



# Decolonizing African Art Histories in Nigeria: New Perspectives and Methodologies

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## Abstract

Recent scholarship in African art history has predominantly focused on colonial legacies, overlooking contemporary perspectives and methodologies. The study employs a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with local artists and scholars, alongside quantitative analysis of archival documents from the last decade. A thematic analysis revealed that over 70% of recent artworks incorporate traditional cultural motifs in innovative ways, pushing conventional boundaries of artistic expression. The integration of indigenous knowledge systems into art historical narratives has the potential to reshape scholarly understanding and promote inclusivity. Future research should prioritise collaborative projects between scholars and artists from diverse backgrounds to ensure a comprehensive decolonization process. Decolonizing, African Art History, Methodologies, Nigeria

**Keywords:** *African Studies, Decolonization, Methodology, Postcolonial Theory, Critical Race Theory, Ethnography, Cultural Heritage Studies*

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