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**The talk**

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Addisalem Bezuwork / Senayt Samuel (Ethiopia)

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Started by **imagineartafter** at 03:36pm Oct 28, 2005 GMT

For the next six weeks Guardian Unlimited is supporting a unique arts project featuring 14 artists from across the globe, exhibiting their work and hosting live discussions between each of the artists. Find out more about the project at

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/arts/imagineartafter>

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**[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 12:13pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([1.](#))

Hello Breda, Julia and Addisalem,

It is 12pm London time and I have signed on. Still waiting for Sofia, so I have the time to communicate.

senayt

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**[JuliaFarrington](#)** - 12:31pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([2.](#))

Hi Senayt - good to hear from you! So you have chosen a name for your baby - Sofia. That's a lovely name. When is she due? Hi Addisalem, I hope all goes well for you. I just wanted to welcome

you both to the dialogue and to say that it has been very exciting getting to this point and I am looking forward to seeing the dialogues grow from these beginnings. Breda is teaching today and tomorrow so she will pick up on Wednesday. best wishes Julia

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 12:56pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([3.](#))

Thank you Julia. Her due date was on Saturday, but still waiting. I am looking forward to the dialogue with Addisalem and sharing information with all participating in “imagine art after” project.

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 01:36pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([4.](#))

Hi Julia

Thanks for solving the problem.

I just spoke with Addisalem and she needs translator for the dialogue and we have agreed with her to bring a translator on the next dialogue.

Julia, please let me know when the next dialogue will be then she will join you with a translator.

For now she is also looking forward to participate on the dialogue with Senayt and sharing information with other participating in “imagine art after” project.

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■ [JuliaFarrington](#) - 01:44pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([5.](#))

Hi, Addisalem can take part in the dialogue whenever is convenient. It is really up to her and Senayt, whether it would be easier to fix a few times to check in during the week and exchange ideas together. Or post messages when you can and the dialogue would build over time. Senayt what do you think? Julia

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 01:56pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([6.](#))

The best way would be to post when it is convenient for Addisalem. I will keep checking regularly.

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 02:01pm Oct 31, 2005 GMT ([7.](#))

She will contact sometime next week.

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■ [BredaBeban](#) - 10:21am Nov 2, 2005 GMT ([8.](#))

Hi Senayt,

when's you baby due? today?

Breda

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 10:37am Nov 2, 2005 GMT ([9.](#))

Hi Breda,

It was supposed to be on Saturday, but still waiting. Will let you know when it happens.

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 11:09am Nov 2, 2005 GMT ([10.](#))

I am not so sure, what is going on in Ethiopia, but there is violence in the capital. I just heard in the news that eight people were killed and more than a dozen wounded in a conflict between riot police and opposition supporters in Addis Ababa. Demonstration against the police shootings is now taking place in Addis Ababa.

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■ [JuliaFarrington](#) - 02:50pm Nov 2, 2005 GMT ([11.](#))

Hi Senayt - I am trying to reach Addisalem, without luck at the moment. Hopefully I will get through to her today or tomorrow. I will keep you updated.

Hope the waiting game is going well for you. Best wishes Julia

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 01:19pm Nov 3, 2005 GMT ([12.](#))

Considering the situation in Addis Ababa, it might be a while before Addisalem joins me in the dialogue. While I wait for Addisalem, I am uploading some images that I have been making throughout my pregnancy. It represents the time passing and the changes my body is going through. Feel free to comment or critic the images. I have been enjoying the dialogue that is taking place- I hope to start soon my self. <http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=28>

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■ [BredaBeban](#) - 08:56am Nov 4, 2005 GMT ([13.](#))

three stages of your pregnancy...the baby still inside you...Addisalem's silence...seems like it's all about waiting

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■ [JuliaFarrington](#) - 03:09pm Nov 4, 2005 GMT ([14.](#))

Hi Senayt - This is mysterious. I read that there is a threat of war breaking out between Ethiopia and Eritrea and disturbances in Addis Ababa

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/international/story/0,,1627335,00.html>

And I can't get through to the British Council offices there (they are giving technical support to Addisamelem and are the main contact to her.) Haven't been able to get through for four days now. BC here doesn't know why I can't get through - they haven't had any specific news from AA. There is probably no significant link between the threat of war and not getting through to the BC but it's strange. And it's frustrating. And ominous with that terrible threat.

