



Pablo Picasso, Buste (étude pour "Les Femmes d'Alger" (O. J. R. M. S. Grand Palais (Musée du Quai Branly - Jacques Chirac) / Claude Germain © Succession Picasso 2022)

Autoroute Prolongée xPlace de la Gare
BP:21810 Dakar Ponty
www.mcn.sn

PICASSO À DAKAR

1972 - 2022



Masque anthropomorphe siffleur, avant 1968, Gouro/Baoulé (?), Côte d'Ivoire bois, pigments, musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, Paris © RMN-Grand Palais (Musée du Quai Branly-Jacques Chirac) / Claude Germain

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Visitor's Guide




Pablo Picasso, Buste (étude pour "Les Femmes d'Alger"), 1907, huile sur toile, Musée national Picasso-Paris © RMN Grand Palais (Musée du Quai Branly-Jacques Chirac) / Claude Germain © Succession Picasso 2022



Masque anthropomorphe siffleur, avant 1968, Gouro/Baoulé (?), Côte d'Ivoire bois, pigments, musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, Paris © RMN Grand Palais (Musée du Quai Branly-Jacques Chirac) / Claude Germain

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Picasso is a Spanish artist who settled in Paris, France at the start of the 20th century. In 1907, he discovered art from the African continent at the Museum of Trocadéro, and then, through art dealers. He also started collecting objects and artwork from afar, particularly from Africa.

The exhibition shows the relationship between his work and West African artistic creations, as in, for instance: shapes and the combined use of various materials.

Exhibited artwork - statues, sculptures and masks - were designed by artists or artisans mostly anonymous from West and Central Africa and Madagascar, from the late 19th century to the first half of the twentieth century.

The functions of these objects are diverse and often multiple: useful in everyday life, for a cult, a tribute...

Picasso's artistry merges with these creations, as in both cases, the artists are not looking to create an object of beauty but rather something « powerful ».

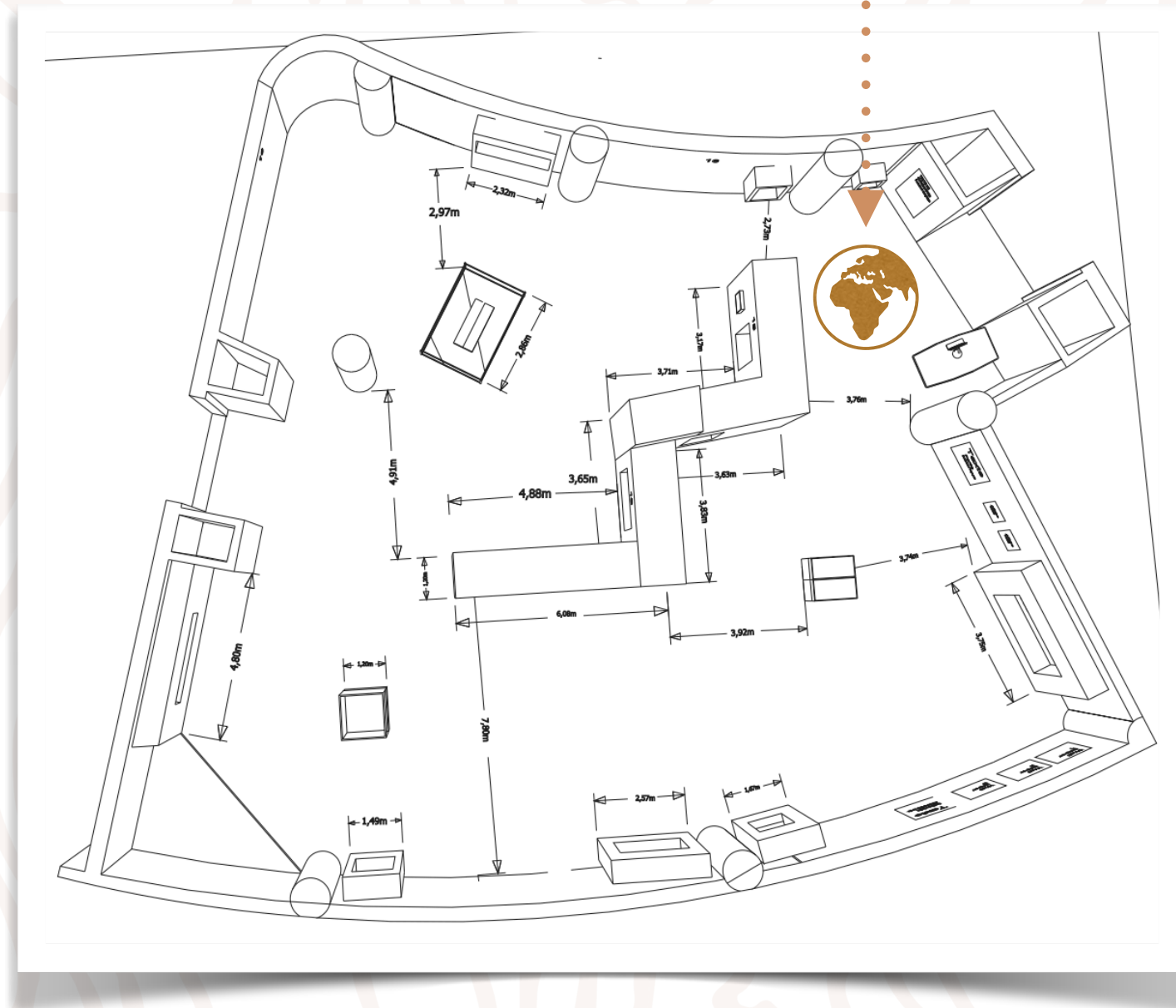
Picasso experimented throughout his life and African art influenced him tremendously. It helped him imagine very different shapes from what he learned in art school from western classical heritage.

