

ARTISTIC REPORT: AKORE

Street and Multidisciplinary Artist

1. Artistic Identification

Artistic Name: AKORE

Place of Birth: Murcia, Spain

Residence: Barcelona, Spain

Discipline: Urban Art / Contemporary Art

Main Techniques: Mural Painting, Sculpture, Installation, Video Art, Street Art, Upcycling

Website: www.akore.es



2. Biography and Cultural Context

AKORE is a self-taught street and multidisciplinary artist, widely regarded as one of the most prominent figures in contemporary urban art in Barcelona. His artistic vocation began in 1989 within the emerging hip-hop movement in Barcelona's outskirts, where he grew up and created his first sketches, tags, and graffiti. Since then, he has developed a distinctive visual language that merges post-graffiti expression with African aesthetics.

His work has been featured in Time Out USA ("13 Best Street Artists in the World"), National Geographic, El País, La Vanguardia ("one of the kings of El Born neighborhood in Barcelona"), and the internationally broadcast documentary series This is Art (Brutal Media / BBC Studios / TV3 / Movistar+), shown in over 80 countries.

Rooted in African spirituality, history, and identity, **AKORE**'s work features striking portraits of African women that symbolize cultural memory and ancestral strength. Born in Cieza, Murcia — a region with deep historical and cultural ties to the African continent through its heritage — he maintains strong geographical, historical, and cultural connections with Africa, where he identifies his roots, ancestors, and spiritual identity. His distinctive post-graffiti style has been described as urban, tribal, abstract, hip-funk, and electro-Afropunk — collectively defined as **Afrocolor**.

AKORE's artistic practice is characterized by intense chromatic contrasts and a synthesis of urban, graffiti, tribal, and abstract forms. He often paints on public walls in broad daylight, a deliberate act of creative resistance that breaks with established norms and reclaims public space. Guided by instinct, he seeks pure creative expression — celebrating spontaneity and the act of creation itself. His work is not always beautiful — provocation and rupture are as central to his practice as aesthetics.

Committed to sustainability, Akore incorporates recycled and found materials — truck doors, traffic signs, fabrics, stones, wood and scrap metal — into his artistic practice, building a direct material dialogue between the discarded and the remembered.

In addition to his studio and street work, Akore has contributed to academic and cultural discourse. He has delivered guest lectures at the **University of Barcelona** and the **Palau de la Música Catalana** (a UNESCO World Heritage site), and his work is currently being studied by the **Department of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Heritage** at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

AKORE has exhibited across Europe and Asia, with shows in Spain, France, Germany, and Singapore, and has painted murals internationally in France, Portugal, Senegal, and Australia. His practice spans canvas, sculpture, installation, video art, body painting, research, writing and music production — reflecting a commitment to multidisciplinary exploration.

3. Style and Themes

Afrocolor defines AKORE's visual identity, rooted in African heritage and reinterpreted through a contemporary urban lens.

Key elements:

- African and diasporic symbolism
- Urban and post-graffiti language
- Vibrant and high-contrast color palettes
- Abstraction and expressive figuration
- Use of recycled and symbolic materials

His work addresses:

- Cultural memory and ancestry
- Identity and Afro-descendant narratives
- Spirituality and transformation
- Social critique, including systemic racism
- The relationship between urban space and artistic expression

4. Career and Selected Projects

2026

- **Solo Exhibition: *La Tribu de la Memoria***, Artevistas Gallery, Barcelona (March)
- **“Evolución de un instante”**, immersive video art (with Antonio Miyagi), Barcelona (March)

2025

- **‘Dakar Afrocolor’**, short film, Dakar, Senegal (October)
- **Mural**, Blaise Senghor Cultural Center, Dakar, Senegal (July)
- **‘TOTEM’**, video art, Cieza, Spain (May)
- **Mural**, Perth, Australia (April)
- **Academic Interview**, Complutense University of Madrid (January)

2024

- **Group Exhibition: *Human Rights 2024/25***, Sabadell (December)
- **Group Exhibition: *Echo***, Barcelona (October)
- **Speaker**, Palau de la Música Catalana (February)

2023

- Exhibitions at Bien Cuadrado Gallery and Artevistas Gallery, Barcelona
- Publication in *Caràcters Magazine* (University of Valencia)
- Lecture at University of Barcelona (CIBERSAM)

2022 – 2019 (Highlights)

- Collaboration with graffiti pioneer **Cornbread** “**The Legend**”
- Solo exhibitions: *Akore 2.0*, *Triunfadores Camuflados*
- International festivals: Berlin, France
- Urban art auctions (Drouot Paris / Lyon)
- Recognition by major art platforms in Barcelona

2018 – 2013

- Exhibitions, murals, and performances across Spain, France, UK, and Singapore
- Collaborations with Greenpeace and social organizations
- Early consolidation within Barcelona’s urban art scene

1989 – Present

Continuous artistic practice in public space — “*the street as the largest museum in the world.*”

5. Media and Public Presence

- *This is Art* (BBC / TV3 / Movistar+)
- *Time Out USA*
- *National Geographic*
- *El País*
- *La Vanguardia*
- *MTV Brasil*, *Vanity Fair Italia*, *El Periódico*, *Bonart*, *Onda Cero*

6. Cultural Contribution

AKORE’s work contributes to the visibility of Afro-descendant cultures, the preservation of collective memory, and the development of contemporary urban art as a critical and institutional practice.

Through his projects, he fosters intercultural dialogue and explores the role of art as a tool for social transformation and education.

7. Institutional Recognition

Research and study by the Department of Conservation and Restoration - Complutense University of Madrid

8. Collaboration Opportunities

- Exhibitions (solo and group)
- Biennials and institutional programs
- Artistic residencies
- Site-specific and mural projects
- Video art and interdisciplinary collaborations
- Lectures and educational programs
- Workshops on urban art, identity, and social practices

9. Contact

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- **Website & Portfolio:** www.akore.es