



Lightning



ABOUT THE PUBLICATION

LIGHTENING AFRICA is a thematic publication that will showcase African aesthetic minds on monthly basis. OUR IMMORTAL HEROES AND HEROINES is the first of all and subsequent ones will be put to the public in coming months. As tagged, certain concepts appertaining to Africa will be unveiled by home base artists as well as those living in diaspora, so you can send your works once the submission window is open.

This publication will not consider vulgar entries or any submission with a tinge of racism or religious or ethnic upsets as art is a general entity, natural, and a gift for all.

Submission window opens on the 1st of every month and closes on the 14th. And subsequent themes will be announced at the last page of the publication as well as on our website and our media accounts. For more information, visit our website at www.artingarena.com

To download our subsequent publications and other external publications, visit our website. And for averts or partnering contracts, send an email to customerservice@artingarena.com, giving full details of the scheme.

Designed by ARTING ARENA Graphics Design Team.

Editorial - Led by Oyin Bimbo

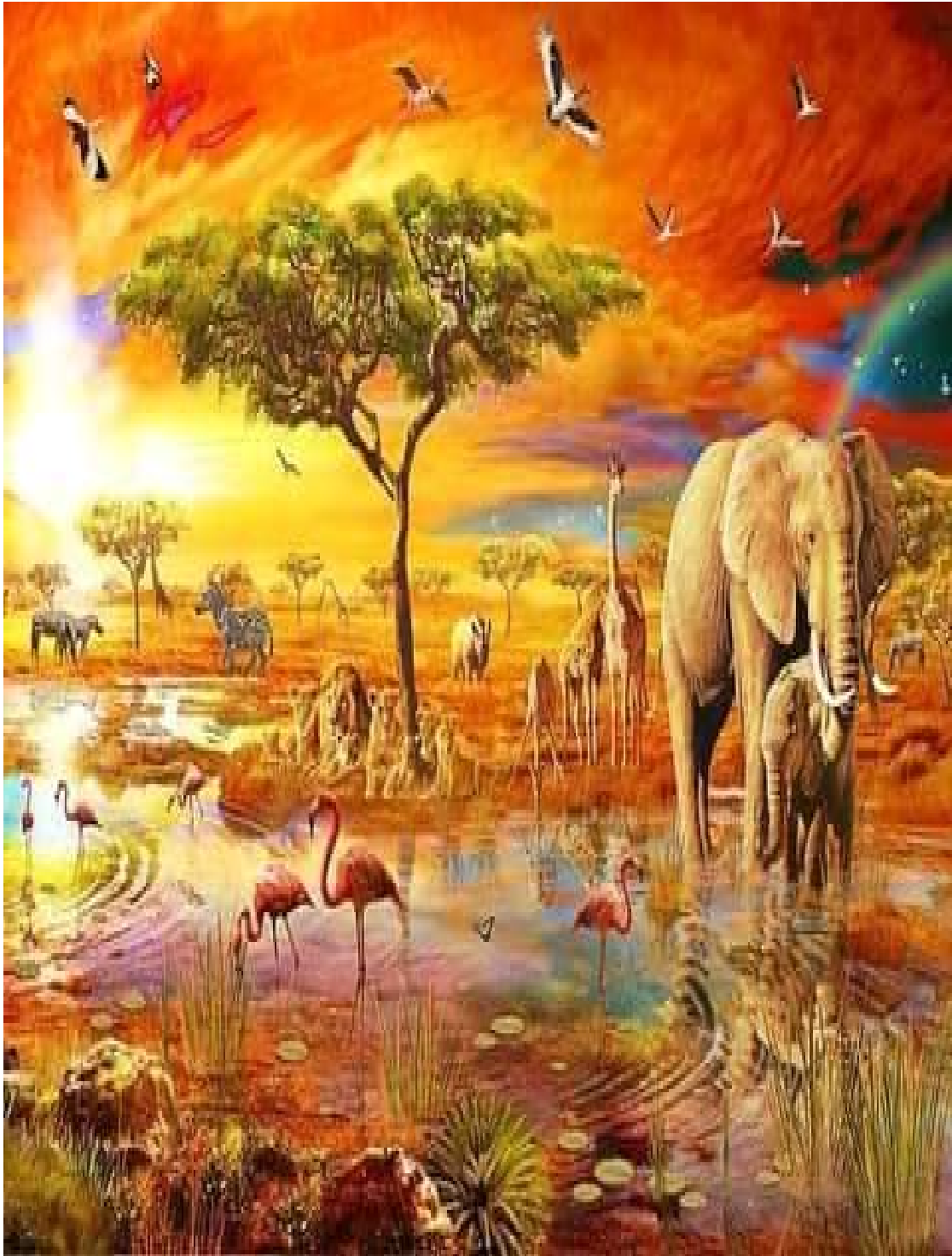
Beauty; of nature, of life, of human, of art, of landscape and of everything is what makes these entities pleasurable to the observer.