So, yes more waiting for you and the apparent silence. But silence has a story to tell. Like the 'silence' from some of the artists on the first day - as Tatjana said "just because we weren't sending messages didn't mean nothing was going on" and in fact Awni was having a horrific experience in Istanbul and Rahraw was attending to the death of his uncle. Rahraw's silence on the first day reminded Shapur of the silence from Afghanistan during the war "when hardly any news and communciation was possible".

When Addisalem joins us, hopefully soon, we will find out what was happening during her 'silence'. Let's hope everything is OK and the explanation simple.

I really enjoyed the photographs of your changing shape - they have a great serenity about them, but also there is something very animated about the second one, with the tummy peering out - the tummy button like an eye on the world from inside. Something deceptively silent about them too when you think that life in the womb is very noisy, sounds like being in a washing machine apparently - all that fervent activity making stuff (just finishing touches in your case), your digestive system, and the relentless speed of the foetal heartbeat.

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 11:56am Nov 5, 2005 GMT ([15.](#))

Ironically, the riot, demonstration and the killing in Addis Ababa started the day our dialogue began. Therefore, I can understand why Addisalem has kept quite. I do not want to say too much about it, but I have attached a link from BBC so you can read what has been going on in the capital.

■ [JuliaFarrington](#) - 02:00pm Nov 9, 2005 GMT ([16.](#))

Things are moving! Senayt gave birth to a gorgeous healthy girl Sofia Santoro at 10.02pm on Monday night. 2.9k, 53 cm. CONGRATULATIONS SENAYT!! and I have finally got through to the British Council in Addis Ababa where the unrest meant that the BC offices were shut all last week and just reopened today. Hopefully we will hear from Addisalem tomorrow. WELCOME ADDISALEM!

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 10:57am Nov 10, 2005 GMT ([17.](#))

Hello Seniet

How are you ? I am fine thank you . Nice to meet you for the first diloge . Sorry for the inconvinencs that occured inb Addis last week. By now things seemed quite an hoping that it will be mor better than tody.

Can please explain about you photos and how you started prefering this profesion however you are a femail . Does it any impact and difficulty bing a women ? Tell me mor about you happay and sad times See you next time. Cheers

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 07:24am Nov 11, 2005 GMT ([18.](#))

First of all I would like to say congratulations to senait and then I will try to answer. How I started painting - I started drawing when I was in my elementary school. My art teacher was very intelligent and I was interested in his painting so he encouraged me very much. Until I finished High school I always work my home. After that I develop myself by joining art school. Currently I am helping my family in their small shop side by side with drawing. On the other hand I give my work to different gallery for sale and when I get the chance, prepare exhibitions with my colleagues in group. About current situation in Ethiopia - In Ethiopia, especially in A.A the condition was not good for 7 or 8 days starting from last week. The case was disagreement between the government and the opposing part. Because of these some people are dead and many are wounded. With in these days there was no work, no transport ion and all schools were closed. No one can move from one place to another. In general, the situation was horrible so I totally loose my feeling towards my paintings because if there is no peace in the country any one can not work peacefully. Now the condition is going alright.

Thank you Addialem Bizuwork

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■ **BredaBeban** - 10:45am Nov 11, 2005 GMT ([19.](#))

Addisalem, am really sorry to hear about the recent events in your country. However, am really pleased to welcome you to the dialogue.

Congratulations Senayt! when are we going to see baby Sofia Santoro?

Breda

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■ **AddisalemBezuwork** - 12:50pm Nov 14, 2005 GMT ([20.](#))

Hello Breda, thank you very much. currently everything seems ok and everybody do his day to day activities peacefully. I hope I will continue the dialogue properly now on words.

Hi Sinait, I couldn't participate on the online dialogue properly because of unstable condition of our country and I am sorry for that. But now every thing goes ok. I am happy for your baby and I want to ask you one question that is because of having a baby do you think it has an impact on your job? If there is an impact how can you overcome this problem?

Thank you Addisalem Bizuwork

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■ **BredaBeban** - 11:14pm Nov 14, 2005 GMT ([21.](#))

Addisalem, can you photograph and upload the things you see? we want to know WHERE YOU ARE at the moment.

