GALLERY ILÉ

Mito Daho Kpassènon | King of Ouidah | Royal Palace of Ouidah | Benin

Limited Edition Fine Art Photography N.1/4 | Agoudas

Pigment inkjet on Hahnemühle Baryta Fine Art Pearl 325 mg paper
100 cm x 100 cm x 2 cm
Mounted On 2mm Dibond
Protected with Art Glass
Polished Silver Aluminium frame
Built-in hanging rails
Courtesy of Après-Midi Lab Paris

This limited edition fine art photography is authentic, numbered and certified.

In his Series entitled "Agoudas", the critically acclaimed photographer and PhD researcher Nicola Lo Calzo, explores the complex practices of memory transmission revolving around slavery in West African countries, including Ghana, Senegal, and the Republic of Benin. In a region where the Transatlantic slave trade still represents a past that is both morally and socially difficult to reconcile with, memories often survive within private spheres through rituals, religion and taboo.

With Agoudas, Lo Calzo sheds light on an historical legacy that continues to play an important role in the contemporary relationships between both descendants of African slave merchants and descendants of the enslaved. Revealing a marginalised yet persistent memory that not only shapes Yorùbá social hierarchies and collective remembrance, but reinforces to this day, the stigma of slavery within the organisation of power in West Africa.

Blending documentary with conceptual approaches, the Series Agoudas uncovers a treasure trove of counter-archive that challenges dominant narratives, and honours the silenced voices of historical memory.