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September 2022

Addis Ababa

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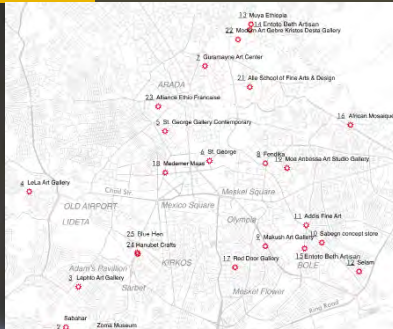
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# From the Editor

Winter has always been synonymous with novelty for me. Growing up in Addis, where much of the year was filled with sunshine and school, winter meant rain, a long break filled with days with nothing but something to do, winter jobs (once I got older), and so on. It is with this same thrill that I take on my new, albeit interim, role as Editor-in-Chief of LinkUp Addis Magazine.

Despite the heavy rains and many of us settling into one or another Netflix routine, the city did not seem to lose its creative edge. From Artcreates' panel and showcase of women in art to the newly opened Addis Go Kart, August marched on with the artistic development that has gripped the city.

The astrological themes for August, like the apparent comeback of The Suicide Squad, are retrogrades, conjunctions, and transits that call for self-awareness, courage, and change. As our CloseUp feature Yonas Berhane Mewa affirms, we took the call to change (and many others, we assume) as a chance to look deeper into our work and the year so far and make a few changes we hope you will like.

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Courtesy of Yonas Berhane  
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**Yegeta Tsegaye Telila**  
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# Does art create or does creation art?

Hiwote Desalegn

**ArtCreates is the British Council's latest initiative to support the creative sector by showcasing artistic voices that are emerging or have been present without being in the spotlight every two months. As a networking, fundraising, and mentorship focused event, the event is specifically designed to bring visibility to Addis' dynamic art scene. It was with this spirit that the first edition was held on August 16th at Atmosphere, a cultural centre that screams quirky, youthful art.**

In the past few years, the creative industry has been blossoming thanks to the emergence of cultural programs, creative platforms, curated events, art grants, online resources, and more, not only in Ethiopia but globally.

Despite this trend, a study by the British Council itself on the Ethiopian creative sector, published

in March 2022, reveals a stark gap between the number of male and female creatives in the entire industry. The first edition of ArtCreates was organised with this in focus, seeking to highlight women creatives.

The impressive panel brought together Addis Aemro, the president's former official photographer and organising member of Addis Foto Fest; Metasebia Yoseph, founder of Design Week Addis Ababa (DWAA); and Hadra Ahmed, an Emmy award-winning producer and freelance journalist. The discussion was designed to not only highlight the successes these women have had, but to bring to light each person's unique direction in their respective paths, the challenges they've faced, and the key principles they've applied to succeed in their fields.

Addis Aemro's passion for photography was born from years of working part-time in her parents' photostudio.

After going to university, her heart brought her back to the craft, and she did not look back. She notes that working with her mentor, Aida Muluneh, was the turning point in her career, opening many doors; from being part of the organising team of Addis Foto Fest, all the way to being the official photographer for our president For Her Excellency Sahle-Work Zewde, having a mentor who supported her and guided her every step of the way is her vision for the rule, not the excep-

**...it is more beneficial to have women in a team...subjects are more open to sharing their stories...**

**... a study by the British Council itself...reveals a stark gap between the number of male and female creatives in the entire industry.**

tion, for women in the industry.

Hadra Ahmed, on the other hand, has a different and more harrowing experience to share from her Emmy-winning journey, which includes work for major outlets such as Vice, BBC, and CBS. Her documentaries involved having to travel to destinations that were not only generally dangerous but also specifically dangerous for women. She affirms that crossing borders and delving into the depths of the unsavoury aspect of human nature helped her overcome physical and mental limitations; she even took basic fighting classes to be able to better defend herself.

Hadra and Addis are both professionals in a male-dominated sector, which means that they are also not new to male colleagues that have prejudiced views about their female counterparts. Despite their proven track record, they affirm that it is more common for people to be treated as incompetent.

They find this counterintuitive, as their experiences have shown that it is more beneficial to have women in a team. Both fervent-

ly confirm that subjects are more open to sharing their stories, trials and tribulations, with a female journalist than a male journalist.

Design Week Addis Ababa (DWAA) is the brainchild of Metasebia Yoseph, and of course, she does not have this specific issue of being in a female-dominated industry. Metasebia comes from a multidisciplinary background, which has been crucial in her career as well as the design of Design Week. She earned her Bachelor's in Art History and a Master's in Communications Culture and Technology from the United States before moving back to Ethiopia as an artist and curator. Here she began pondering the question of design in Ethiopia, as one normally does.

While in its early days, design was understood as being intimately tied with fashion. Metasebia believed that this view restricted both the purpose and benefits of design as a craft that could reach across all aspects of society. With this, she set out to introduce design-centered thinking, common in the Western world, to Ethiopia as a means of creative problem-solving.

With such an ideological basis and

a design to make it one of the most innovative events centred around culture, technology, and art in East Africa, the biggest challenges seem to be in the past. Until then, Metasebia had to raise the funds necessary for her dream to enter the world. She faced an obstacle that leaves many ideas dead before arrival. She says the deciding factor in DWAA's success was her persistence and refusal to take one no as the last no.

It was with all this heat raging around the room that the first ArtCreates panel and the impressive women it featured came to a close. Even with the event and conversation over, the spirit in the air was palpable. While the theme of the night had been about the creative arts, attendees could be heard heading off in groups discussing all sorts of seemingly peripheral topics, from Andrew Tate to freedom of the press to war to everything in between and beyond. With the eternal question hanging in the air, does the world create art, or does art create the world?