15th century - African art pieces began circulating massively towards Europe.

1881 Pablo Ruiz Picasso was born on October 25 in Malaga, Spain.

- **1900 - 1904** Picasso studied Fine Arts in several cities in Spain. He went back and forth between his country and Paris. At the close of this period, he definitively settled in France.
- **1906 - 1915** Influenced by Paul Cézanne's paintings and by African art, Picasso and his friend Georges Braque invented Cubism.
- **1907** Picasso discovered artwork from the African continent at the Museum of Ethnography - Trocadero in Paris. He begins collecting extra-european objects.
- **1956** Picasso drew the poster for the 1st Congress of Black Writers and Artists in Sorbonne University, Paris. He showed the profile of an African man crowned with laurels.
- **1966** First World Festival of Negro Arts in Dakar. Picasso donated one of his paintings , *Head of a Bearded Man*, to the French association of the Festival. It was the first prize at the event's raffle.
- **1972** The **Musée Dynamique** of Dakar hosted the Picasso exhibition.
- **1973** Picasso died on April 8 in Notre Dame de Vie in Mougins, France. He was 92.
- **2022** The exhibition Picasso in Dakar: 1972 - 2022 at the **Museum of Black Civilisations** of Dakar runs from April 1st to June 30th.
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You are
Here



Exhibition Map

The Magical function of Painting

Picasso understood, intuitively, the ritual and sometimes magical function of the African objects he was interested in. Beyond their shapes, it was this magical charge - transcending reality - that explains the importance he gives to extra-western creations. This function echoes his way of conceiving art as a tool for emancipation. In his mind, painting thus consists in « giving shape to our terror and desires » to fully free ourselves.

OBSERVATION

There is no good or bad way to apprehend an art object!
Everyone has his/her way of observing, according to his/
her knowledge and experiences.

- Allow the eye to navigate through the entire body of work:
to observe from different angles, up close or far, all
around...
- Pause to Interrogate your emotions

A shape or material brings back a memory. What feelings
or sensations are inspired by the piece?

What words come to mind?

Restlessness; Softness; Color; Noise; Smooth; Rough;
Motion; Tall; Short; Fear; Surprise; Open; Closed...

Find the words in the grid:

**ARTIST
STUDIO
MUSEUM
MASK**

DAKAR	IFAN	EUROPE	SENGHOR
EXHIBIT	MASK	SHOW	DYNAMIQUE
PABLO	PARIS	AFRICA	RETURN
ARTIST	NAVIGATE	MUSEUM	SELECT
PICASSO	READ	DISCOVER	STUDIO

Combine a pictogram, a word and a definition:

1. Cubism
2. Cartel
3. Painting
4. Sculpture
5. Museum

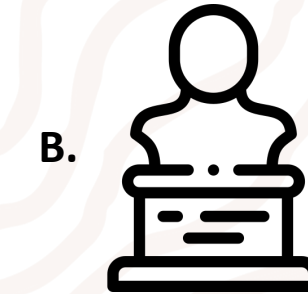
a. A list presented near an art piece that indicates who created it, the title, date and where it comes from.

b. A place open to the public, where art objects and artifacts are kept and exhibited.