And there's beauty in everything, even in a beauty competition of monkeys, there will be a winner.

This publication reveals artists with creative minds who played around the theme in amazing ways. Entries were based on love, beauty of nature, seasons and we can't but showcase their talent.

Also, in the interview section, we met another humble artist whose love for art knows no bound. Even his photograph that should have given his facial proof of acquaintance was a portrait; a work of art. His pseudonym is Nattie O'Sheggzy. Kindly read unto the last page for the interview section.

BEAUTY



Beauty is the aspect of objects that makes them gratifying to perceive. Beauty - having ugliness as its opposing counterpart can be seen in different sectors of living and nonliving entities and these includes: landscapes, galaxies, humans, nature, and works of art, and art in its general form. Be informed that aesthetic pleasure will be incomplete without the reference of beauty as it makes up the third element of the triad that makes up the branch of philosophy; reducing this to the basest explanation, beauty, art, and taste makes up the Aesthetics.

Also, beside truth and goodness, beauty is one of the three fundamental concept of human sense of understanding.

In relation to concrete objects which are plain to the perception of senses, it is more often than not theorized that the beauty of a thing is always a function of the five senses, and the fathomed sixth one, so to say. But, it has also been unarguably proven that even abstract entities like love, art, faith and so on can also be perceived to be beautiful.

A look into a division of beauty by Immanuel Kant hold that beauty can be said to be dependent and free - further explaining the subjectivism judgment of beauty. He (Immanuel Kant) defined dependent beauty as one that depends on the conception or function of the entity being observed while free is towards the objective judgement and does not depend on the response of the perceiver, e.g. a painting of nature, with serene waters seeping down the accommodating slope of a rock and coagulating to form a mild aquarium blue pond at the base; with flowers that harmonizes with such arena gently nodding to the beat of

the wind; now imagine the visible description of nature rendered inglorious by a low quality painting.

OBJECTIVISM AND SUBJECTIVISM-THE JUDGMENT OF BEAUTY

Beauty's difficulty in understanding is as a result of it having subjective and objective facets. It according to the definition above is the property of things that makes them pleasing to perceive but it depends on the response of the observer. '*Beauty in the eyes of the beholder*' is a quote set on the subjective part and the ability to perceive beauty or not is referred to as the '*sense of taste*'.

Judgement of beauty is somewhat based on the subjective more than the objective as the objectivism of beauty holds on to the traditional view whose theory claims that beauty is an independent feature. While the subjective judgment is the most utilized judgement which is with reference to taste as discussed earlier.

Considering music and song as our specimens; music was for a long time unknown to the early man. But the chirping of birds, whisperings of airs, clapping of leaves and roars from the rushing of waters were things to listen to. In the modern world, music as a form of art is generally a wide field which is not just blissful and relaxing and a remedy for fatigue as most will say; it is a way of life for many. Howbeit, music can be without words, like a fly alone performance on musical instruments. As the definition portrays, music is anything pleasing to the hear, regardless of the language. On the other hand, song is usually referred to as the lyrical note of a music. And it goes on being a song until accompanied by a musician who further increase the taste by the rhythms of the voice and musical instruments. Here, the minded reference to language is required, as it's meaningless if it's written in a language unknown to the reader.

