This document was updated April 24, 2024. For reference only and not for purposes of publication. For more information, please contact the gallery.

**CHÉRI SAMBA**

Born 1956 in Kinto-M’Vuila, Democratic Republic of Congo. Lives and works in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo.

# **SOLO & TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS**

2024 *Chéri Samba,* Venus Over Manhattan, New York, NY

2023 *Chéri Samba,* Musee Maillol, Paris, France

2022 *Chéri Samba: Stupéfaction,* Galerie MAGNIN-A, Paris, France

2020 *Chéri Samba,* Corridor Gallery, Antwerpen, Belgium.

2013 *Chéri Samba, Quel avenir pour notre art?,* Galerie Pascal Polar, Brussels, Belgium

2007 *Chéri Samba,* Corsoveneziatto Arte Contemporanea, Milan, Italy

2005 *Les Debuts de Chéri Samba,* Kunstverein, Braunschweig, Germany

*J’aime Chéri Samba: A selection of paintings from the exhibition at the Fondation Cartier,* University Museum, Texas Southern University, Houston, TX

2004 *J’aime Chéri Samba,* Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France [curated by André Magnin]

2003 *Chéri Samba Moto na Tervuren,* Royal Museum for Central Africa, Tervuren, Belgium

2000 *Fois Encore a Kinshasa,* Centre Culturel du Zoo, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

1999 *Chéri Samba,* Ludwig Forum für Internationale Kunst, Aachen, Germany

1997 *Chéri Samba,* Musée d'art moderne et contemporain, Geneva, Switzerland

 *Chéri Samba,* Musee National des Arts d’Afrique et d’Oceanie, Paris, France [curated by Jean-Hubert Martin]

 *Chéri Samba,* Übersee Museum, Bremen, Germany

1992 *Chéri Samba,* Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, Switzerland

 *Chéri Samba / Matrix117,* Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, CT

1991 *Options 40: Chéri Samba,* Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, Chicago, IL

 *Formas de Disidencia: Chéri Samba,* Fundacio Joan Miro, Barcelona, Spain

1990 *Chéri Samba a Retrospective,* Provincial Museum Voor Moderne Kunst, Ostende, Belgium; Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, United Kingdom

 *Chéri Samba,* Portikus Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany

1989 La Grand Exposition Publique Chéri Samba, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

1984 *Chéri Samba,* Centre Culturel Francais, Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo

1980 *Chéri Samba,* Cultural French Center, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

1975 *La Grande Exposition publique Chéri Samba,* Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

2023 *Picasso Celebration : The collection in a new light,* Musée Picasso Paris, Paris, France

 *Constellation,* Galerie A-MAGNIN, Paris, France

2022 *Bande-Annonce, La Collection Pigozzi a Cannes,* Mairie De Cannes, Gare Maritime de Cannes, France

2021 *Arcimboldo Face to Face,* Centre Pompidou-Metz, Metz, France

 *Ex Africa,* Musée du Quai Branly, Paris, France

2020 *Kings of Kin,* Magnin-A, Paris, France

 *Alpha Crucis – Contemporary African Art,* Astrup Fearnley Museet, Oslo, Norway [curated by André Magnin]

2019 *Prete-moi ton Reve,* Pan African Exposition, Casablanca, Morocco; Dakar, Senegal; Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; Lagos, Nigeria; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Capetown, South Africa; Marrakesh, Morocco

 *Inner and Outer Space,* Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

 *Congo Paintings,* Musee des Arts d’Afrique et d’Asie, Vichy, France

 *Truth Tellers,* Richard Taittinger Gallery, New York, NY

2018 *All things Being Equal,* Zeitz Museum of Contemporary African Art, Cape Town, South Africa

 *Africa Passions,* Palais Cadaval, Evora, Portugal [curated by André Magnin]

 *Reading Walking, Louis Vuitton Travel Book,* Pearl Art Museum, Shanghai, China

*Quel Amour !?,* Musée d'Art Contemporain, Marseille, France

2017 *Les Inités, un choix d’oeuvres dans la collection d’art africain contem- porain de Jean Pigozzi,* Louis Vuitton Foundation, Paris, France

 *Art/Afrique, le nouvel atelier. Les inities, un choix d’oevres (1989 – 2009) dans la collection d’art africain contemporain de Jean Pigozzi,* Foundation Louis Vuitton, Paris, France [curated by Suzanne Pagé, Angéline Scherf, Ludovic Delalande, André Magnin]