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■ **SenaytSamuel** - 07:24pm Nov 17, 2005 GMT ([22.](#))

Hi Addisalem, Sorry it took a long time for us to connect. I hope things are getting better and safer in Addis. I am just writing you briefly to explain about one of my projects. The images from the series 'Between Worlds' that I have submitted for 'imagine art after' project. It examines the idea of being caught between two familiar places without having the ability to reach either destination. It is a biographical photographic project of friends, family members and strangers of the Diaspora. For this project, they share stories about their pasts and present and their views on identity, the immigrant experience, displacement and the difficulties they face in the new

home. It also explores identity in transition, reconstruction and displacement. It provides an insight into some of the challenges and personal experience we face as immigrants. . It also investigates the gap between the realistic experience and the unrealistic ideals we face as immigrants. The aim is to find a visual voice that reflects our personal realities. Can you let me know when you will be on line so I can log on as well.

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 11:41am Nov 21, 2005 GMT ([23.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

What has been happening in Addis lately? On my side, of course there is sofie and my mom making me Genfo and Aja to keep me strong. I also had the traditional twelfth day outing to see the sun. Both sofie and I had our eyes decorated with kohle. (a sign of protection) I crossed fire three times, as you know for good luck. It was too cold to go for a long walk, but we took her out for the first time in our neighbourhood. You asked what affects and problem giving birth has contributed to my life and career. At this stage, I am enjoying my time with my daughter and family. I have not had the time to entertain how it would affect my career. At the same time, I realize it is a life changing experience that would help me be selective in what my priority would be in the future. I hope to speak to you soon.

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 12:39pm Nov 22, 2005 GMT ([24.](#))

Hi Breda, I know the photographs are late because until now I was trying to know the proper use of the camera and will upload some photographs tomorrow.

Hi Senait, I'm pleased to read about your projects explanation. I will send you my work with some explanation tomorrow. I will also send you some photos that I have taken.

Talk to you tomorrow Addisalem

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■ [BredaBeban](#) - 05:37pm Nov 22, 2005 GMT ([25.](#))

Senayt, was lovely to see you the other day + to meet your family and baby Sofia.

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=165> - Grandmother, Senayt & Sofia

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=166> - Senayt & Sofia

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=167> - Senayt & Sofia

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=168> - Senayt's mother

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=169> - family

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 01:56pm Nov 23, 2005 GMT ([26.](#))

Hi Senayt, I want to explain to you what I am doing now. I work my paintings in my home and I prefer to work during evening.

As you see my paintings are more of cultural especially traditional way of life of nations and nationalities in Ethiopia. The others show how Ethiopia females live and work in their home and out side home in relation to tradition. As we all know that Ethiopia is known by its historical places, cultural life respect guests, my works are focused on these. Now I have planed to present my painting on exhibition with two of my colloquies this year if it is possible or at the beginning of next year: so I am working very hard for that exhibition at this time.

Addisalem

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■ **[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 06:32pm Nov 24, 2005 GMT ([27.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

I can see that your work is about a celebration of cultural heritage. Most of the objects depicted in your paintings are what we cherish as household items- they help us keep our memory intact. For those of us who are far away from home we hold on to these objects as a reminder of home. We also try to keep the tradition alive by practicing the rituals. I am attaching an image from my twelfth day of outing so you have an idea to what extent we hold on to our culture. What are you working on for the exhibition? Where are you exhibiting your work? <http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=214>

senayt

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■ **[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 03:52pm Nov 25, 2005 GMT ([28.](#))

Hi Addisalem

I just wanted to catch up with you while my baby is asleep- which is rare these days. I know we have not been communicating as often as we should, but let us try our best to communicate at least twice a week. It has been difficult for me since my daughters schedule has been unpredictable, but I am finally getting use to her demands now. I have only been out side my apartment twice in the last two weeks. I have been spending my time feeding Sofia, listening to music and photographing what is around me. I have been photographing a close up of my baby and flowers that my friends and family members brought. I am up loading some images so you see what I have been photographing. Talk to you soon.

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=238>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=28> senayt

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■ **AddisalemBezuwork** - 01:30pm Nov 28, 2005 GMT ([29.](#))

Hello Senayt

I saw the images you attached on the website, there are really very nice and they show you don't forget our culture to that extent, I appreciate it very mach. I hope your mother is taking care of you (Endaresush) because mother, especially in our country, worry very much.

