

# PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg den 24. Februar 2022

## EXHIBITION

AWAKENING

03.03. - 30.04.2022

Coinciding with the meteorological start of spring, Galerie Melbye-Konan is exhibiting the new works of Hamburg artists **Belén** and Nigerian **Vivian Timothy** in the duo exhibition "**Awakening**" from **03. March to 30. April 2022** at Jungfernstieg 50 on 230m2.

**Awakening** not only describes the process of rousing from sleep, but can also refer to other forms of regaining consciousness and the spiritual awakening that accompanies it. Already in ancient times, awareness of one's own person and past was seen as the key to self-awareness and as a guidance for future decisions. Therefore, it was no coincidence that the inscription "Know thyself" was once placed above the entrance to the temple of Delphi. The appeal indicated the actual intention of the oracle, namely the resolution of the question and the individual problems of the person seeking the answer through the confrontation with one's own inner personality. Awakening thereby describes the moment of realisation that the awareness and reflection of the "inner world" serves as an access to problem solving in the "outer world".

In **Belén's** works, the focus is primarily on the inner world. The abstract and partly figurative works illustrate profound emotions and ways of thinking that shape the individual, which would normally be hidden from the physical eye. Socially imposed thought patterns and perspectives are to be questioned in order to dissolve mental boundaries. The works become an individual mirror of the soul that supports the viewer on the path to self-awareness.

**Vivian Timothy** takes up the theme of Awakening in the form of spiritual awakening and the departure into a new future. In this context, a person's origins represent the central roots, which on the one hand connect the individual with the past, and on the other hand lay the foundation for the future. In her works, she reworks African history, which has been rewritten by the Europeans or had to be hidden in times of colonialization. She calls for the cultural heritage of Africa not to be forgotten, but to restore and redevelop African identity. Representative of the young African society, the silhouetted figures in Timothy's works convey this spirit of awakening. Here, the clear outlines of the known are juxtaposed with the colourful and nonetheless uncertain void.

The **Gallery Melbye-Konan** was founded with the aim of representing contemporary African artists as well as artists from all over the world with a connection to Africa. In September 2020, the gallery opened on 230m2 on two floors in the centre of Hamburg on Jungfernstieg. The gallery's programme includes established and emerging artists who are also represented internationally in renowned exhibitions and art fairs.

Gallery owner and art historian **Stella Melbye-Konan** has ten years of experience in the field of modern and contemporary art. She studied museum management at the renowned École du Louvre in Paris and has worked in renowned museums and institutions such as the Centre Pompidou.

**Awakening** : 03 March to 30 April 2022

**Vernissage** : 03.03.2022 from 18h30

**Registration at** : [info@melbye-konan.com](mailto:info@melbye-konan.com)

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MELBYE - KONAN



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Mittwoch bis Freitag 12 - 18 h  
Samstag 14 - 18 h  
Und nach Vereinbarung