 *Highlights, Collection of the Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Art at Museum of Art,* Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea

 *On choix d’Eric Mezil parmi les oeuvres de la Collection Agnes B.,* Collection Lambert en Avignon, France

 *E-Mois,* Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden, Marrakech, Morocco

 *Gaia a travers ses miroirs,* La Villa des Arts, Rabat, Morocco

 *Histoires Congolaises,* Bibliotheque Robert-Desnons, Montreuil, France

 *AFRICA. Raccontare un mondo,* PAC Padiglione d’Art Contemporanea, Milan, Italy

2016 *Congo Art Works: Peinture Populaire,* Palais des Beaux-Arts Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium; Garage Museum of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia [curated by Bambi Ceuppens, Sammy Baloji]

*Regarding Africa: Contemporary Art and Afro Futurism,* Tel Aviv Museum of Art Tel Aviv, Israel [curated by Ruth Direktor]

*Essentiel Paysage,* Al Maaden Art Gallery, Contemporary African Art Center, Marrakech, Morocco

*Vivre !! La collection agnes b. au muse national de l’histoire de l’immigration,* National Museum of the History of Immigration, Paris, France

*L’instance de la letter,* AuMedicis, Galerie Marguerite Milin, Paris, France

2015 *Picasso.Mania,* Grand Palais, Paris, France [curated by Didier Ottinger, Diana Widmaier-Picasso, Emilie Bouvard]

*Une Breve Histoire de L’avenir,* Musee du Louvre, Paris, France [curated by Dominique de Font-Réaulx, Jean de Loisy, Sandra Adam-Couralet, Martin Kiefer]

*Beauté Congo,* Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris, France [curated by André Magnin]

 *Picasso in Contemporary Art,* Deichtorhallen, Hamburg, Germany

 *FIAC OFFICIELLE,* Cite de la Mode et du Design, Paris, France

2014 *Luminos/C/ity.Ordinary Joy: From the Pigozzi Contemporary African Art Collection,* Ethelbert Cooper Gallery, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

 *Ici l’Afrique/Here Africa – L’Afrique contemporaine a travers le regard de ses artistes,* Musee des Suisses dans le Monde, Chateau de Pen- thes, Pregny-Chambesy, Switzerland [curated by Adelina von Fürtsenberg]

 *Post-Picasso: Contemporary Reactions,* Museu Picasso, Barcelona, Spain

 *Vivid Memories,* Fondation Cartier pour l’art contemporain, Paris, France

*African way,* Chapelle de la Visitation, Thonon-les-bains, France

2013 *Raw Vision, 25 ans d’Art Brut,* La Halle Saint Pierre, Paris, France [curated by Martine L usardy & John Maizels]

 *Mehr Licht,* Galerie Michel Rein, Paris, France

 *Peintres reporters de l’urbanite, a Kinshasa,* Latitude 21, Dijon, France

 *Focus sur la collection,* Musee de la Fondation Zinsou, Ouidah, Benin

2012 *Afrovision,* L’art modern d’Afrique, Musée d’art modern, Bakou, Azerbaïdjan

 *Africa/Africa,* Abbaye Saint-André, Centre d’art contemporain, Meymac, France

2011 *JapanCongo, Carsten Holler’s double-take on Jean Pigozzi’s collection,* Le Magasin, Grenoble, France [curated by Yves Aupetitallot]

 *Group Show,* Galerie Hussenot & Magnin-A, Paris, France,

 *The Global Contemporary Art Worlds after 1989,* Zentrum fur Kunst und Medientechnologie Karlsruhe, Germany

 *Riad Al Maaden,* MAGNIN-A, Marrakech, Morocco

2010 *Kinshasa Pop, group exhibition with Pierre Bodo,* Moke, Pangée, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

 *African Stories,* Magnin-A, Ancienne Banque du Maroc, Marrakech, Morocco [curated by André Magnin]

2009 *Africa? Una Nuova Storia,* Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy [curated by André Magnin]

 Against Exclusion, Third Contemporary Art Biennale, The Garage Center for Contemporary Culture, Moscow, Russia

2007 *Why Africa? La Collezione Pigozzi,* Pinacoteca Giovanni and Marella Agnelli, Torino, Italy [curated by André Magnin]

 *Popular Painting from Kinshasa,* Tate Modern, London, England [curated by André Magnin]