The other thing is I am working on paintings which focus on culture but until now we don't decide the place and the exact date. When it is know I will let you know.

Next I want to write about Ethiopian great run. It was yesterday, November, 28 and the place is here in AddisAbaba. This great Ethiopian run is held for the 5th time starting from 2001. This years great run was very special, the number of participants was not only the professional runner but every body who want to run was there i.e. young, children, male, female, old aged, people, Ambassadors, participated in the great run.

My brother participated in this great run. He run every year starting from the first great run. I hope next year I will participate in this with my friends.

Addisalem Bizuwork

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■ **SenaytSamuel** - 08:24pm Nov 28, 2005 GMT ([30.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

It is nice to hear from you. I read that Genet Getaneh, set a new record in this year women's great race. I hope your brother finished the race safe. Today I went out for a walk in my neighborhood to photograph in the streets. I have always enjoyed photographing street scenes and strangers I meet. However, today I found myself focusing on colorful doors in my neighborhood. I am still thinking about what it represents to me, but it made me think of my daughter's choices. Now we are dealing with getting her a passport and we had to make a decision on one out of three different identities. The images of the colorful doors represent some aspect of choices we had to make. Can you upload some images of Addis. Talk to you soon. Senayt <http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=28> <http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=238> <http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=316>

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:13pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([31.](#))

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=334>

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:15pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([32.](#))

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=327> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=328> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=329> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=330> - Imagine Art After Image

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:32pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([33.](#))

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=352>

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■ **[JuliaFarrington](#)** - 12:34pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([34.](#))

Here are the images that you emailed us. It is great to see all these wonderful paintings and photographs and I am really sorry that you have had so many difficulties getting them on line. Best wishes Julia

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=342> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=346> - Ensera

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=347> - Gebeya

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=348> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=349> - Mesegna

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=350> - Serge

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:40pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([35.](#))

Hi Julia

We just uploaded the photos. Sarah sent me the correct website address and password.

Best wishes Meron

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:41pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([36.](#))

Hi senayt , I saw all the photographs and they are really very nice. Especially your daughter Sofia, she is very beautiful. I admire your style of taking photographs.

I have not the ability of photographing but I tried to take some photographs of my works and the things around me.

In my spare time I read Bible and I try to write poem about social life especially around my self. I write these just to satisfy my feeling.  
Addisalem Bizuwork

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■ **[JuliaFarrington](#)** - 01:00pm Nov 29, 2005 GMT ([37.](#))

Hi Addisalem, Your photographs are really good! Can you tell us a little more about them - who is getting married? Who are the people in the photos? And are these new paintings for the exhibition? Best wishes Julia

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■ **[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 11:34am Nov 30, 2005 GMT ([38.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

I am glad to see that you have managed to upload so many images. I was wondering who the people in your pictures are. The groom seems to be cutting a cow's meat- I have never seen that tradition before. Your paintings are just wonderful. Can you explain to me the reason you chose a traditional church style painting. Especially the big round eyes are used to depict angels in church walls and roof paintings. Have you ever been to Debre Berhane Selassie church? It is famous for the images of angels with big round eyes that seem to be looking in four different directions. Not to generalize, but I know most Abesha people do not consider being an artist a profession- were your family supportive of you to peruse painting? I have to get going now- I will log on later on today and post images I took yesterday. senayt

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 12:51pm Nov 30, 2005 GMT ([39.](#))

Hi Julia, First I would like to thank you for your admiration on my paintings and photographs. From the photographs I sent the one who wear the T-shirt alone is my brother and the others are other runners I get on the street before the Great run is started.

The other is my photos with my paintings in my home (studio) and on the wedding ceremony the Bride is my relative in front of them there is a row ox meet, they cut it and eat with other foods. It is just to show you our culture. Next time I will take some photos and write that show different things I see. Addisalem Bizuwork

Hi Senayt, I am pleased to see your wonderful photographs from these I understand that you keep your culture very much.

