



## YINKA SHONIBARE CBE: ARTIST

Image: Self Portrait (After Warhol) 3, 2013.  
Text: <http://yinkashonibare.com/biography/> (2020)



**“People responded to my work because I was doing something that hadn't been done before”**

**Yinka Shonibare CBE studied Fine Art, first at Central Saint Martins College and then at Goldsmiths College, where he received his MFA.**

Yinka was born in 1962 in London and moved to Lagos, Nigeria at the age of three where his father practiced law. He returned to London to

Yinka contracted transverse myelitis, an inflammation of the spinal cord, at the age of 18, which resulted in a long-term physical disability where one side of his body is paralysed. Like many other renowned artist he uses assistants to make works under his direction.

Yinka's work explores issues of race and class through the media of painting, sculpture, photography and film. His work, 'Nelson's Ship in a Bottle' (left) was the 2010 Fourth Plinth Commission, in Trafalgar Square. It was the first commission by a black British artist.

Yinka's works are included in prominent collections internationally, including the Tate Collection, London; Victoria and Albert Museum, London; National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C; Museum of Modern Art, New York; National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; National Gallery of Modern Art in Rome and VandenBroek Foundation, The Netherlands.