

Desert X 2021
Coachella Valley, CA





Serge Attukwei Clottey

Born 1985 | Accra, Ghana

Serge Attukwei Clottey explores the sociopolitical, economic, environmental, and cultural legacies of the colonial project in Africa. Using yellow plastic jerrycans known as Kufuor gallons, he creates sculptures, installations, and performances that speak to histories of colonial pillaging and its effects on trade and migration. These gallons function as both material and striking symbol in Clottey's practice: a reminder of the way violent pasts manifest in the everyday.

The Wishing Well

The Wishing Well is a sculptural installation of large-scale cubes draped with sheets of woven pieces of yellow plastic Kufuor gallons used to transport water in Ghana. Transforming a vacant lot into a destination, *The Wishing Well* echoes the wells to which many people around the world must trek daily to access water. Europeans introduced these yellow jerrycans in Ghana to transport cooking oil. As repurposed relics of the colonial project, they serve as a constant reminder of the legacies of empire and of global movements for environmental justice connecting communities across continents. Sited in the Coachella Valley, whose future is deeply dependent on water, *The Wishing Well* creates a dialogue about our shared tomorrow.



X

James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center

Desert Highland Park

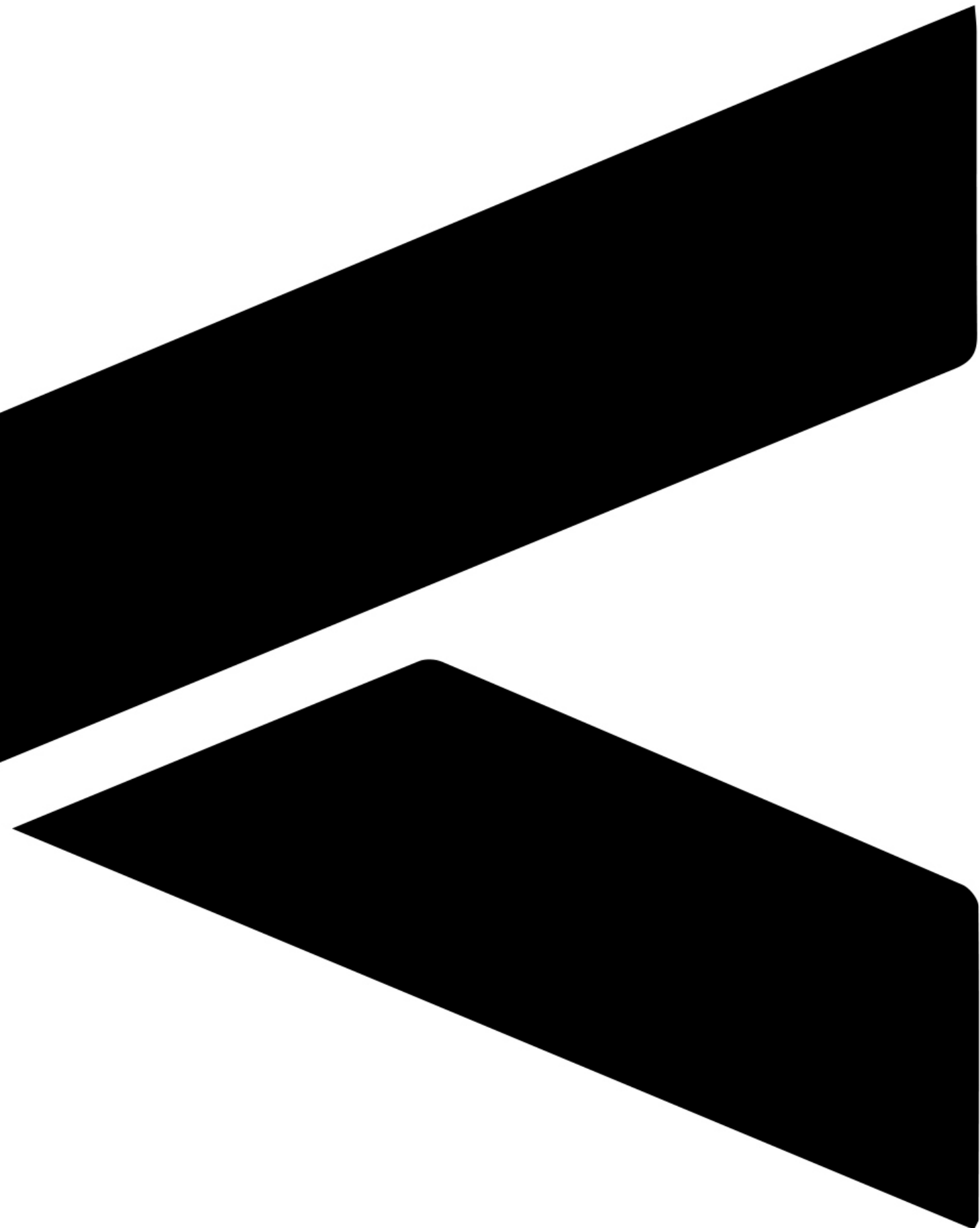
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Thank You