Succinctly and conclusively, music is natural, while song is dependent. Thus, music is objective, and song, subjective.



Lastly, being beautiful if observed from man as the specimen; being beautiful, mostly characterized with women is a view of a person whether by individual basis or community and is oftentimes based on the combination of a term called inner beauty (comprising personality, intelligence, charisma, elegance, congruence, politeness, integrity, and grace), and outer beauty, which is the attractiveness of the physicality.



**and if at any point
I am
faced with the challenge of choosing
a life partner like you once ● again,
I'll walk straight to heaven, and ask
God to please give me YOUR
clearest picture....
So I might reprint
YOU in 3D.**

EULOGY - Mayokun Kehinde Folorunsho

Seasons cycling in dappled sights

Teeth of mountains and hills

Rooted in earth's watery gum

The rivers mirror

Orange rays of sunset

Tree branches bowing to the wind

That combs the thickening shrubs

In the echoes of the grove

Worlds in a world of wordless wonder

The belle's braid dazzling the suitor

My eulogy is

The umbrella of the earth

That tells the six-day tale

To the dead silence

Of the moonlit night

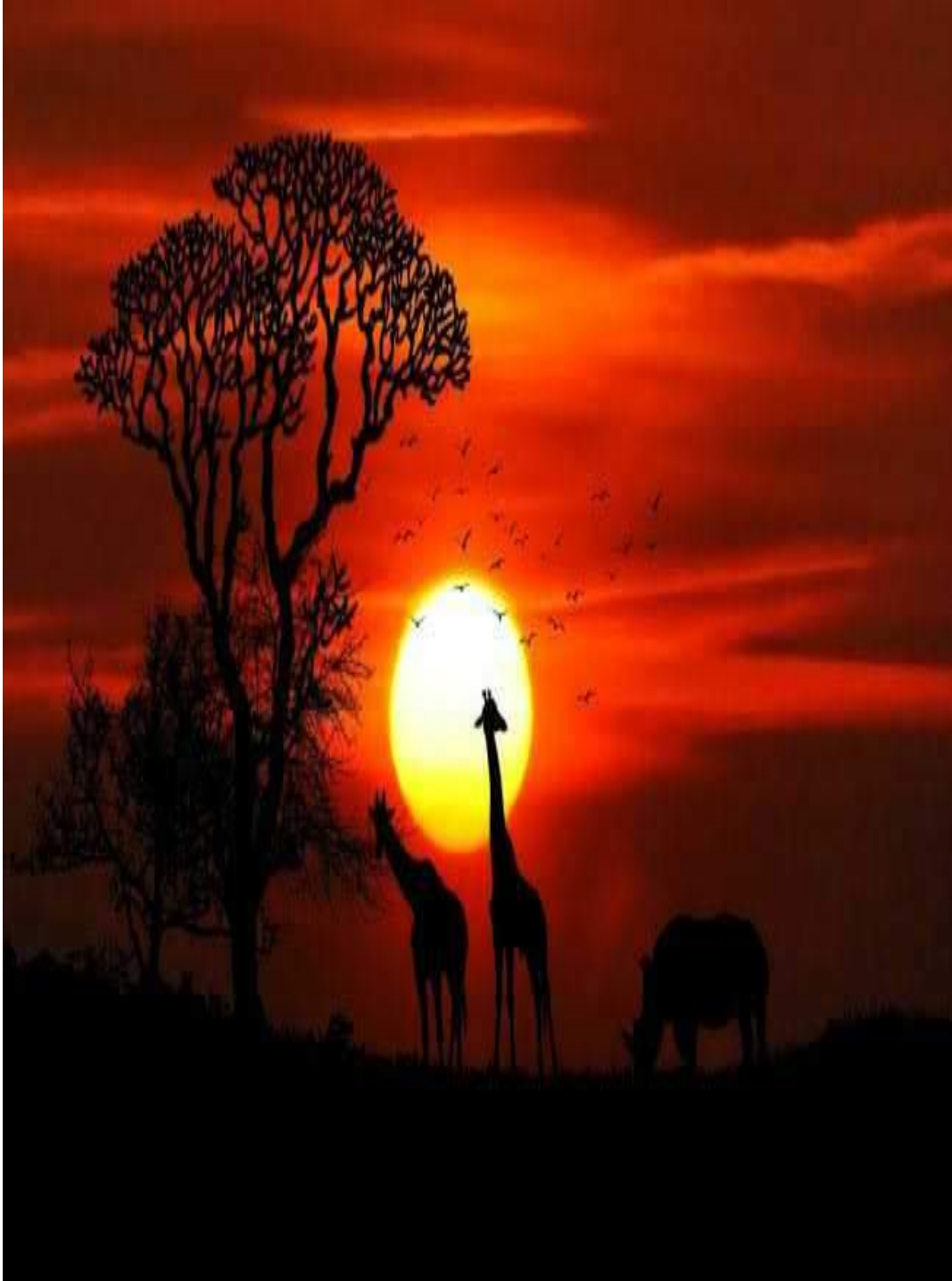


A SEASON IN THE SONNET'S SUN - Nattie O'Sheggzy

Can I differ song till it's summer's eve,
When you glow comelier and more desperate,
In the glistening lights stuck to your sleeve;
When fingers of the sun clutch with new hate
The hungry earth in her brown crusty throat
And even mere gleam in every rolling eye
Grows more restless on the blue sea afloat?
Verdant aliens in their curated shreds fly
In a headlong dive towards blank spaces
Between time that was and the dimmed hours
To home in this body like a blind bullet,
Between love that was and the wilted flowers--
On this summer sun I painted the thought
Of you in the wings of freedom I sought.

SOON IT WILL BE DARK UPON US AGAIN - Nattie O'Sheggy

Soon it will be dark upon us again
Vehicles all quiet to breathe black
Women put their dozen sons to breasts
The hours of sweetened tang on the lips
