

February 23 - March 11, 2023

AMADOU SECK

THE SCHOOL OF DAKAR

Amadou SECK was born in 1950 in Dakar into a family of Wolof gardeners who had been living on the Cap Vert peninsula for several generations. From an early age, he began to draw stylized portraits on the walls of houses in the neighborhood, which he called "deformed portraits", before being able to acquire notebooks which he immediately filled with sketches and multiple characters. Still a high school student, he decided to devote himself exclusively to painting, much to the dismay of his family. Refusing to get bogged down in ready-made conventions, he entered Pierre Lods' National School of Arts in Dakar in 1965.

"Art, I had it in me being in my mother's womb". Amadou Seck

From 1965 to 1970, in a climate of great freedom, Amadou Seck gave free rein to his creative imagination by taking advantage of the landmarks, subjects and themes of national and African heritage. He develops his own style, acquires techniques and refines his academic training.



Amadou SECK develops a poetics of masks from the implicit grammar of the forms of Baga, Dogon, Senoufo, Ashanti masks...

He translates irony, joy, superstition, fantasy or rhythm and modulates all the plastic forms that contain African masks.



The school of Dakar is a cultural and artistic movement of the years 1960-1970.

From the first days of its independence in 1960, Senegal, thanks to the vision of the poet-president Léopold Sédar Senghor, has acquired an important artistic and cultural influence. Senghor directs his policy through the prism of the Négritude movement, which he initiated with other French-speaking intellectuals such as Césaire and Gontran Damas. By dedicating a large part of the state budget to culture, it sets up an environment conducive to the creation of local modern art. The strategy is to encourage local production within the School of Arts in Senegal, as well as the international exhibition of these works under the aegis of Négritude.