



# Monsieur Zohore

## Artist Bio

Monsieur Zohore (b. 1993, Potomac, MD) is an Ivorian-American artist based in New York and Baltimore. His practice is invested in the consumption and digestion of culture through the conflation of domestic quotidian labor with art production. Through performance, sculpture, installation and theater, his practices explore queer histories alongside his Ivorian-American heritage through a multi-faceted lens of humor, economics, art history, and labor.

Zohore received his BFA from the Cooper Union in 2015 and his MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2020. Zohore is the 2020 recipient of the WPA and Warhol Foundation Wherewithal Research Grant. His work has been exhibited in numerous venues including Springsteen (Baltimore), Ethan Cohan (New York), Palo Gallery (New York), Terrault Gallery (Baltimore), New Release Gallery (New York), 56 Henry (New York), Canada Gallery (New York), and Jack Barrett (New York) as well as at the 2020 Material Art Fair (Coyoacan, CMDX). Zohore has also been invited to show at Socrates Sculpture Park (New York), The Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore), Washington Projects for the Arts (Washington D.C.), and at The Columbus Museum of Art (Columbus).

*When I was growing up, my Ivorian parents would command my siblings and me to eat. My mother would hover over us, her finger pointing upward, ordering "Mange!" I always took this as an insult. On the one hand, she said this as direction for us to acknowledge the bounty that she and my father were able to provide for their first-generation, God-bless-America miracle children. And yet, on the other hand, her words were meant as a reminder of the many people back home who were going without in the Ivory Coast. This was always insulting to me, as I wondered, "How dare ces villageois (my parents) try to turn me into one of them!" All the women I wanted to be on television were white and skinny and actively not eating. Bulimia presented itself as the obvious solution.*

*It was the best of both worlds! It allowed me to placate my mother, specifically, and to keep up appearances with my family, more generally, while it also provided me with a vehicle to escape—picture 1994 white Jeep Wrangler with the top down, as in the movie Clueless. When my parents' oppressive culture became too overbearing, I could simply ride off and resume my secret life, expelling every last chunk of theirs.*

*Looking back, I consider the purging as my earliest form of performance. This durational endurance action centered around domestic convention as a cultural critique. Throw in an art history reference, and I might as well have made it in 2018.*

*My practice today remains centered on consuming and digesting cultures and their practices through the conflation of domestic and quotidian experience and labor with art production: overeating and undereating at the same time; simultaneously making a mess*

*But now, instead of vomiting, I maintain my figure by crafting a self-contained (and self-reflexive) critique of myself and those around me, which comes out of me as a pinkish-greenish, chunky, stinky synthesis of labor practices, histories and ideologies mediated by the spectacle of my existence. - Monisieur Zohore*

## Education

2020 MFA, The Maryland Institute College of Art (Mount Royal School of Art)

2015 BFA, The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art (School of Art)

2022 MZ.13 (Entres Temps) Glen Echo Park Washington, D.C.(forthcoming)  
MZ.20 (All By Myself), Palo Gallery, New York, NY  
This Is My Body That I Have Given Up For You, Von Ammon Co. Washington D.C  
(Forthcoming)

2021 MZ.22 (Rush) Springsteen Gallery, NADA Miami, Miami,  
MZ.21 (Take A Picture of Your and Me Smiling) Springsteen Gallery,  
Md (Forthcoming)  
Visions of Mary by Joshua Coyne, Socrates Sculpture Park, New York  
(forthcoming)  
MZ.19 ( First Generation) , Hudson Eye, Hudson, New York.

2020 MZ.18 (Endowment for the Future; Last Supper For Baltimore Palo Gallery Site), Baltimore, MD  
MZ.11 (Professional Mourning), Zoom Performance  
MZ.06 (Caiman), Palo Gallery, New York,  
MZ.10 Beverly's Material Vol.7, Material Art Fair, Coyoacan, Mexico,

2019 MZ.05, Curated By Wickerham & Lomax; Generations: A History of Black Abstract Art, The Baltimore Museum of Art

2018 MZ.03, (Occupied) Timonium: None of us Like Each Other, SZ.03, Sheila Richard Riggs Gallery, Baltimore,  
MZ.02, Curated By Sadie Lanska; Slummer Nights 2, Canada Gallery, New NY

2016 PZ.29, Home Center, 315 Gallery, Brooklyn,  
PZ.28, Curated by Joseph W. Kay, I'd Rather be Here Than Almighty, Gallery, Brooklyn,