Will linger behind the walls of our hearts
Like the muezzin call us to prayers
The birds quiet like the quartz
In the bowel of the earth bowed their plumes
To kiss the soft lips of sleep last night
Their beaks will poke their pins in the velvet
Paws of the sky blooming in the dark
The bells will ring in the other outer rooms
As the priest in his cassocks tends the widow
Left behind in heat of the harrying dusk
Soft laughter will come from far afield
Come with the ghosts at the grieving dawn
No nunc dimittis will be risen again.



Interview Section - With Nattie O'Sheggzy

The beauty of art can never be over emphasized, such is the beauty of its agent as well. In this publication, we have also discovered a talent, a poet. There is only one way to connect with writers, and that's by reading them.

Interviewer - Who is Nattie O'Sheggzy?

Reply - My pen name is Nattie O'Sheggzy. To begin with, I am a Nigerian and I have been writing poetry for more than two decades. I started when I was in the secondary school. I love writing, and reading all sorts of books. I started with James Hadley Chase, Mills and Boom, etc. Those book opened my eyes to the power in the written words.

Interviewer - Nattie O'Sheggzy and poetry, what connects them?

Reply - I have tried to write other genre but I am more at home with poetry. Maybe it is because I am an introvert. Most authors are introverted, anyway. It's easier to weave words to have meanings. I enjoy it most when readers construe meanings than what I intended in my poems. The multiplicity of opinions and interpretations that can be read into poems keep me fascinated. Furthermore, the need to understand, or try to understand, what is running through the minds of poets when they right is an attraction that glued me to poetry over and above other genres that I write.

Interviewer - I've seen poets who chose nature as their source of inspiration, as in muse. You being an introvert, do you go out to hear birds chirps, or see the choreography in plants, or feel the touch of the wind? Simply, what do you derive inspiration from?