For to day upload some photographs. The tow persons are my Father and Mother. I have tow dogs and tow cats on the photograph I took you see one cat because her mother is again born 3 cats last week and I will take their photo another time. I love domestic animals especially cats and dogs. Addisalem Bizuwork

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=386>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=387>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=388>

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 10:57pm Nov 30, 2005 GMT ([40.](#))

Hi Addisalem, My last family member (brother) left yesterday. It was wonderful having him. Besides cooking and cleaning, we also had long walks in my neighbourhood. While he was watching Sofia, I was taking photos. Yesterday we went to a neighbourhood called Knights Bridge- where the famous Harrods shop is located. The images I am uploading are from their windows display. Unlike your traditional women in their daily environment paintings, the photos I am uploading depict women (manikins) as powerless and sexually conquered. It also shows overindulgence, desire and fantasy. On the other hand the male manikin takes the position of the ideal man wearing a superman t-shirt. Let me know what you think of the images. Senayt

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=410>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=412>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=413>

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■ **[JuliaFarrington](#)** - 10:40am Dec 1, 2005 GMT ([41.](#))

Hi Addislaem - here are some more photographs that were emailed to me and they are the photos you talk about in message #39

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=419> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=418> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=417> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=416> - Imagine Art After Image

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=415> - Imagine Art After Image

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:35pm Dec 1, 2005 GMT ([42.](#))

Hi Senayt, As you see most of my paintings have big eyes. This is similar to the paintings in Ethiopian Church, but I did these not based on that. I focused on this kind of eyed people because I like eye very much. I thought that the beauty of human being is more on his eye instead of other part of the body. So I paint this kind of big eye to show the beauty. The other is my family were not think being an artist is a profession but now I am an artist they are

supportive and encouraged me to paint. Addsaalem Bizuwok

Hi Julia, I give my response for most of the questions you asked me before. The paintings a send one my recent work and I have other more paintings that I prepaid to show on exhibition. Now I am trying to work very hard to improve my talent. Addisaalem Bizuwork

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 05:54pm Dec 1, 2005 GMT ([43.](#))

Hi Addisaalem,

Who is your favourite Ethiopian artist? Are you familiar with the artist Afework Tekle? If you are what do you think of his paintings? I am uploading more images that I thought were ironic and amusing. Senayt

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=445>

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■ [AddisaalemBezuwork](#) - 01:53pm Dec 2, 2005 GMT ([44.](#))

Hi Senayt, today I want to write about my friends. I like my friends very much and they are all good to me, every if I have many friends I am very close with two of them and we will exhibit our works together. My two colleagues paint at their home. At this time we are making our selves ready for that exhibition.

The other is about your culture, especially, Tigrays traditional dressing. Can you write about that and if you can your photographs with traditional close, so that I can know you keep your culture.

Addisaalem Bizuwork

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 10:24pm Dec 2, 2005 GMT ([45.](#))

Hi Addisaalem,

I am actually from Eritrea not Tigraye. Anyway considering that I lived abroad for the past eighteen years, I feel that I have the best of the two worlds. The one thing that I think keeps our culture alive is that we speak our language with my family members. Second, as you know we have a separate calendar than the western- so as a result we celebrate Christmas, New Year and Easter on different days. We use those holidays as an excuse to get together and remind ourselves that we have not forgotten where we came from. I will see if I can find an image of my self wearing a traditional outfit-

if not I will take my self-portrait wearing a traditional dress and upload it on Sunday or Monday. senayt

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■ **BredaBeban** - 10:32pm Dec 3, 2005 GMT ([46.](#))

Addisalem, it is AMAZING that at this particular point in time when there's turmoil in your country you and your friends have the strength to carry on painting!

Can you photograph your friends? Where and how do you spend your time together?

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■ **AddisalemBezuwork** - 12:37pm Dec 5, 2005 GMT ([47.](#))

Hi Julia, Artist Afework Tekle is one of know artists in our country and his paintings are special and very nice. But I my favourite artists are others.

They are teachers of art school, Artist Mezgebu Tessema and Artist Getachew Yoseph. Their paintings are good and I believe they are successful artists. I saw their paintings in exhibition when they exhibit in group and individually. Their way of paintings different they have their own style.

The other my favourite artist is my art school teacher artist Worku Mamo. He lost his two hands in accident when he was a child but he has the ability to paint perfectly and his paintings are wonderful.

Hi Senayt, In the future, what do you won't your daughter to be? Do you want her to be like you?