# LIYA GOLE

Gabriella Hilawe

**L**iya Gole has always been an artist but only recently delved into the world of beauty and glamour. Originally a painter, she was inspired by Terry, one of the more renowned names in the Ethiopian beauty industry. Liya remembers the inspiration that she drew every time she visited Terry's then workshop at Dembel City Centre, while aspiring to become as artistic as her role model.

She was 15 years old when she first applied makeup for her sister and her bridesmaids at her sister's wedding. The feedback she received, and we assume her own appraisal of her work, motivated her to expand her art from abstract ideas of beauty into the more sensual.



@liya\_gole

Now, Liya seeks to highlight the power of the feminine in her work, herself a young mother, artist, and businesswoman, trailblazing to make her mark on the industry. She also wants to bring Ethiopian culture and roots back into focus in the beauty and fashion world.

She distinguishes between beauty and creative makeup, both of which she is adept at, saying that her style in applying both focuses on simplicity and preserving the subject.

"Doing both styles over the years and constantly updating myself, as well as gaining exposure from Hollywood's top makeup artists, has given me the opportunity to understand the science of makeup, to enhance my creativity and skills, and to ensure the uniqueness of my work." exclusive lingerie brand in Ethiopia known for the diversity of not only its products, but its models as well.

Photo by: Courtesy of Liya Gole

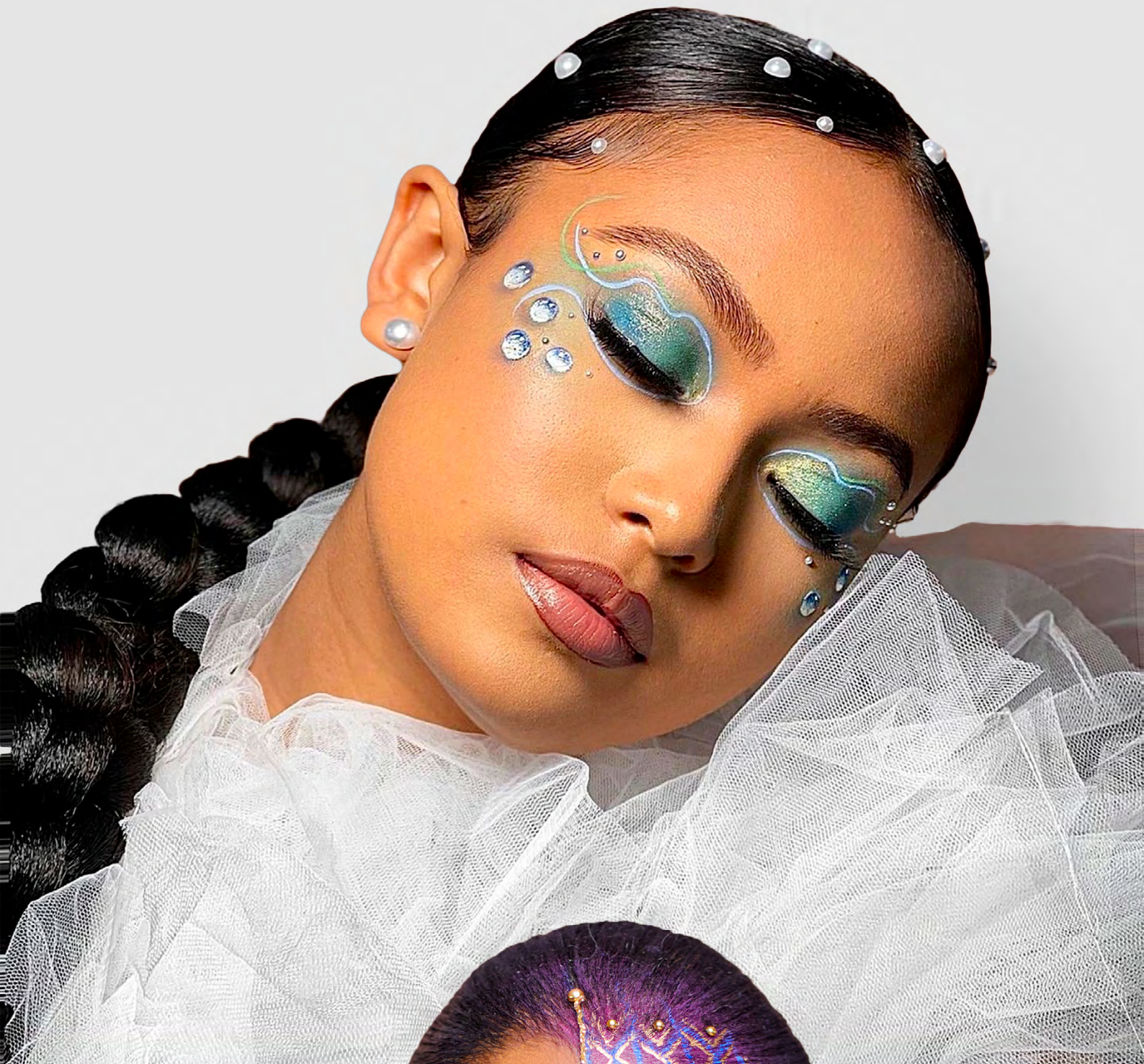


Photo by: Courtesy of Liya Gole





# Toro Grill

Hiwote Desalegn

**N**estled between Welo Sefer and Urael, on one of the newest roads in Addis that seems to be doing wonders for the area, lies Addis' novel barbecue spot, Toro Grill. Unlike the restaurants scattered around Bole, Toro offers multiple, easily accessible parking spaces, an important feature in the constantly overcrowded city to go along with its culinary wonders.

