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**BIOGRAPHY:**

***MARVIN OBASOGIE AIMIUWU***

I have always loved art. I started drawing and painting when I was about 6 years old, catching the attention of many of my elementary school teachers. After high school I studied at Auchi Poly, one of the most recognized colleges for art in my home country, Nigeria. I love to work with various media. I am especially fond of ‘mixing things up’ and working outside of my comfort zone. It keeps my work exciting and it challenges me creatively. As an artist, I know I need to be different and I have never been afraid to push the envelope. I do not want my artwork to have limitations, to be categorized as ‘typical’ African art or limited to any other category. I want to create artwork that is universal and can be appreciated by all. I am proud to have my artwork prominently displayed in many reputable business offices as well as private residences of art collectors around the United States and abroad. My goal as an artist is simple – I want to be the best at what I do.

There came a point in my life when I knew that I had to pursue my artwork on a full time basis. In 2001 I started my business, ODUWA ARTS, and set out to follow my dream of sharing my artwork with the world. In establishing this company, my intention was also to find & promote other artists whose work I enjoyed and believed in. This remains one of my goals and with time & continued dedication it will be realized. y batik would definitely be different. I incorporated my own original motifs, custom designs and used rich, bold, vivid colors. Thus began my BATIK DESIGN MIXED MEDIA collection of works.

Many of my works of art include frames that I have custom designed, individually hand carving & handcrafting frames for each art piece. The artwork and its complementary custom frame become a one-of-a-kind, all inclusive custom creation in the truest sense. I love recycling and using reclaimed materials for these custom art pieces and frames. I am inspired by ‘found’ items every day and my frames are a testament to this. I have integrated reclaimed wood fencing, metal hardware & scrap metal, for example, into several of my frame designs. As a result of the positive response to my original handcrafted frames, I began producing a series of exclusive hand carved ORIGINAL WOODEN SCULPTURES.