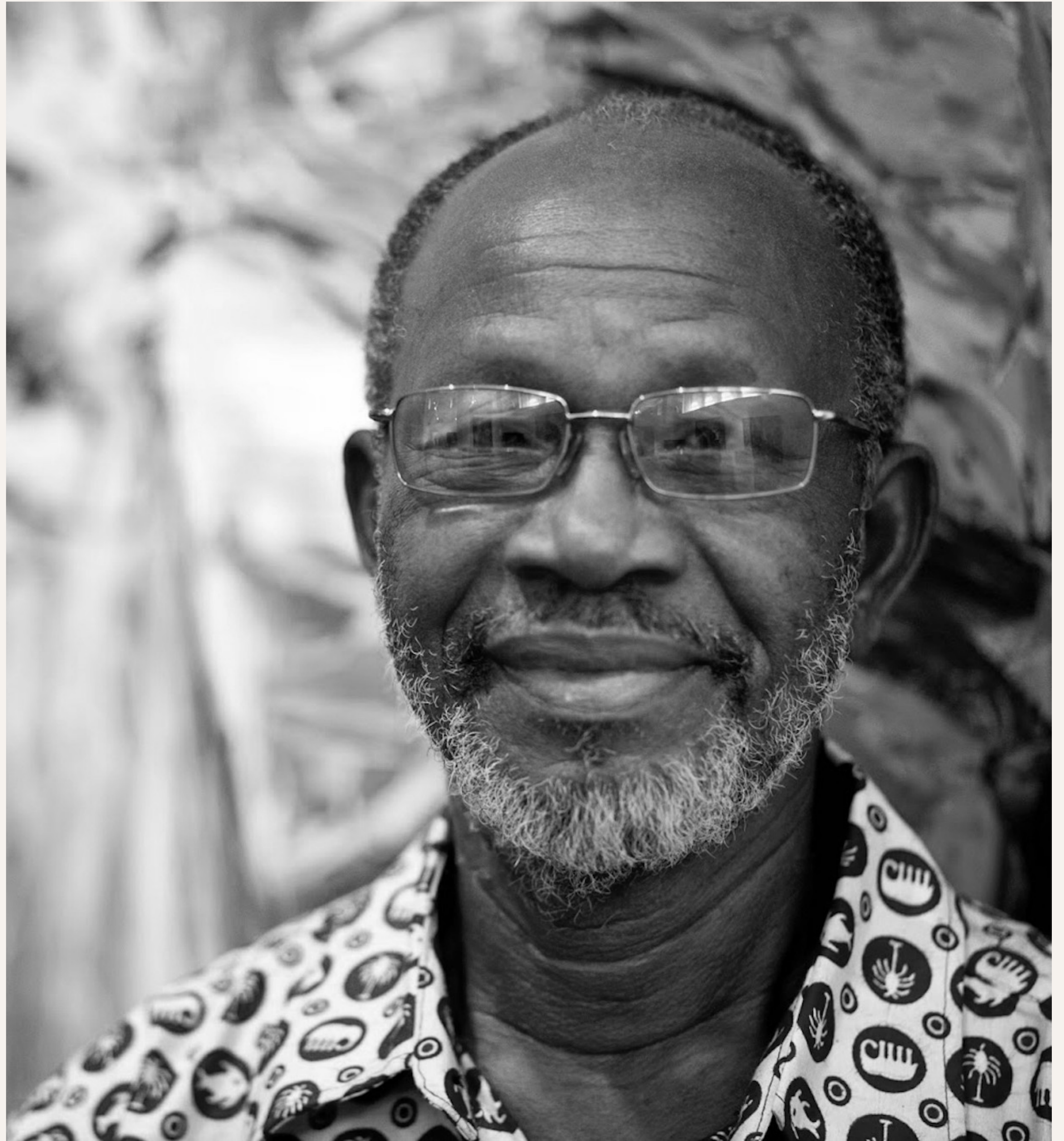




CHRISTOPHER MOLLER

GALLERY

ABLADE GLOVER





## INTRODUCTION

Vicki Sleet

There is no expiry date for creativity, and Professor Ablade Glover is undoubted proof of this – particularly in his latest show at Christopher Moller Gallery. The exhibition is an intense dive into the realm of one of the contemporary art world's most respected artists, whose dynamic work spans some seven decades and a lifetime of appreciating the African experience.