Walking in, I was immediately stunned by the wide open space, decorated with elegant wooden furniture and natural greenery. The ground floor is home to the Pit Master's lair, where the meat is transformed from another commodity to the mouth-watering

masterpieces that grace our palates. The main restaurant, which takes up most of the space on the first floor, strikes a unique balance between the elements; transparent shading invites light while the trees create a more airy, picnic vibe. As my friends and I sat down, the friendly staff right on our tails, I felt the calm from the restaurant sweep over me, cancelling out the harsh sound of the traffic outside.

Toro Grill is operated by Pit Master Wende, a veteran in the game with more than twenty years of experience in the kitchen. He says it's not the experience but the passion that is the secret sauce that makes his restaurant's food notorious. His skills are as diverse

**W**  
**The ground floor is home to the Pit Master's lair, where the meat is transformed.**



Photo by: Hiwote Desalegn

**W**  
**Personally, this is one of the only restaurants in Addis where the steak knife on my plate was completely useless.**



as they are precise, almost to the point of being legend, some tell me. Perhaps this is why the menu is straightforward with only seven main dishes, each accompanied by a variety of sides and sauces, all delicately crafted for an authentic barbecue experience.

Upon Wende's recommendation, we ourselves took the combo, the brisket, and the shepherd's pie. One thing that struck me throughout my stay is that as much as Ethiopians are passionate about meat, especially raw meat, our understanding of this coveted protein seems quite poor. As I learnt that day, each cut of meat has its own combination of fire, fat, and spices to give it the best possible flavour, and each combination is different depending on the cooking method. For Wende, as I mentioned earlier, beef is not a commodity but a precious rock to be shaped into a unique jewel.

Personally, this is one of the only restaurants in Addis where the steak knife on my plate was completely useless. The meat was cooked to perfection. Each bite melted in my mouth, the

meat falling apart almost as soon as I started chewing. Seasoning? Forget about it. The Shepherd's Pie was a pleasant revision of the traditional British recipe, replacing the traditional mashed potatoes with cheese-topped bread. The shredded meat in this pie is lightly seasoned with pepper and salt, and its texture is juicy from hours in the slow cooker. The brisket created a flavour eskista in my mouth with the tangy, sweet, and spicy homemade BBQ sauce beating the drums of my tongue's delight without mercy.

This dish was obviously no mean feat; the brisket had been smoked for 14 hours in the massive clay oven at the back of the restaurant. The Steak Sandwich from the Combo was made from brioche bread, a sweet bun, and grilled strips of beef topped with savoury house mayonnaise. It was an experience of textures, between the fluffy bun, the half-grilled chicken, and the delicious BBQ sauce. All the side dishes were constructed to strike a balance with the heavy protein dishes that were

rotating on our plates and in our bellies. An acidic kachumbari (diced cucumber and tomato salad), a smooth mashed potato, french fries, and spicy rice and veggies all gave the flavour bombardment various forms of respite, making us go back for more and more.

Leaving, I had the strong conviction that Toro Grill is where wrongfully cooked meat finds redemption. While everything was infused with an air of simplicity, execution created perfection. With a space designed to cater to the trendy, young professionals of Addis, a fully stocked bar, and an open, modern, softly lit nighttime ambiance, I would not be surprised to see many more familiar faces the next time I'm back.





# ThumbsUp

Eyasu A. Ashenafi

## Organic Fertilizers

### Lem Chaka

Lem Chaka is a social enterprise based in Addis Ababa that was established in June 2021. Lem Chaka's fertilisers are made using food waste collected from Addis Ababa's hotels and restaurants. These fertilisers contain concentrated organic nutrients and supplements that come from recycled waste. The mission addresses the city's pollution problem while creating value at the same time.

Moreover, by using organic fertilizers from food and yard waste, farmers and gardeners can rely on a simple, self-sustaining cycle that can ensure increased yields and productivity on all types of crops without having to incur the enormous costs associated with traditional resources.

Lem Chaka also promotes a circular economy where the aim is to reduce waste, reduce the need to purchase new commodities, and reverse direction to a more organic way of living. Products are currently available on ZMall and Shega Delivery, with plans to expand to selected supermarkets soon.

#### Contact Information

**Instagram:** @lemchaka  
**Website:** www.lemchaka.com  
**Location:** Legetafo, Addis Ababa  
**On Google Maps:** Yes



## Coffee and Snacks

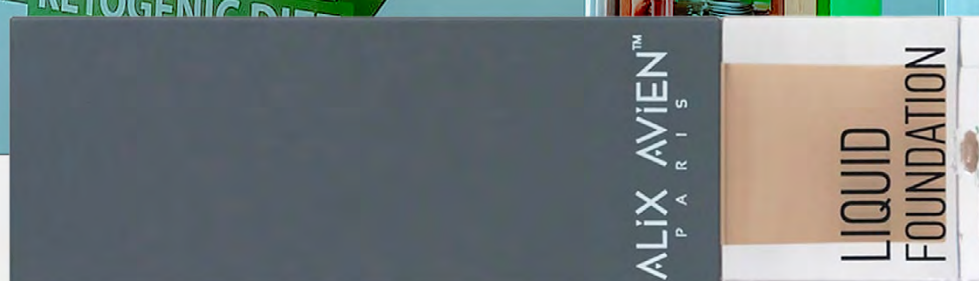
### Moyos Cafe

With a small, one-seater balcony perfect for a sunny day and a bright and cheery staff to match, Moyos Cafe is next to Yolly Fitness and Spa near Atlas Square. Of course, it is not a one-seater cafe; there is plenty of room inside the well-lit main room.

Uncommonly among cafes of its size, Moyos also offers a Keto Diet Programme for customers looking to add a bit of colour to their palate during this exceptionally dreary winter. Keto or not, however, Moyos is the perfect breakfast spot, both in terms of the options it provides and its ideal location in the heart of downtown Addis.