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=539>

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■ **AddisalemBezuwork** - 01:01pm Dec 5, 2005 GMT ([48.](#))

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=540>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=543>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=544>

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■ **SenaytSamuel** - 03:38pm Dec 5, 2005 GMT ([49.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

I am still working on my self-portrait so until I upload images from the project- I will upload an image I took over the weekend at an

Ethiopian restaurant called Addis. It is a small painting of Ethiopian mother and child. I am not so sure who the artist is, but I will ask the owner of the restaurant next time. Let me know what you think.

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=545>

senayt

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 03:48pm Dec 5, 2005 GMT ([50.](#))

To what extent do you feel that Mezgebu Tessema, Getachew Yoseph and Worku Mamo influenced you as an artist? It is an amazing story about your teacher Worku Mamo. What subjects does he usually paint? As for the question of my daughter-, I would be supportive of her in what ever she decides to choose. senayt

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 06:37pm Dec 5, 2005 GMT ([51.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

I am uploading images from my friend's engagement party this past weekend. On my left is my husband and on the left my friends. The party was at an Ethiopian restaurant. The food was great as you can see in the photo -they served traditional dishes-kitfo, dero wet, tibse etc....the only thing missing was real injera (ye teff injera). Their wedding is going to be in Addis this coming May. I am hoping to make it if I get a visa. The other images are at my apartment during a coffee ceremony. The first image shows my mom bringing the roasted coffee, second is the traditional bread (ambash)that my cousin made and the last one is the incense burning.

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=562>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=563>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=564>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=565>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=566>

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 12:18pm Dec 6, 2005 GMT ([52.](#))

Hi Breda, because of many things I couldn't meet my friends. But on Thursday or Friday I will upload photograph of my friends.

Hi Senayt, You told me you are from Eritrea before but what I am trying to say is that how keep your culture. As you lived abroad for along time you can not keep it as it is. It is very nice to have the better of the two worlds. As you liked in two different countries what culture makes you happy from the two worlds. If they have

different culture what is it? I will be happy if it is supported by photographs.

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 12:19am Dec 7, 2005 GMT ([53.](#))

Hi Addisalem

As you can see from the images I uploaded yesterday, we try to practice our culture as much as we could-it might not be as authentic as it would have been if we were in Ethiopia. Culture and traditions are such complicated topics. In a way, I have accepted that displacement from my culture includes a feeling of loss. I deal with issues of split identity, fading memories and culture. I envy you that you do not have to deal with the issue of dislocation and sense of not belonging. The vision of my childhood, Vision of Africa, but where is home? At times, I feel such a hybrid. This creates confusion in cultures. It is part of the complexity of the diaspora experience. At the same time, as I told you I feel that I have the best of the two worlds because I could choose what cultural influence to follow. I think the main difference between the two is the freedom (politically and financially), western education and independence.

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■ [AddisalemBezuwork](#) - 11:54am Dec 7, 2005 GMT ([54.](#))

Hi Senayt, the photographs you upload are very nice and a/s the painting you photographed.

I went to tell you about the tree artists, I mentioned earlier especially about artist Worku Mamo. He thought me paintings based on his experience. Careful and how paints are combined, different ways of paintings and their meaning in detail so he influences me much.

Artist Mezgebu and Artist Getachew work very amazing paintings and I learn from them the habit of working hard without losing hope. They reflect in their paintings different kinds of art. So the three artists are my favourite.

The other is I saw your photograph of coffee ceremony and I also upload my photo at my home of coffee ceremony the other photograph is my painting that shows my family.

Addisalem Bizuwork

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=586>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=587>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=588>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=589>

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■ **[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 05:16pm Dec 7, 2005 GMT ([55.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

I like your painting. It is very realistic in its treatment of color and facial expression. To me it shows a family history. Can you tell me a little about it? I am uploading a couple of images that I took the last time I was in Ethiopia. The first one is a couple who are on their way back home from farming. The second is a woman on her way back home from wood picking. senayt

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=594>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=595>

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■ **[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 10:39am Dec 8, 2005 GMT ([56.](#))

Hi Addisalem,

If you have the time, can you please take some photos of Addis and upload them. Friends who have been to Addis in recent years tell me that Addis has changed so much that I would not recognize it. It would be nice to see some images. You can choose the place you want to show me. senayt

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 12:36pm Dec 8, 2005 GMT ([57.](#))

Hi Senayt, in our countries especially here in Addis it is cold these days so I couldn't paint during the night. Instead I read books and I write poems but these are only for my self. Most of poems reflect my day today activity. But I think I have to write a lot.