Professor Ablade Glover is one of Ghana's most significant artists, and he heads into his ninth decade with a bold and engaging body of work that speaks of an intensity of perception and deep appreciation for the dynamic world around him. A longstanding contemporary art icon in Africa, Professor Glover's work appears in seminal collections across the globe. He has had a notable relationship with our gallery for many years – most recently co-publishing a biography, *Indivisible*, featuring his most important work and documenting his extraordinary journey as an artist.

The gravitas of his role as a champion of African contemporary art is unrivalled, and since the mid-1990s when he retired from formal academic life to focus on the gallery and painting, Professor Glover has deepened his exploration of marrying his preferred painting techniques – applying oil and acrylics to canvas with a palette knife – with the depth of personal experience and observation of life in a pulsating African city.

Professor Glover's immensely coloured, deeply textured pieces appear abstract at first, but on closer gaze reveal a pointillist style and a keenly focused lens on life in Ghana. Rich scenes of bustling market life, hot and noisy taxi ranks,

crowds gathered in prayer or protest, and upbeat beachgoers are just some of his keenly rendered executions of people gathered as one – the viewer is able to step into the noise and the crowd with astonishing ease. The sense of Africa-ness is palpable – Professor Glover is regarded as one of the fathers of Modern African Art with good reason. Interestingly, over the years, Professor Glover's work has shown a striking evolution in his use of deeply saturated hues. His earlier art is more subdued in comparison and his delight and celebration of his environment even more pronounced as he heads towards his 90th birthday.

Glover's multi-layered oils convey a spirit that is compelling – elevating everyday scenes into celebratory riots of colour and indeed reverence for the familiar as a form of collective creativity. Likewise there is a deep understanding of the power of pattern and its ability to draw in the viewer. This is no surprise, since aside from his various degrees at African, British and American institutions (including a doctorate), Professor Glover also studied textile design at the Central School of Arts and Design in London from 1959- 1962. Professor Glover's vast knowledge, life experiences and multi-layered painterly applications are captivating from any angle.

With each collection, Professor Ablade Glover brings more intensity and energy to the table – no detail is spared, the richness is heightened and a sense that life is a deep and joyful experience is acute. It is our privilege and absolute pleasure to be sharing in this seminal artist's continued art journey and extraordinary contribution to contemporary art, in his 89th year.



G A L L E R Y





PEOPLE F16 17  
Oil on canvas  
101 x 125 cm (39.76 x 49.21 inches)  
USD 16 800 excl. 15% SA VAT





MARKET PLACE Prof 29/16  
Oil on canvas  
117 x 146 x (46.8 x 58.4 inches)  
USD 20,700 excl. 15% SA VAT





MARKET PLACE HSE71/20  
Oil on canvas  
101 x 75 cm (40.4 x 30 inches)  
USD 10 800 excl. 15% SA VAT



## BIOGRAPHY

Named as one of the fathers of modern African art by Bonhams London." Professor Ablade Glover was born in Accra, Ghana, in 1934. While studying at Kumasi in 1957, his country gained independence from Great Britain. Ghana was the first African country to break away from its colonial rulers, setting a precedent at the time. The new government led by Dr. Kwame Nkrumah wanted Ghanaians to embrace the local culture of its people, yet at the same time to learn modern western skills. The government encouraged artisans to accept bursaries abroad in order to learn the skills required, which could then be brought back and passed on to the locals.

Glover, then a student at Kumasi, accepted a scholarship to study textile design at London's School of Art and Design. On returning to Ghana, the factory where he was assigned to work in, designing textiles had not yet been built, consequently freeing him, after a two-year contract of teaching, to return to England once again. In 1964, he accepted a new scholarship personally authorised by Kwame Nkrumah himself, to study Art Education at Newcastle University. After teaching for another period in Ghana, he travelled to the United States to do a master's degree at Kent State University before moving on to Ohio University, where he was awarded a doctorate in 1974. Upon completion of his studies he returned to Ghana, where for the next 20 years he taught full time at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, eventually rising to become both the Departmental Head and College Dean. After retiring in 1994, Glover began painting full time. His other great goal was to open a gallery and training center in Accra to showcase emerging artists from the African continent. Then, in 1993 he formed the Artist Alliance Gallery. In 2007, Glover used private funds to build a large three-story building overlooking the oceanfront in Accra, where he moved the gallery and training center to. Glover is passionate about his community and country, and strongly believes in giving back the skills he has learnt as an artist and teacher.