#### Contact Information

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**Instagram:** @moyos\_cafe  
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**Location:** Opposite Yoly Hotel/ Club H2O, Mickey Leland St, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



## Beauty and Cosmetics

### Alix Avien Paris

Addis is now home to the latest branch of Alix Avien Paris make-up, one of the world's leaders in beauty and cosmetic products.

Alix Avien Paris is a brand that seeks to center clients without any limits and standards, presenting its products as enhancements, not alterations. The brand claims to be a pioneer of a new world of beauty, one where people write their own stories.

The Addis store, around Wollo Sefer on the second floor of the Grand Building, offers all standard beauty and cosmetics services (including vegan) with an added flair.

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# Yonas Berhane Mewa

## Ethiopian film through an Ethiopian lens

Alula Abadi

In the past few decades, Ethiopian cinema has experienced a major upheaval. Everything ranging from production value to catering is now suddenly under a heavy lens where once things were put together without much forethought or even afterthought. This can be described as the result of a shift within the two most important groups in film: audiences and filmmakers. Over the years, the average Ethiopian audience member has grown more and more sophisticated, meaning that bad writing or effects don't get the same pass they enjoyed in the olden days.

Then there is the filmmaker. It seems that, over the years, film-

makers have discovered an appreciation for the nuances of their craft. They have grown with their audience, even going as far as creating pieces that have put Ethiopian cinema on the world's radar. One such filmmaker is Yonas Berhane Mewa, considered one of Ethiopia's most prolific and ambitious directors. Whether that label fits or not, Yonas is a man and an artist who affirms that he still has a lot to give in the fine art of filmmaking. It was in this spirit of appreciation and learning that I met with Yonas and got to pick his brain over a cup of Ethiopian coffee.

**Q: Do you remember how your love for what would become your life started developing?**

I think, deep down, every child wants to emulate the heroes of the stories they hear. Some kids dream of doing fantastical things like saving someone and taking flight, and I think my love for telling stories stemmed from that desire to relive and retell stories. I grew up in a fairly normal family, surrounded by family and friends, and I was always using my hand-held camera to direct my friends in the creation of some type of recorded entertainment. Sometimes we would make music videos like the boy bands that were popular during our childhood, and other times we would come up with a more

Photo by: Courtesy of Yonas Berhane Mewa



My guilty pleasure movie would have to be Pulp Fiction.

original scenario. These were the beginnings that led me down the road that I am still travelling on today.

**Q: Why did you choose cinema as the creative outlet for your desire to tell stories?**

To me, cinema is the ultimate form of art. It is a medium which, within itself, holds all other forms of expression. Things like sound, text, visuals, and many more elements that are encompassed in cinema can be developed as forms of art on their own, but cinema uses them as tools to create a grander, unified work of art. This comes down to how well the director is able to compose these instruments, at the end of the day, making this artist one that wields all the tools of art. Personally, this union of a vast array of tools with an artist capable of wielding them is what makes cinema inspiring and magical.

**Q: In terms of how a director uses these tools, what components do you think are essential for a good film?**

I think a good film is the summation of its best parts. Good films tend to be coherently and efficiently told stories where the components that make them efficient and coherent can be arranged and rearranged to fit the storyteller's vision. A good selection of songs, a thorough screenplay, and last but not least, actors capable of

uniting these tools with the director's vision need to be arranged in a fitting narrative to create a final product worthy of the effort. Thus, in my view, while the components are essential, the filmmaker's vision is the proverbial important chain in the link. If it breaks, so does the entire chain.

**Q: Many people notice this based on your upbringing. What do you think is responsible for this decline?**

It is difficult to pin down one factor and say "This is the culprit!", but at the end of the day, I think it can be narrowed down to a failure to outline and keep to a creative vision. The production process can be a multilayered game at times, where people that are not necessarily involved in the creative aspect have the power to determine the look of the final product. This can sometimes drag a story out and make it more about the people behind the movie than the characters within the movie itself. This level of involvement and the resulting bureaucracy can perhaps be primarily attributed to the decline that the public has accurately observed.