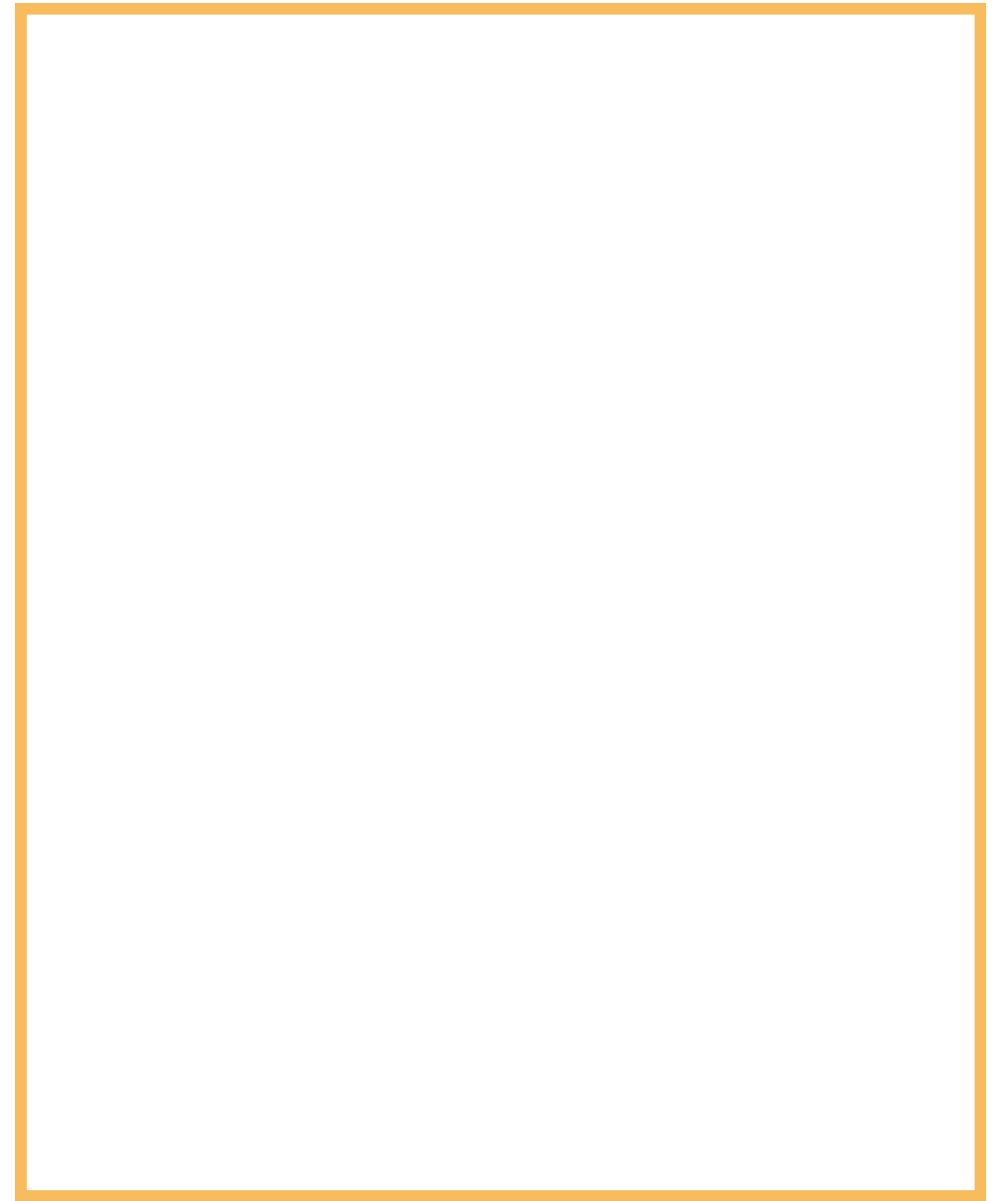
c. An artistic movement that simplifies shapes and attempts at showing all possible viewpoints of an object or a figure, on the flat space of a table.

d. A flat surface covered by colored material. It can reproduce real or abstract shapes.

e. An element in volume, around which we can turn. The materials that make it can be varied.



**USE THIS SPACE TO
DRAW AN ART WORK,
A DETAIL OR WRITE
WORDS THAT WILL
REMINDE YOU OF YOUR
VISIT:**



ENJOY YOUR TOUR!



Création continue de l'humanité

**SEE YOU SOON AT
THE MUSEUM OF
BLACK
CIVILISATIONS!**