Reply - We are inspired differently, the goal of poetry seem to be universal. As early as I began to write, i accepted the fact that I had to follow Melpomene. I am inspired by the tragic and the melancholic. A friend pointed my attention to this while in the university. In his words: Why are you a melancholic writer? This made me to study my poems, and I agreed with him.

Interviewer - And what is poetry to you?

Reply - Poetry is a body of literary work in which the expression of feelings and ideas is given intensity by the use of distinctive style and rhythm. I have sarcastically written that poetry is a lazy attempt to write a lifetime's story in one page. Come to think of it poetry is simply the use of elegant words and rhythms to convey emotional feelings.

LORDS OF THE POEMS - Nattie O'Sheggzy

The clearest azure weeps

The elements are in tears

These wise men ply their trade:

Imageries. Metres. Metonym

All are the slaves of the lords

Who raise standards to Literature.

What makes poetry noble in the ear?

How does a poet conjure up words

From the crucible of nothingness?

Sarcasm. Irony. Metaphor

Pliable chisels in the hands of wordsmiths

Who see themselves forge the diadem alone.

Each bang of the brazen hammer

On the anvil of alphabets comes

With sweat coursing down the throat

Of the quill in the deft hand of bards.

Each furnace the humid garden

Where words are nurtured to the world.

Interviewer- Have you been published under the chosen genre?

Reply - I published my first book Random Imagination in February. Unless you are published by the traditional publishers, you can hardly live on writing alone. Poetry is even harder to sell than other genre. When I retire I look forward to writing more and to delve into other genres fully.

For anyone interested in Random Imagination, here is the book's description and links: Poetry is a scream of freedom. It is the battle cry against mind's fiefdom. Bottled words and emotions only struggle to liberate themselves from strictures. Free of encumbrances, thoughts are the most beautiful things ever recreated. Cultivating a unique tone from the babel of poetic voices in the contemporary literary world is a necessity for a poet who intends to stand out from the crowd.

Below are the links to getting a copy of RANDOM IMAGINATION, click on any of your choice to get a copy.

[AMAZON](#)

[BOOK2READ](#)

[KOBO](#)

[SMASHWORDS](#)

[GOODREADS](#)

new poetry from
NATTIE O'SHEGGZY

*Random
Imaginations*



Interviewer - I've seen many a writer who put an abrupt end to their career by believing in the caging of academics. Do you study art or anything related to being a litterateur?

Yes? How did you go around and about it?

No? How did you go around and about it?

Reply - I never allowed myself to be caged by academics and work. I didn't study literature. I studied Geography at the bachelor's level, and Surveying and Geoinformatics at postgraduate. While I school, you could only find me in the English Literature section of the library. What I did there is what everyone can guess. I always thank my father for the opportunity of reading *Understanding the Unseen: An Introduction to English Poetry and the English Novel for Overseas Students* by M.J. Murphy. I read the book over and over again. I am still with my dad's copy. I wonder if he ever remembers he has a book by that title with me. To be a good writer, you have to be a good reader.

Interviewer - The last line is it, but more of it we require. A word of advice for people struggling to break free from the caging.

Reply - I am not going to ask students to go burrow in the wrong section of the library like me. I think I will enjoin anyone torn between academics and literature to first and foremost understand himself. Set a goal between both possibilities. Take a step towards achieving your goals, and go for it with all your might like I did. Do you know I am not into surveying and any of the Earth sciences to earn a living. My work involves writing. It's a passion I cultivated while young. It's what I do with satisfaction to put food on the table. I am not a full-time writer, though. I believe anybody's passion can be what he relies on in the future. Never say never.

Interviewer - Something for poets out there.

Reply - True art can make us uncomfortable. It has to hurt to make us grow goosebumps. It has to transport us to the zenith and the abyss of life. Art needs to prick our conscience to dream, to spur us to act, and to make us take a step to change the world. Therefore, poets must not engage in poetry for its sake.

Interviewer - Something about Africa's beauty

Reply - Africa is a continent resplendent with beauty but beset with greed. Talk of nature been benevolent. Talk of mineral resources. Talk of clement weather. But we make Mother Nature weep by our inability to turn all these natural endowments to a source of joy and abundance for the teeming population. Vinceremos! We shall overcome someday.