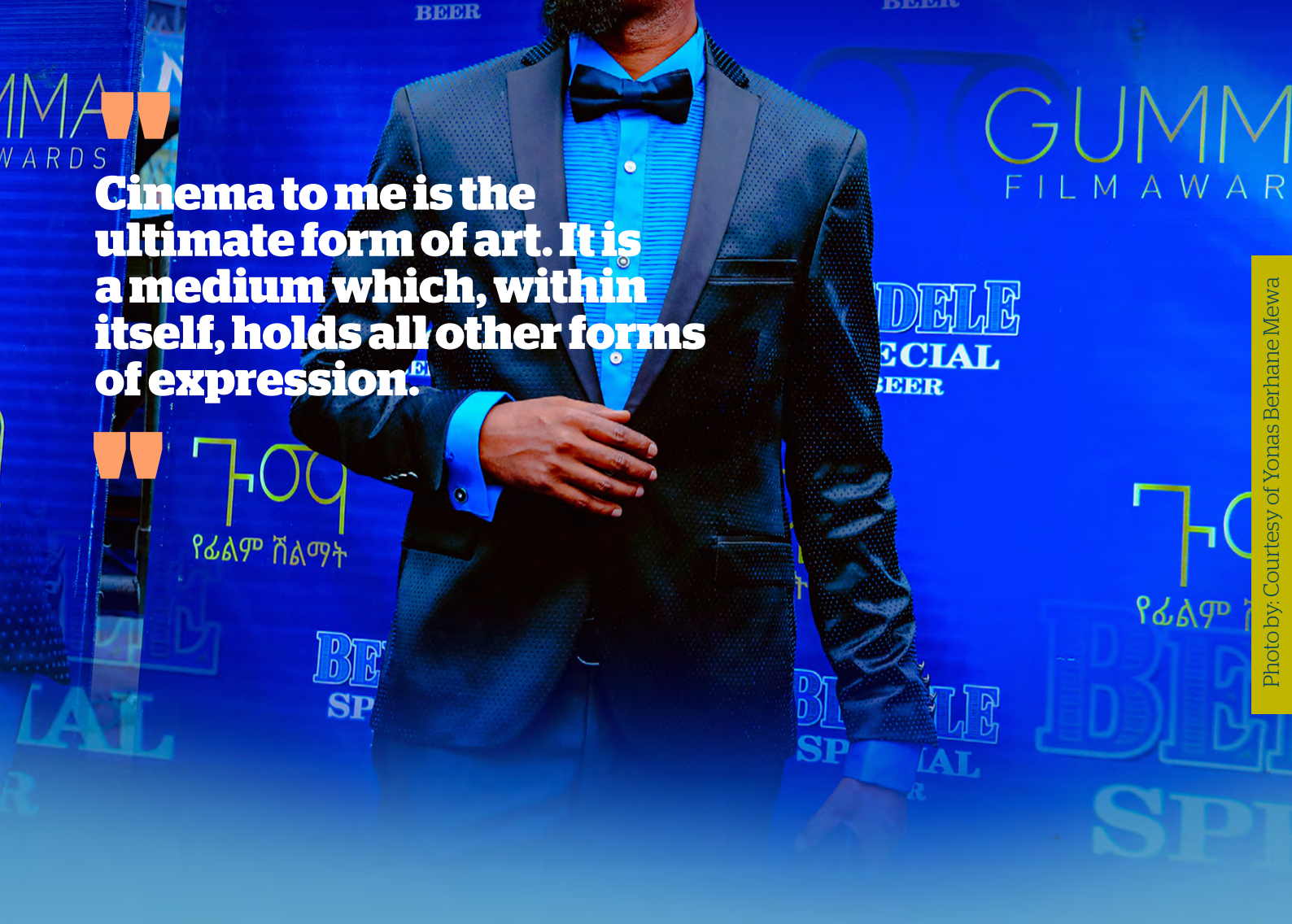
**Q: Moving on to brighter pastures, who inspires you as a director? Any role models?**

Woody Allen, despite the controversies surrounding his social life, is the director whose art I admire the most. I believe, and his track record and

host of prestigious awards agree with me, that he is one of the most accomplished directors of this age. The fact that he is well read and cultured, on top of being well versed in the art of filmmaking, shows in his deep and detailed understanding of nature. If you pay attention to the direction, dialogue, and scenes in his movies, and the manner in which they synchronise with each other, this becomes abundantly clear. His works are very romantic at heart, and it seems to be this perspective that allows him to tell captivating, sometimes sombre stories with empathy and humanity.

**Q: From your experience, which roles in the production chain (director, producer, writer, actor, cinematographer, etc.) are the most enjoyable and which are the most gruelling?**

I think the director has the hardest job. This is not because of some arbitrary measure of importance or status, but because the director is responsible for everything. Starting from their own work and down to the crafts and services departments that handle things like catering, directors more or less oversee the massive and complicated operation that is filmmaking. Thus, a director must quickly learn and master the roles of leader, psychologist, organizer, and so on. Much like in the cinematic aspect, where the director has to master different forms of artistic expression,



Cinema to me is the ultimate form of art. It is a medium which, within itself, holds all other forms of expression.

in the production chain, a director must have functional knowledge of the different operations that go into filmmaking. Actors, on the other hand, have a more enjoyable job. It is a job full of interaction, skill sharing, creativity, and an overall light atmosphere with responsibility limited to the person and the person alone. I am not calling it an easy job by any means, purely creative work is no easy task. For me, however, the independent and personal nature of acting makes it the most enjoyable.

**Q: Sile Fiker, which you directed, was released this year. What is most memorable to you about that experience?**

I think the experience on its own was a memorable moment in that it was a major turning point for me. This was a movie where I had to modify my directing due to the story concept, and that in itself made the entire process, from the start, one that has a significant place in my heart. Most of my previous projects had a darker tone; I had to grow and adapt as a director to make a complete

180-degree turn and take on an interesting challenge. In hindsight, I am more than thrilled that I chose the project as I was able to illustrate my capacity as a director both to myself and to the entire film community.

**Q: Would you describe yourself as a strict or lenient director? Do you allow rewrites based on suggestions from the cast, for example?**

I like to think I am a bit of both and take action based more on context than on any singular approach. I think it's important for any director to know when to put their foot down and when to be indulgent. There is a story that must be told, a direction that must be traveled, and as the leader of the project, the director must know when to make the process cooperative and when to make it unitary. This relates to the responsibility I mentioned earlier. Since the director takes responsibility for any and all outcomes, their decisions must be based on what is worth that risk and what is not. A notable and amusing example of this dichotomy is Alfred Hitchcock's practice of hiring someone simply

to fire them as a demonstration of his power. That is admittedly a bit aggressive for me, but I understand the effort to find a reasonable middle ground. Know when to say "NO" and know when to listen; it is a team effort, after all.

**Q: What are your top 3 movies of all time? (love, fear, laughter, joy, etc.) do you think is infinitely explorable in cinema?**

I think these concepts are too specific. I like to explore moments rather than specific moments. Moments make or break films, but I think the overall overarching concept and plot, the purpose, should always be the priority.

