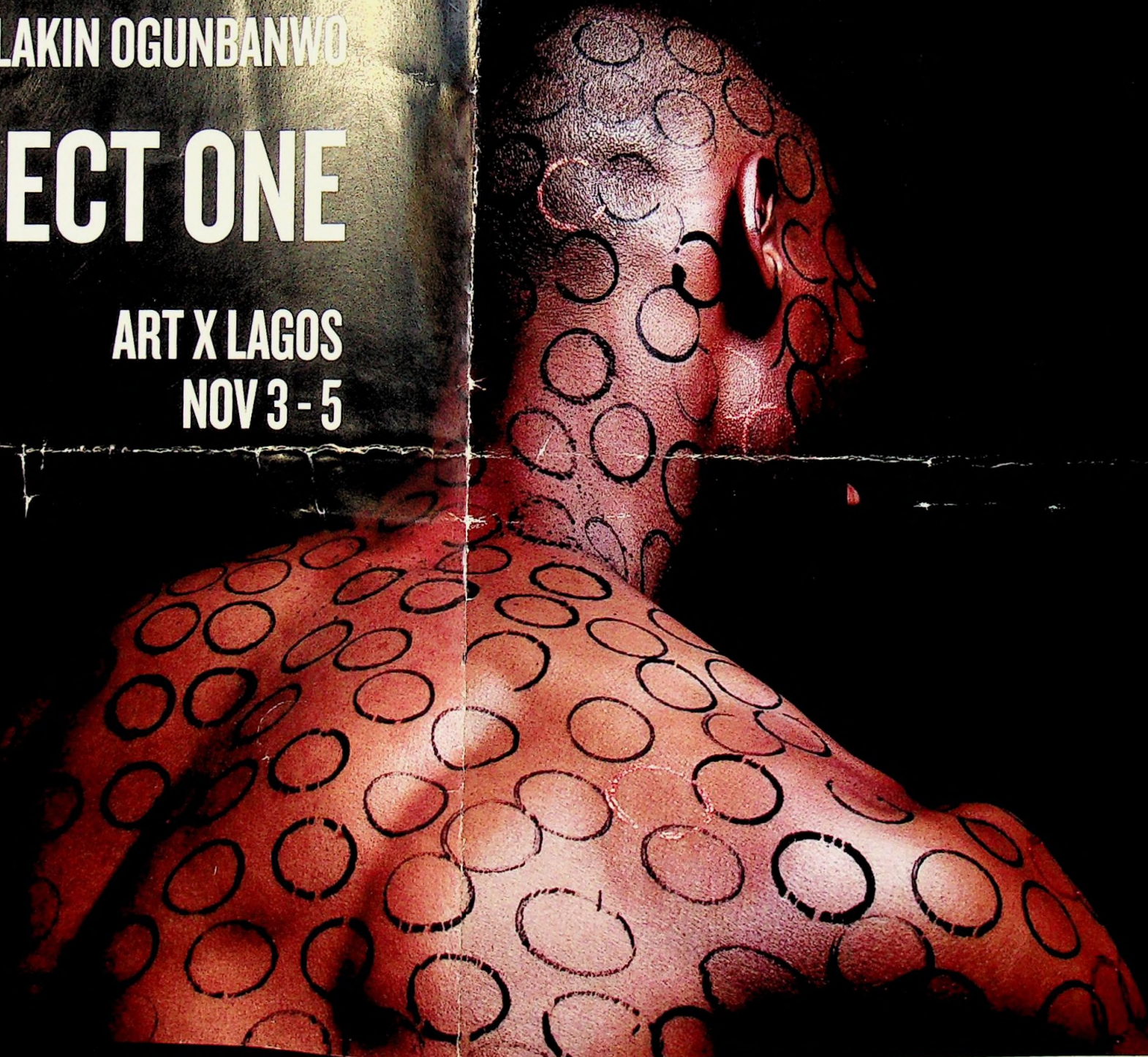


OLUSEYE X LAKIN OGUNBANWO

PROJECT ONE

**ART X LAGOS
NOV 3 - 5**



PROJECT ONE

STATEMENT

Inspired by high renaissance sculptures, Yoruba terracotta heads and the decorative rituals of the Suri tribe, PROJECT ONE marries Western and African notions of beauty to (re)position the black male as the ideal. Oluseye and Ogunbanwo are concerned with the representation and perception of African nudity and embellishment. Using minimalism and studio portraiture, the artists seek to question the exoticism, objectification, power-privilege and calculated performance that's characteristic of Western photography of indigenous tribes.

OLUSEYE

Oluseye is a conceptual artist working across a variety of media. Central to his practice is the recurring black male form, which he engages as the locus for his intersectional exploration of desire, identity, beauty, and existentialism. He combines acrylic, charcoal, pastel, and photo transfers to create layered portraits that tread between the physical and the spiritual.

LAKIN OGUNBAWO

Working at the confluence of fashion photography and classical portraiture, Lakin Ogunbanwo creates enigmatic portraits with an erotic and subversive undertone. His subjects exist defiantly in the frame often masked by shadow, drapery and foliage. His use of vibrant flat colour and bold compositions form a more minimalist homage to the African studio photography popular in the 1960s and 70s.