Interviewer - Africa and her interaction towards art in general, what can you say about that?

Reply - The disposition of Africans to arts generally is appalling. The saying, *'if you want to hide anything from Africans, put it in a book,'* rings true. Even African thieves do not steal money hidden inside books.

On a serious consideration, hungry people do not read. They go about looking for food to sustain them. You can only read, or write, when you are comfortable. Not many Africans are living comfortable lives. Things need to better in order to raise the standard of living on the African continent.

Interviewer - If you're to give a fiat that Africa in entity wouldn't say no to, what would it be?

Reply - Africans should say no to corruption. If we are able to achieve this as a continent, then all other things to make life bearable will fall in line.

Interviewer - Something about ARTING ARENA

Reply - ArtingArena is a fledgling platform for the promotion of arts generally. I want to thank the promoters of the blog for their dedication to bringing authors, poets, etc to the limelights.

I want to encourage that they should not rest on their oars. They should strive to compete with other reputable media in other parts of the world. ArtingArena will go places with persistence and innovation in their publication.

I personally want to thank them for offering me this golden opportunity to show case my work and to assist my book with free promotion to a larger audience. I am indeed happy to be associated with you.

Thank you Nattie O'Sheggzy, we can't be happier to hear these words from you.

SUBMIT TO US

What do you do as an artist? Do you write, paint, sketch...

We at Arting Arena are open all through the year for submission. All you have to do is visit the link and follow the rules and regulations guiding the submission. We look forward to receiving your works. To submit, visit our website or click [here](#).



CALL FOR SUBMISSION

What do you do
as an artist?

We are open
for submission
all through
the year.

Send us your
works and we'd
house them if
they fits.

visit www.artingarena.com for guidelines.



LIGHTENING
AFRICA



BLACK
IS
BEAUTIFUL

for more info, visit www.artingarena.com

And we are happy to announce the theme for our next publication. The theme is BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL. To submit, visit our website or click [here](#).

To follow our facebook page for updates, click [here](#).



About the CEO



Oyin Bimbo is a publisher, an editor, and an author based in Nigeria. An artist whose love for art has been the fuel driving his artistic aspirations. In his quest for international recognition which he believes to be necessary for his futuristic novel, he has been published as a poet on Litlight Global, on one of their E-Mag. His works of fiction and nonfiction pieces also found a home in the Kalahari Review and his Motivational/Inspirational piece can be found on the Mwangaza Magazine. You can also find some of his articles on various topics on Qwenu, which is a Nigeria News Magazine. Lastly on his career achievements, he is a literary award winner in the 2019 AT MARSTIAN price for literature.

In his undying love for art in general, he has created a platform - Arting Arena, to further showcase the beauty of Africa's aesthetic minds from anywhere in the world, as he believes there are covert artists with works capable of rendering the world agape.

About Us.

Arting Arena is as the name implies, an arting arena. A place where art is showcased. Arting Arena's motto '*for the world*' is also coined out of the need to make art perform its basic essence which is to create aesthetic display of creativity to the audience. Just as an artist said... '*poetry is a broth, poets are the cook, and the audience; the customers*'; Arting Arena will be the cook, while art, the broth and you, yes, you the reader, the customer.

And, '*for the world*' - Natural and realistic topics will be considered in our publications as well as on our blog too. And they all will be published with aesthetic applications and after the main concept of art and creativity has been achieved, a message which carefully works towards fulfilling the motto will be sent across. Hence *for the world*, illuminating the world, and it is starting in Africa.

Also, we offer the following services-

Branding

Ghost Writing

Marketing

Mentoring

Publications

Web Designing.

for the world

To work with us, send an email to customerservices@artingarena.com for more information as to how we can satisfy your needs.

Thanks for reading this edition of ArtingArena's LIGHTENING AFRICA. We look forward to seeing you in our subsequent editions.

Next publication date: 1st July 2021.