**Q: What drove you to start Ethio Film Productions?**

My drive behind Ethio Film Productions is inclusion. Film production in Ethiopia can sometimes be harsh to newcomers. I don't think this is by design, but simply because well-known names and faces have a higher potential to drive sales for projects. I would not

Photo by: Courtesy of Yonas Berhane Mewa



call it unfair, but I am speaking as a veteran filmmaker, not a newcomer. I believe Ethio Film Productions will improve this. New people are vital for any industry and its future, and the same holds true for Ethiopian cinema. With this company, I am better positioned to give a platform to talented and exciting new faces that will carry Ethiopian films into the next generation.

**Q: You mentioned familiar and famous driving sales. Is it difficult for you, as the owner of a production company, to choose good stories over profitable ones?**

I think it is important to strive towards a story that is both good and profitable, but yes, I believe a balance should be sought when needed. Small budget projects tend to have a lot of creative freedom since the funds are locally sourced, but major projects bring a certain level of expectation from investors, and these expectations must be met even if they go against the writers' or directors' intentions. The hard reality is that it's just business sometimes. But if I am the one funding the project, then I will absolutely pick a story that speaks to me and that I believe in rather than make a selection based on profits.

**Q: As the creator of the Gumma Film Awards, what excites you more, the end or the means? The filmmaking process or the red carpet?**

I think both are essential parts of filmmaking. Of course, the red carpet is more about glamour, but it is an important part of the process. It is an important promotional and marketing tool that one should not forego. However, at Gumma, for example, the carpet is now red, and it is a place for filmmakers to dress their best and bask in their peers' adoration. Additionally, most creative people tend to be introverted, so these kinds of events create a space to get out, mingle, and just have fun.

**Q: How many projects do you think are enough to build a sense of work ethic and accomplishment for a young actor before they are considered for The Gumma?**

I think an artist should be judged by the merits and quality of their work, not by how long they have been working. There is no specific number of projects that would make any artist better than another. The one and only thing that

matters is talent. Not projects, but talent.

**Q: What are your top 3 movies of all time?**

My favourite director, Woody Allen is my favourite director. I can hardly mention him without paying proper dues to his masterpieces; all three of the top three films are his creations. In no specific order, they are: *Midnight In Paris*, *Manhattan*, and *Annie Hall*.

**Q: What is your guilty pleasure movie? Or a film that you can watch at any time, on any day, regardless of its production value or plot?**

My guilty pleasure movies also come from a single director: Quentin Tarantino. I went to film school for many years, and seeing Tarantino's very unconventional method led me to appreciate his intelligence and wit. As such, my guilty pleasure movie would have to be *Pulp Fiction* and any other choice would still certainly be another Quentin Tarantino film.



Photo by: Courtesy of Yonas Berhane Mewa



# Rallying in Africa

Alula Abadi

There are few African nations that are identified as among the world's fastest-paced in development, excellent in trade decisions, and open-minded when it comes to culture and society. As such, not many even have recognition in the motorsport industry, with the exception of those like Angola, Morocco, and South Africa. All of these, also notorious for being hotbeds for the fusion of culture and the modern world, have hosted major rallies and races not just in the not-too-distant past, but going back decades. Unsurprisingly, they are home to four of the top five racing tracks on the continent, with South Africa leading the pack.



## Autodromo de Benguela, Angola

The Autódromo de Benguela is an oceanfront racing track situated west of the Benguela airport, about 800 metres away from the Atlantic Ocean. The circuit was designed to replace Circuito da Praia Morena, a street circuit in downtown Benguela that had been in use since the 1960s. The Autódromo was opened on May 21st, 1972, by G.C. At that time, only the race track itself was completed; there were no pit lanes or grandstands.



## Bredon-Everard Raceway, Zimbabwe

Also known as the Bulawayo Motorsport Park, Bredon Everard Raceway is a motor racing circuit in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. The circuit was built in 1969 G.C., when Zimbabwe was known as Rhodesia under the colonial rule of the British Empire. It was completed in December of the same year. It originally spanned 4.1 kilometres in length; it was shortened to 3.5 kilometres in 1975 G.C. The Bredon Everard Raceway hosted the Rhodesian Grand Prix on three separate occasions and hosted the Bulawayo Three-Hour sports car race once.



## Durban Street Circuit, South Africa

The Durban street circuit was a 3.3-kilometre temporary street circuit three hundred metres from Durban's North Beach and eight hundred metres from Durban's CBD. The circuit and infrastructure were designed and constructed under the oversight of D3 Motorsport Development. It was used for the A1 Grand Prix from 2006 to 2008 G.C. The first of the series was the first international open-wheel automobile race held in the country since the 1993 G.C., South African Grand Prix.



## Ain Diab Circuit, Morocco

The 76-kilometre Ain-Diab Circuit was designed by the Royal Automobile Club of Morocco and fully endorsed by Sultan Mohammad V; hence, the six-week construction period. The site hosted a non-championship F1 race as its debut event in 1957 G.C., then, on October 19 the next year, was the venue for the Moroccan Grand Prix, the final round of the F1 season. The winner, Stirling Moss, who was driving a VanWall, completed the fifty-three laps in 2h 09m 15.1s. Mike Hawthorn, who was driving a Ferrari 246, finished second, becoming the first British Formula One World Champion.



# Addis Go Kart

Amanu Teriessa

**I don't know anyone who doesn't think go karts are fun. They offer an opportunity to experience the thrill of the race—the staple of the lives of professional race car drivers—in a very safe environment. What's not to like? Whether or not the joy that comes with go karts merits a trip to Debrezeit (which used to be the closest place to Addis to find go karts) is another question all-together. When they introduced go karting to the city, Addis Go Kart offered the best possible escape from having to answer that question.**

Near Bisrate Gebriel International School, Addis Go Karts' main venue not only offers go karting but other games as well, including virtual reality games, video games, and (wait for it...) paintball!