 *Intrusions,* Petit Palais Musee des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Paris, France

 *Presences Africaines,* The 52nd Venice Biennale, Italian Pavillion, Venice, Italy

 *Black Paris,* Weltkulturen Museum, Frankfort, Germany

2006 *100% Africa,* Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain [curated by André Magnin]

 *Collection de la Fondation Cartier pour l’Art Contemporain,* Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Toyko, Japan

2005 *Take Two. Worlds and Views: Contemporary Art from the Collection,* Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY

 *African Art Now: Masterpieces from the Jean Pigozzi Collection,* Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C. [curated by André Magnin]

 *Arts of Africa: The Contemporary Collection of Jean Pigozzi,* Grimaldi Forum, Monte Carlo, Monaco [curated by André Magnin]

2004 *Africa Remix,* Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf, Germany; Hayward Gallery, London, England; Centre Pompidou, Paris, France; Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan [curated by Simon Njami]

 *Le Salon du Mai,* Atheliers Berthier, Opéra national de Paris, Paris, France

 *Peinture Populaire Congolaise,* Institut des mondes africains, Aubervilliers, France

 *Je m’installe aux abattoirs,* La collection d’art contemporain d’agnes b., Les Abattoirs, Toulouse, France

 *Les Afriques,* Tri Postal, Lille, France

2003 *Kin moto na Bruxelles / Kinshasa réchauffé Bruxelles,* Musée royal de l'Afrique centrale, Tervuren, Belgium

 *Africanische Reklamekunst,* Iwalewahaus, Universität Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany

 *Der Rest der Welt,* Neuffer am Park, Pirmasens, Germany

 *Sexuality and Death, AIDS in Contemporary African Art,* Museo Rautenstrauch-Joest, Cologne, Germany

2002 *Afrikanische Reklamekunst (L’art et la pub en Afrique),* Iwalewahaus, Universität Bayreuth, Bayreuth, Germany

 *25th São Paulo Biennale,* Brazil, São Paulo, Brazil

 *Money and Value, Expo. 02,* Swiss National Exposition, Biel/Bienne, Switzerland

 *Kinshasa Congo. Fabien Rigobert / Moke, Chéri Samba,* Espace Croisé, Roubaix, France

 *Kin Service,* Espace Croisé, Roubaix, France

 *Painting on the Move,* Kunsthalle Basel, Basel, Switzerland

2001 *An/Sichten: Malerei aus dem Kongo 1990 – 2000*, Museum für Völkerkunde, Vienna, Austria

1998 *Dak’Art 98: Biennale of Contemporary African Art,* Paris, France

 *Africa: Vibrant New Art from a Dynamic Continent,* Tobu Museum, Toyko, Japan

1996 *Neue Kunst aus Afrika,* Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin, Germany

1995 *An Inside Story: African Art of Our Time Beyond Art,* Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan [curated by Yukiya Kawaguchi]

1994 *Group Show,* Centre d’Art et de la plaisanterie, Galerie des Extravagances, Monbeliard, France

1993 *Africa Art Now: Urban Culture from Africa,* Setagaya Museum and The Japan Foundation, Tokyo, Japan

1991 *Africa Explores: 20th Century African Art,* Dallas; Saint Louis, MO; New York, NY; Miami, FL; Washington DC; Turin, Italy; Aix-la-Chapelle, Germany, Barcelona, Spain; Lyon, France

 *Africa now: Jean Pigozzi Collection,* Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderna, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain; Groninger Museum, Groningen, Netherlands; Centro Cultural Arte Contemporaneo, Mexico City, Mexico

 *Africa Hoy,* Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderna, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain; Groninger Museum, Groningen, Netherlands; Museo Universitario Arte Contemporáneo, National Autonomous University of Mexico. CDMX, Mexico [curated by André Magnin]

 *African Art Now: Masterpieces from the Jean Pigozzi Collection,* The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Houston, TX; Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, Washington, D.C.