## **Solo/ Two Person**

2022 This Is My Body That I Have Given Up For You, Von Ammon Co. Washington D.C (Forthcoming)

MZ.20 (All By Myself), Palo Gallery, New York, NY (forthcoming)

2021 MZ.22 (Rush) Springsteen Gallery, NADA Miami, Miami, Fl (Forthcoming)

My Magnificent Loneliness, Springsteen Gallery, Baltimore MD

(Forthcoming) Le Revenant, De Boer Gallery, Los Angeles, CA (forthcoming)

Tu Rêves , Jack Barret Gallery, New York, NY (forthcoming)

Resort Collection, Sandy Williams and Monsieur Zohore, New Release, Nada House, Governors Island (Forthcoming)

Ozone Atmosphere, Sandy Williams and Monsieur Zohore, Springsteen, Baltimore, MD

## **Group Exhibitions**

2021 Monuments Now, Socrates Sculpture Park, New York, NY

Travels with Herodotus, Curated by Domenico de Chirico, Galleria

Milan, IT

Am I Altering Your Aura?, WPA Benefit Auction, Washington,

BAM Benefit Art Auction, BAM, Brooklyn,  
The Void Is Sensation, New Release Gallery, New York, NY

2020 Invite Only, Inadequate Lighting, Baltimore,  
NADA Miami, Jack Barrett, New York,  
Don't Joke About That, Elote Loco Gallery, University of Cincinnati,  
OH  
Darkest Before Dawn: Art in the Age of Uncertainty, Ethan Cohen KuBe,  
NY  
Alfresco, New Release Gallery, New York,  
The Observation of Life, Palo Gallery, New York,  
Flame of Fire, Sublimation, New York,  
Home Alone, Jack Barrett Gallery (Offsite), New York,  
The Why of the Why Not Curated by 'Sindikit Project, BMA Salon,  
Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD  
Screening Room, Necessary Tomorrow(s), The Baltimore Museum of Art,  
Baltimore, MD  
Another Country Curated by Teri Henderson, Terrault Gallery, Baltimore,

2019 Leidy Gallery, Baltimore,  
Red Lines Curated by Legacy Russell, Leidy Gallery, Baltimore, MD  
B19 Curated By Kirk Shannon Buts, The Gallery at Baltimore City Hall,  
MD  
Mess Hall, New Release, New York,  
Hedonist Buddhist Curated by Nomu. Nomu, Washington Project for the  
Washington, D.C.  
Notebook Curated by Joanne Greenbaum, 56 Henry St, New York,  
Clear Objects, Like Lalique Group Show curated by Nick Farhi,  
Messinger, and Sarah Schulman, Material Art Fair Vol.6, Coyoacan, Mexico,  
Memorial Curated by Tiffany Auttriana Ward and Rodrigo Caracas,

MD

2017 High Stakes 2: When Paper Towels Just Don't Cut It, A benefit for Puerto Rico,  
Cloud City, Brooklyn, NY 2016

Powered2, MX Gallery curated by Issa Israel, New

NY

2015 The American Boys Collection curated by Nandi Loaf, 227 Waverly Place,  
York, NY

2014 Not For Profit, The Bruce High Quality Foundation, Brooklyn,

## Press

2021 ARTNEWS, Here Are 12 Artists Poised to Break Out Big Time in 2021

2020 BMOREART, Monsieur Zohore's "The Last Supper" at the BMA, By Cara Ober  
BMOREART, A New Print Fundraiser for Baltimore Action Legal Team, by Teri

Henderson

2020 PURRSE MAGAZINE, Interview with Malcolm

2020 BMOREART, MASTERS by Teri Henderson

2016 IRREVERENT PODCAST, Interview with Jeremey Ziroiu,

2015 THE OBSERVER, 12 Things To Do In New York's Art World Before April 12th,  
Freeman and Alanna

2014 ART OBSERVED, Bruce High Quality to Launch a Production of "West Side Story"

## Awards

(Selected and waiting decision on Joan Mitchell

2021 Edward and Sally Van Lier Fellowship

Socrates Sculpture Park Fellowship

2020 WPA Wherewithal Research Grant

WPA Wherewithal Grant

Transformer Artist Sustaining Artist Grant

Black Artist Fund Recipient

- 2019 Best New Artist Baltimore, Baltimore City Hall
- 2018 Mount Royal Scholarship, Mount Royal School of Art
- 2011 Scholastic Art and Writing Award (National & Regional) in Photography  
Maryland Distinguished Art Scholar  
NCA Cappies Nomination for Best Costumes, Best Make-Up, Best Hair, and Best  
Set Design
- 2010 NAACP ACT-SO Regional Gold Medalist in Photography