The first (of many) unique offerings and amenities at Addis Go Kart is the indoor racing track. When I first learned about this, I was intrigued (and skeptical) about noise management. I later learned that, as it was two-level underground, no amount of motor ramping would disturb sleepy neighbors.

The thing is, the moment you walk in, you first (and only) feel the blaring sound of the karts. The roar of the karts zooming in and out of your view as they follow the sharp twists and turns of their tracks is daunting at first, but quickly forgotten. The track was like any other standard track with padded walls, treated floors for better grip, and most importantly, following a path

**It takes very little time to accelerate to your desired speed...you might want to take it slow at first."**

**...everyone is already geared up to be the one and only champion.**

consisting of a long stretch of straight road followed by numerous sharp turns.

While the carts have the capacity to carry two people at a time, during my stay, I did not see any single coupling. Not surprising, given that everyone is already gearing up to be the one and only champion, and the procedure is as simple as it gets: the right pedal is the gas, and the left pedal is the brake. Prepare for a shock when the engines start. Being in the same rink was incomparable to being within arm's length of those beasts. With the deafening sound jolting your senses awake, you are told to loosen the brakes and take off. You go.

It takes very little time to accelerate to your desired speed, so if it's your first time, you might want to take it slow at first. These things are no joke and can get up to uncontrollable speeds for the unwary beginner. Slow and steady is the way to learn the steering wheel's sensitivities.

Obviously, your run ends before you know it, but such is the price of fun. Especially if you're there for more

than just the main attraction. For console fans, there are orders for PlayStations with a variety of single-player and multiplayer games. If you want to lose your sense of reality, even for just a moment, there are also virtual reality games that will take you for a spin, or maybe just to the beach to escape the cold. Although the playing area is very small, those seeking a more physically demanding activity can don the protective gear and equipment, load the guns, and shoot pellets of pain at their friends in the paintball arena. Standards like pool, ping-pong, and foosball are also available.

The team at Addis Go Kart tell me, as they bid me farewell, that this is just the beginning, with bigger (and presumably faster) things on the way and huge changes already underway. However, like the underground track that might as well be a legend of the neighbourhood, they are keeping the goodies well-hidden as well.

Photo by: Hermela Haitu

Photo by: Hermela Haitu



# Bullet Train

Addis Abebaye

7.0/10

**The latest summer blockbuster action movie to grace the silver screen is David Leitch's *Bullet Train*, starring Brad Pitt, Aaron Taylor Johnson, Joey King, Brian Tyree Henry, Sandra Bullock, and reggaeton sensation Bad Bunny.**

*Bullet Train* is an adaptation of Japanese author Ktar Isaka's dark comedic novel, *Maria Beetle*. The book was later translated into English by Sam Melissa, who named it *Bullet Train*. The story follows several hitmen on a bullet train, each one of them on seemingly different missions that, as we learn as the movie progresses, are not so disconnected. With this intriguing basis, the movie unites some of the biggest names in the entertainment industry to create a vibrant, violent, and hilarious action-comedy film.

Going into the cinema I had zero expectations for this movie. The marketing painted the movie as a serious 90s macho action movie. The hyper-realistic action movie style was pioneered by visionary filmmakers like Quentin Tarantino and Robert Rodriguez in the 1990s, and many have attempted to imitate them since. Some were unbearable and unwatchable, but others triggered filmmakers like Guy Ritchie.

*Bullet Train* is probably the closest thing to a live-action anime, which is, obviously, absolutely fantastic. I was really surprised by how the movie blended humor and senseless violence in a novel way. The action pieces usually kick-off with slight banter between the subjects and lead to absolute mayhem. My favorite is probably the action sequence between Brad Pitt's "Ladybug" and Brian Tyree Henry's "Lemon." This scene is notable because there was no room to switch the actors with their doubles due to the tight space of the setting. So you would clearly see Brad Pitt and the other actors doing their stunts.

To be fair, the writing is not that strong. There are sections that have no real purpose or significance. Bad Bunny's character, "The Wolf," is treated to a lengthy back story and exposition that is absolutely meaningless because he gets stabbed by Lady Bug in the first twenty minutes. Keep in mind that the movie has a runtime exceeding two hours.

Another element that the filmmakers tried to push in this movie was their ability to hold people in suspense and disbelief. People I am just going to say, without spoiling

**The marketing painted the movie as a serious 90s macho action movie.**

anything, that one of the characters gets thrown out of the train when it makes a stop, tries to get back on the train by jumping on it and sticking to it as if he were Spider Man, and finally, to everyone's "disbelief," punches his way into the train.

Overall, it's a fun movie to watch with friends for a good laugh. It's not good enough for a rewatch, maybe something you might occasionally come back to after a year or two, and definitely not made for "serious" watching.



# The Suicide Squad

9.0/10

**The *Suicide Squad* was August's highest-budgeted movie from Warner Brothers, led by James Gunn. The *Guardians of the Galaxy* director was tasked with reenvisioning the disaster that was David Ayers' version back in 2016.**

The cast of this version of *The Suicide Squad* included John Cena, Idris Elba, Margot Robbie, Sylvester Stallone, and Viola Davies, with some returning from the 2016 version. *The Suicide Squad* grossed a total of 71 million on its opening weekend with a budget of 185 million, of which approximately 100 million went to promotion, 25 million in the United States and 45 million worldwide.

I would imagine that, much like myself, a good number of movie-goers went in with low expectations due to the unforgivable David Ayers' *Suicide Squad*. That crap of a movie remains fresh in the public's ire despite the six years that have elapsed since. The movie and property's lack of trust in David Ayers back in 2016 made the movie and property a laughing stock of pop culture. The one positive aspect of the en-

tire production effort came from the strong marketing direction.