 *60 ans de la peinture Zairoise,* Goethe-Institut Kinshasa, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

 *Africa Explores: 20th Century African Art,* New Museum for Contemporary, New York, NY

1989 *Magiciens de la Terre*, Centre Pompidou / Grande Halle de La Villette, Paris, France [curated by Jean-Hubert Martin & André Magnin]

1988 *3eFestival de Saint-Herblain,* Chateau de Saint-Herblain, Saint-Herblain, France

1985 *Peintres Populaires du Zaire,* Université Laval, Quebec City, Canada; University of Montreal, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

1984 *Group Show,* Centre Culturel Francais, Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo

1982 Visages et Racines du Zaire, Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France

1981 *Group Show,* Centre Wallonie-Bruxelles, Kinsasha, Democratic Republic of Congo

1980 *Group Show,* Centre Culturel Francais, Kinshasha, Democratic Republic of Congo

1978 *Art Partout,* Academie des Beaux-arts, Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

**COMMISSIONS**

*Picasso (Spanish National Commission),* Musée National Picasso-Paris, Paris, France

**AWARDS & HONORS**

2024 Prince Claus Fund, Amsterdam, Netherlands

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

2022 Pigozzi, Jean. *Bande-Annonce: Jean Pigozzi Collection.* Ghent: Snoeck Publishers.

2021 *Ex Africa.* Paris: Musée du quai Branly - Jacques Chirac.

2019 English, Darby; Charlotte Barat. *Among Others: Blackness at MoMA.* New York: The Museum of Modern Art

2017 *Les Inities, un choix d’oevres (1989 – 2009) dans la collection d’art africain contemporain de Jean Pigozzi.* Paris: Editions Dilecta.

2016 Ceuppens, Bambi, and Sammy Baloji. *Congo Art Works. Peinture Populaire.* Brussels: Editions Racine.

2015 *Beauté Congo 1926-2015 Congo Kitoko.* Paris: Fondation Cartier pour l’art contemporain.

2009 Magnin, Andrè. *Africa? Una nuova storia.* Rome: Gangemi Editore.

2007 Magnin, Andrè. *Why Africa? La Collezione Pigozzi.* Milan: Electa.

1997 Samba, Chéri. *Chéri Samba: Musée national des arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie.* Paris: Edition Hazan

1992 *Cheri Samba Opere recenti ottobre.* Cologne: Taschen.

**SELECTED BIBLOGRAPHY**

2024 “Louie Cordero’s Top 10 Favorite Artists.” *Spot.ph,* March 20.

2023 Dagen, Philippe. “Chéri Samba in powerful words and images at the Musée Maillol.” Le Monde, November 3.

 “Chéri Samba: In the Jean Pigozzi collection.” *MutualArt,* October 17.

 “Chéri Samba, a colorful surrealist exhibition at the Musée Maillol - our photos.” *Sortir a Paris,* October 16.

 de Sortiraparis, Cécile. “DRC: An "unwelcome" presidential election for painter Chéri Samba.” *Africanews,* October 14.

 “Chéri Samba Gets Involved for Earthquake Victims in Morocco!” *Arte por Excelencias,* October 4.

 “A South African in the top 5 African artists %.” *SA Good News,* September 28.

 Rosen, Miriam. “Chéri Samba” Griot of Kinshasa and Paris.” *Artforum,* September 27.

 “Africam EXPLORO.” *Art Plugged,* May 12.

 Charlesworth, J.J. “What Really Is the Point of Making Picasso ‘Relevant’?” *ArtReview,* April 11.

2022 Vidali, Roberto. “A Century of Black Figuration in Painting.” *Juliet Magazine,* December 7.

Balogun, Emmanuel. “A Century of Black Figuration Across Black, African, and Intra-African Art Histories.” *Ocula,* November 30.

Sansom, Anna. “9 Captivating Gallery Shows You Need to See in Paris This Week, From Chéri Samba’s Latest to Jenny Saville’s Portraits.” *Artnet,* October 17.

2021 “Restituting artworks: a decisive step in the process of decolonization.” *BUALA,* December 23.

 “Discover 5 Highlights of Contemporary African Art by Artists You Should Know.” *Artnet,* November 13.

 McClinton, Dream. “‘Things are changing and it’s optimistic’: a celebration of contemporary African art.” *The Guardian,* July 27.

“Retro Africa Makes U.S. Debut In Group Show at Lehmann Maupin.” *Art & Object,* July 19.

2020 Sivananthan, Anetha. “Sotheby’s Fourth Sale of Contemporary African Art Tops £2.3 Million.” *Arts & Collections,* October 14.

 “Kings of Kin: Chéri Samba, Bodys Isek Kingelez, Moke.” *Art Plugged,* September 30.