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2023 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Christopher Moller Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
2022 88, Still At It, Christopher Moller Gallery South Africa.  
2016 Christopher Moller Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa. 2014 80th Anniversary, October Gallery, London, UK. 2013 Art Dubai, Nubuke Foundation, Dubai, UAE.  
2009 75th Anniversary, October Gallery, London, UK.  
1995 / 99 / 01 October Gallery, London, UK.  
1986 Galerie Go, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

1984 UCLA International Students Centre, Los Angeles, USA. 1983 The Commonwealth Institute, London, UK.  
1982 Africa Centre, London, UK.  
Hotel Mammy Yoko, Freetown, Sierra Leone.  
1982 / 84 / 87 October Gallery, London, UK.  
1980 National Gallery of Modern Art, Lagos, Nigeria.  
1980 National Theatre, Lagos, Nigeria.  
1963 / 68 / 70 / 72 Art Centre, Accra, Ghana.

## EDUCATION

1957 – 58 Kumasi College of Technology, Kumasi, Ghana. 1959 – 62 Central School of Art and Design, London, UK. 1964 – 65 Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK. 1971 – 72 Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, USA.  
1972 – 74 Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA.



G A L L E R Y



# CHRISTOPHER MOLLER

## GALLERY

### Cape Town's leading curator specialising in contemporary art.

Contact our team for a private viewing, or visit us online.

### TO VIEW VIRTUALLY, VISIT:

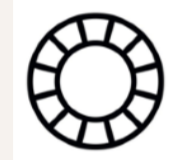
[www.christophermollerart.co.za](http://www.christophermollerart.co.za)

[Artsy](#)

### TO PURCHASE

Please do contact our team should you wish to purchase.

[info@christophermollerart.co.za](mailto:info@christophermollerart.co.za)



### ACQUISITION PROCESS

- Once you have chosen your favourite piece, please contact our team at [info@christophermollerart.co.za](mailto:info@christophermollerart.co.za) to confirm your request and advise on your shipping address.
- Please note, your requested piece and invoice will be valid for 7 calendar days. Once payment has been processed and received, ownership of the piece will be transferred.
- Art pieces will be released to the waiting list after 7 days.
- Shipment date will be confirmed per purchase. Kindly note, artwork will only leave the Gallery post exhibition.
- Kindly note all ZAR prices are excluding 15% SA VAT.
- Kindly note, shipping cost excludes any destination taxes & import charges

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED.

Our bank (Nedbank) has given us the option to do the credit card transaction via e-payment solution for credit cards. This is a secure product that enables the Gallery to send you a link with the amount pre-populated. It requires you to complete your credit card details. This protects you, in that you don't have to give out your credit card details to a third party, while you complete it online. Unfortunately, this system does not accept American Express or Diners Club credit cards.

Please inform your bank of the transaction in advance and provide them with our Merchant code: 2738375 should your bank reject the request from a foreign country.

This is how it works; You will receive an email with the link from the Christopher Moller Gallery. This will include a PDF copy of the invoice. Please click on the link and complete the transaction by completing your credit card details. Kindly note each link has an expiry date and is valid for 2 days. Once the transaction has been authorised, you will receive a notification that the payment has been successful.

### ENQUIRIES | How can we assist?

E | [info@christophermollerart.co.za](mailto:info@christophermollerart.co.za) T | +27(0) 21 422 1599

### VIEWINGS BY APPOINTMENT

Please contact us to view in person.

Tuesday - Friday · 10h00 - 16h00

Monday & Saturday · Viewings by Appointment Sunday · Closed



# CHRISTOPHER MOLLER

## GALLERY

### VISIT US

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W | [www.christophermollerart.co.za](http://www.christophermollerart.co.za)

### BE THE FIRST TO KNOW.

Please contact our team should you wish to be added to the preview list of your desired exhibition.  
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