

Njideka Akunyilli Crosby

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Visual Arts Even 2

Njideka's Early Years!

- Njideka was born in 1983. Making her 38 years old as of 2020.
- She was born in Enugu, Nigeria.
- She has six siblings. Her father is a surgeon and many of her five siblings as well. Her mother works as a was a professor of pharmacology at the University of Nigeria, and the director of the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration.
- Her name is pronounced nnn-jee-deh-car.

Njideka's Early Years Continued

- She spent most of her life in Nigeria.
- When she was 16 she left for the U.S.



Education

- She spent a gap year studying for ACT's when she was sixteen, while studying for history classes.
- Over the years she has attended numerous colleges and schools including Community College of Philadelphia, Swarthmore college, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and Yale University of Fine Arts.

Adult - Early Years

- When she left home (At Sixteen) she moved to the United States.
- She choose this place because of the amount of opportunity.



Early Years - Influences/Friends

- Akunyili Crosby cites classic and contemporary painters Édouard Vuillard and Chris Ofili as influences. Other influences are J.D Okhai Ojeikere and Malick Sidibé, African fine art photographers. She has also listed Kerry James Marshal as an inspiration. Her friends are unknown.

Personal Life

- She has only had one husband named Justin Crosby.
- She has one child named Jideora (2016) as far as I can tell.
- Her mother and father were very important to her growing up for her artistic ability.

First Works of Art

By 2016, demand for Akunyili Crosby's work, which she produces slowly, far outweighed supply, prompting her prices to soar at auction. She became one of the artists featured in Nathaniel Khan's 2018 documentary *The Price of Everything* where she discusses her career and attitude to her art market. It culminated with her painting *Drown* being sold at Sotheby's contemporary art auction in November 2016 for \$900,000. Her first painting to come to market was *Untitled* which sold for \$93,000 in September 2016 at Sotheby's New York. These works made her well known and quite wealthy. (wikipedia)

This is untitled, and made her both known and famous.



She had a good start to her career as the demand for her artwork outweighed the demand.

Style

- She liked to use things such as magazines from Africa.
- Njideka often uses paint, pencil, collage to create large-scale mixed-medium canvases, self-portraits and group portraits.



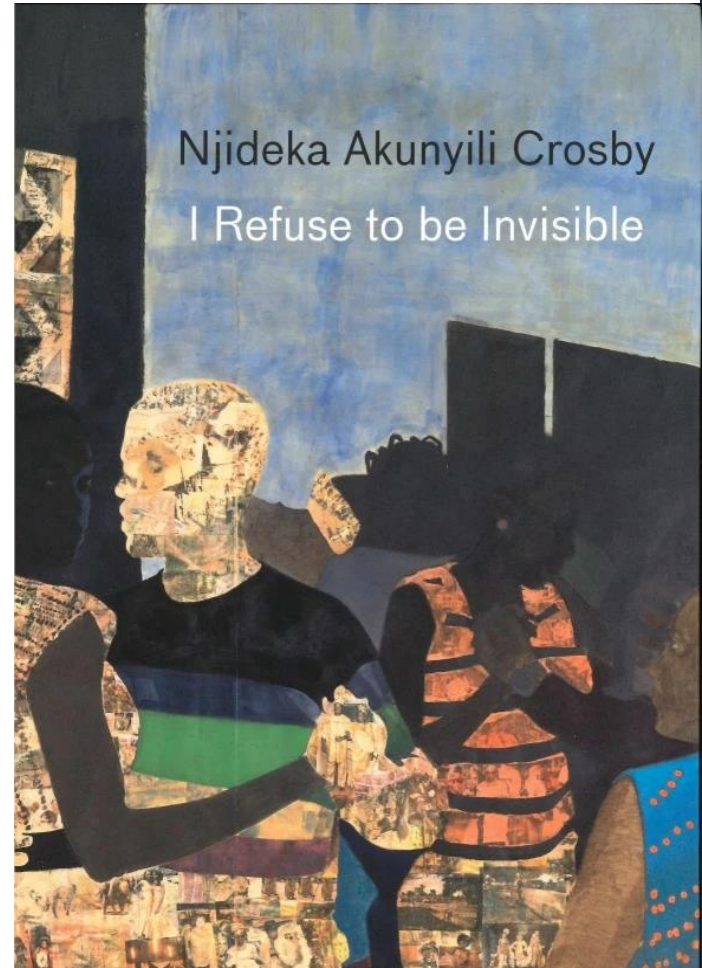
Style-continued

- Drawing on art historical, political and personal references, Njideka Akunyili Crosby creates densely layered figurative compositions that, precise in style, nonetheless conjure the complexity of contemporary experience.
- I couldn't find it
- She has influenced many but no named artist

Works-Famous

Name: I Refuse To Be Invisible

Located: The Norton Museum
Of Art In West Palm Beach



Works-Famous Continued

- I THINK THAT THE PIECE OF ART IS TELLING YOU SOMETHING ABOUT HER.
- 2010, 117 3/4 x 82 IN. (300 x 208.2 CM.), INK, CHARCOAL, ACRYLIC, THE SUBJECT IS MODERN ART, CANVAS, CULTURAL MOVEMENT

critique

For many, the facts of Nigerian-born, US-based Njideka Akunyili Crosby's peripatetic life will feel as close to home as the intimate domestic tableaux she depicts in her art. Blending painting, collage, and photo transfers of imagery from family albums, Nigerian lifestyle magazines, and the Internet, Crosby portrays people—often members of her family—sitting on beds and on couches, in living rooms and around dining tables, eating and drinking, touching and interacting. The synthesis of cultures and traditions in these scenes captures a coolly sophisticated diasporic existence that might be described as Afropolitan, to use a term popularized in a 2005 essay by Taiye Selasi that is reprinted in this exhibition's catalogue. The show, the first institutional survey of Crosby's work in the US, will include fifteen paintings and works on paper completed over the past five years.— *Rujeko Hockley*

My Critique

I love the way the picture tells so much about her culture. As well as, how it is all tied together with the colorway and mediums she uses.

Other Works

This piece of art is called blend in.



Importance

- She was important in the way she shows her culture and how she paints.
- The way she paints she has not influenced any named artist that will show up.

Weird/Interesting Facts

1. She served in the marines.
2. She is the recipient of a 2017 MacArthur Fellowship.
3. She was awarded Financial Times' Women of the Year, 2016.
4. She also received the Future Generation Art Prize 2017 Shortlist.
5. She originally went to college for biology.

References

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