“Congolese 'Kings' of Art on Exhibition in Paris. Global Issues, September 28.

 “Other Stories.” *Frieze,* August 5.

# 2019 “PIASA: Contemporary African Art (May 2019).” *Artsy,* October 25.

# Sutton, Bejamin. “The 10 Best Booths at FIAC.” Artsy, October 17.

Boucher, Brian. “Collector and High-Society Photographer Jean Pigozzi Is Giving MoMA the Largest Gift of African Art in Its History.” *Artnet,* July 22.

# Rees, Lucy. “The 1-54 African Art Fair Reflects the Region’s Rising Profile.” *Galerie Magazine,* May 3.

# “Congolese 'Kings' of Art on Exhibition in Paris. *Global Issues,* September 28.

# 2018 Jack, Andrew. “The Belgian museum squaring up to its colonial past.” *Financial Times,* December 7.

 “Contemporary Art and Artist Residencies” *TL Magazine,* November 24.

# Rose Sharp, Sarah. “A New Curatorial Vision Disrupts Inherited Ideas of Regional Identity in African Art.” *Hyperallergic,* September 17.

Hodges, Michael H. “Cosmopolitan Africa on view in 'Beyond Borders' at UMMA.” *The Detroit News,* September 5.

Da Silva, José. “‘Global’ contemporary African art comes to rural Portugal—despite growing visa issues for artists travelling to Europe.” *The Art Newspaper,* May 30.

2017 Jaggi, Maya. “Zeitz Mocaa: a shining beacon for African art.” *Financial Times,* September 20.

Stapley-Brown, Victoria. “Fondation Louis Vuitton offers a snapshot of contemporary African art.” *The Art Newspaper,* March 31.

Pelletier, Mary. “Afrofuturism takes on a new meaning in Israel.” *Apollo Magazine,*

February 21.

Speed, Barbara. “The Zaire School Of Popular Painting: An Art Of Independence.” *Culture Trip,* January 10.

2016 “6 Artworks You May Regret Seeing (Because You'll Want to Buy Them So Badly).” *Artspace,* June 8.

Macguire, Eoghan. “Why ‘outstanding’ and ‘affordable’ African art is so hot right now.” *CNN,* February 16.

“Chéri Samba | The Art Of Telling The Truth.” *CultureTrip,* January 29.

2015 Donadio, Rachel. “Exploring a Century of Art From Congo*.” The New York Times,* July 24.

 “Sapeurs, silks and selfies: African contemporary arts – in pictures.” *The New York Times,* July 24.

Ellis-Petersen, Hannah. “Paris hosts first ever retrospective of art from Democratic Republic of the Congo.” *The Guardian,* July 10.

“Love, leaders and watermelons: 100 years of art from the Congo – in pictures.” *The Guardian,* July 10.

Grey, Tobias. “A Vibrant Display of Congolese Art at Fondation Cartier.” *Wall Street Journal,* July 9.

2014 Strasnick, Stephanie. “How Artists Across the Globe Are Saying ‘Yes’ to Picasso.” *ARTnews,* February 24.

 “Top 10 African Artists.” *BORGEN MAGAZINE,* January 24

2013 Debut, Beatrice. “London fair marks rise of contemporary African art.” Modern Ghana, October 16.

Friedman, Amanda. “Louis Vuitton Releases City-Themed Sketch Books by Famous Artists.” *Architectural Digest,* May 31.

2006 Caplan, Gerald. “The Conspiracy Against Africa.” *The Walrus,* November 12.

2005 French, Christopher. “African Art Now: Menil, CAM, and TSU.” *Glasstire,* May 2.

2004 Andriamirado, Virginie. “Je Suis un observateur du monde. Entretien avec Chéri Samba.” *L’engagement de L’ecrivan africain 59.*

1997 Diawara, Manthia. “Chéri Samba Musée national des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie.” *Artforum,* November.

**COLLECTIONS**

CAAC - The Pigozzi Collection

Collection agnès b.

Collection Farida et Henri Seydoux

Collection Gervanne et Matthias Leridon

Collection Lilian Thuram

Collection LVMH

Collection Sindika Dokolo

Fondation Alliances

Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain

Musée royal d'Afrique centrale

Musée National d'Art Moderne - Centre Pompidou

Museum of Modern Art

Seattle Art Museum

Smithsonian Institute of National Museum of African Art

Zeitz Mocaa