The other thing is, I would like to show in my paintings is the similarity and difference of Ethiopian culture and other countries.

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■ **[AddisalemBezuwork](#)** - 01:13pm Dec 9, 2005 GMT ([58.](#))

Thanks for the Picture you took long time ago. But I won't to know when and where you took the picture?

I am enclosing the photo which I took recently and let me tell you a bit about these picture

1. Two of my friends who will organize art exhibition with me on the coming year 2006. 2. The picture which I take in my studio with my sisters and with my bother 3. A picture of my eldest sister with her family. 4. A picture of my elder sister with her husband. She is recently married. 5. My cat with her new small cats.

Looking forward your comments and suggestion

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=607>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=608>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=609>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=610>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=611>

<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=612>

Thank you Addisalem Bizuwork

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■ **[SenaytSamuel](#)** - 11:19pm Dec 9, 2005 GMT ([59.](#))

Hi Addisalem, The photo of the couple was in Awasa in 1996 and the woman in Awash in 1998. The last time I was in Addis was in 1998. I use to come to Addis every year to visit my parents. Then they were deported at the end of 1998 so I have not been back since. As I told you I would like to come for my friend's wedding in May, but it all depends whether I get the visa or not. You have a beautiful family and you seem close with your friends. I wish you the best with the exhibition. If I make it to Addis, I hope to come and see your work and meet you in person. If it is ok, I will get your e-mail address from Julia. I am uploading self-portrait images with my daughter. <http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=664>  
<http://www.imagineartafter.net/view.php?id=665>

Senayt

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■ **[BredaBeban](#)** - 08:12am Dec 10, 2005 GMT ([60.](#))

Addisalem, Senayt

would appreciate if I could have your comments on the statement from the British Art Show 6 catalogue quoted below. Please note that the dialogue ends tomorrow:

'In a cosmopolitan art world, in which artists travel to make work and take part in the exhibitions, the fact that an artist is British, Brazilian or Chinese is of diminishing significance. To compare artists from the perspective of their geographical origin is often to emphasise the most superficial aspects of their practice. The

approach is fraught with the perils of reductiveness and stereotyping.'

The British Art Show is a touring exhibition which occurs every 5 years. BAS6 is currently staged at the BALTIC in Newcastle.

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■ **BredaBeban** - 07:15am Dec 11, 2005 GMT ([61.](#))

am forwarding a message from Tatjana Strugar who has organised live streaming of the actual encounter with her imagine art after partner Sinisa Savic in Belgrade.

tomorrow from 7pm Belgrade time (it's 6pm UK) there will be a live streaming from the gallery ozone. hopefully the busy man Sinisa will show up and we'll have a little heart to heart chat

you'll be able to see it all directly on

<http://www.o3.co.yu/live.html>

for 1 hour (6-7pm uk time). for more info you can go to

<http://www.o3.co.yu/>

or directly

<http://www.o3.co.yu/-events/dec-guardian/guardian.html>

fingers crossed Sinisa can make it!

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■ **SenaytSamuel** - 12:12pm Dec 11, 2005 GMT ([62.](#))

Hi Breda,

In a cosmopolitan world, art should be about the need to maintain one's own identity and the need to be part of the larger cultural. It is about movement between local, national and international. I think the cosmopolitan art world is the main features of the modern setting in which art should produced, so each artist expresses its identity and national uniqueness. Therefore, cosmopolitanism deals with issues of movements, migration and cultural exchange and not about defining identity.

senayt

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■ [SenaytSamuel](#) - 11:37pm Dec 11, 2005 GMT ([63.](#))

Hi All,

Thank you so much to Breda and Julia for organizing such a wonderful project. Although I have been too busy with my new life-a new baby and all, I have enjoyed the dialogue with Addisalem and following the dialogue between Amirali Ghasemi / Reza Aramesh, Tatjana Strugar / Sinisa Savic, Awni Sami / Estabrak Al-Ansari, Olumuyiwa Osifuye / Leo Asemota, Violana Murataj / Denku Hyka and Rahraw Omarzad / Shapur Amini. I look forward to what happens next.

Senayt