It is no secret that Warner Brothers' DC universe is constantly being trashed by Universal's Marvel Studios every year with incredible works like *Avengers*, *Iron Man*, and *Spider Man*, to name a few. Warner Brothers has been struggling this past decade to produce something that could even remotely be on the same level as Marvel's works, but has failed miserably by popular consensus.

The hiring of James Gunn for this project was the best decision that the studio has made since the Zack Snyder cut. Unlike David Ayer, Warner Brothers learned from their mistake and gave James Gunn full creative control. The final product was incredibly layered with amazing action set pieces and flushed-out characters. The 2016 version had a lot of music that was just annoying and unnecessary. We know from James Gunn's filmography that he uses music to elevate the moments he creates, and that is exactly what he did, every track was a banger.

**The suicide squad receives our highest score to date; 9/10.**

Personally, I strongly recommend that you stop whatever you're doing and head to the nearest cinema to have a good time. This weather demands it. It needs elaboration.

**A good number of movie-goers went in with low expectations due to the unforgivable David Ayers' *Suicide Squad***





# Dulcimer and Begena

Alula Abadi

**The name 'Dulcimer' is one that you are extremely unlikely to encounter wherever you travel. While the sharp Kirar and the bass-heavy Begena of Ethiopia, for example, are names that are becoming more common in the global music scene, Dulcimer is as obscure as they come. As one might romantically presume from its name and the sound it makes, the dulcimer's origins are dark and confusing.**

As far as appearances go, the dulcimer resembles an elongated violin with three to five strings; players either pluck or bow these strings to create the mysterious, earthy tones the instrument is notorious for.

In the United States, the fretted dulcimer is better known as the mountain or Appalachian dulcimer. Players strum the dulcimer with a small stick or quill while their other hand stops one or more strings to create a heavy melody.

Before dulcimers found their way to the United States and then on to the rest of the world, however, they were predominantly celebrated in Europe and European cultures. European dulcimers such as the Alpine Hackbrett, the Hungarian Cimbalom, the Romanian Tambal, the Greek Santouri, and the Turkish and Persian Santur, as well as international styles like the Chinese Yangqin, have for each note two or more metal strings stretched across a flat, usually trap-

ezoidal sound box. The strings pass over one and under the other of two long bridges, sloping alternately right and left to facilitate rapid playing with light beaters or gongs. Dulcimers, or their earliest variations, are thought to have arrived in Europe from Persia around the 15th century CE.

At any rate, what makes the dulcimer so timeless and fascinating, much like any instrument that fits the description, is the distinctive design and the way it handles in the hands of a player.

The design of a dulcimer begins with a pattern. Size is



**What makes the Dulcimer so timeless and fascinating...is the distinctive design and the way it handles in the hands of a player**



determined from the outside in, while strings are typically between twenty-five and thirty inches in length. The soundbar is as long as the strings. However, to make the soundbar as long as the strings, it must be fixed to the soundbox with a nut several inches down from the top of the solid end of the box, making the soundbox longer than either the soundboard or the strings; it is usually six to eight inches wide and up to two inches deep.

The maximum measurements have proven to produce the best sound character, of course open to debate, including loudness and timbre (quality of sound). Fun fact: the hammered dulcimer produc-

es an unexpected sweet sound. In fact, the word dulcimer is derived from the Greek dulce, meaning sweet, and menos, meaning song.

With all these praises that can be sung for this instrument and its mysterious sound, whether sweet or sour, heavy or sharp, the dulcimer eludes so many, despite being simple and straightforward. My advice, if you ever come across this delightful masterpiece, don't allow its strange appearance, novelty, or eccentric name to discourage you from the curiosity that is sure to be gnawing at your inner dulcimer.



**Fun fact, the hammered dulcimer produces an unexpected sweet sound.**





# A Season of Self-Invention

Haben Woldu

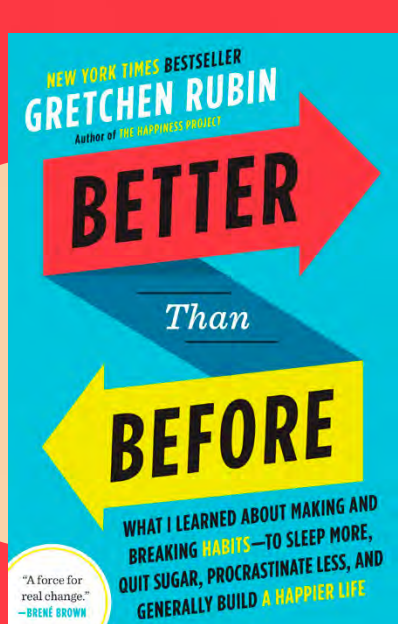
**The Ethiopian New Year falls on September 11th of each year. For Ethiopians at home and in the diaspora, it means making new promises to ourselves, letting go of the past year, and most importantly, reflecting on what we want from the year ahead. Often, resolutions fail because they are too broad, vague, or restrictive with no clear strategy.**

When armed with the right knowledge, skills, and plans, however, there is no limit to the goals we can accomplish. Thus, to help you on your journey to better resolutions, resolutions that will stick (because we all deserve a win in this crazy world), I've rounded up my best books for inspiration, optimism, and motivation. The last couple of years have been particularly tough on the world with extreme inflation and instability in the country, in addition to the COVID pandemic.

I hope you have found books to be sources of inspiration and balms of healing during those difficult times. I wish you all a season of rebirth and revival!

## 1. Better Than Before by Gretchen Rubin

**Read if:** *your resolution is to build certain habits or ditch old ones.*



In this practical and helpful book, Gretchen Rubin explores every approach that works when building new habits and letting go of bad ones, looking to tackle the critical question, 'How can we make good habits and break bad ones?' With her signature mix of rigorous research, easy humor, and personal testimonies, she investigates how we can change our habits for real.

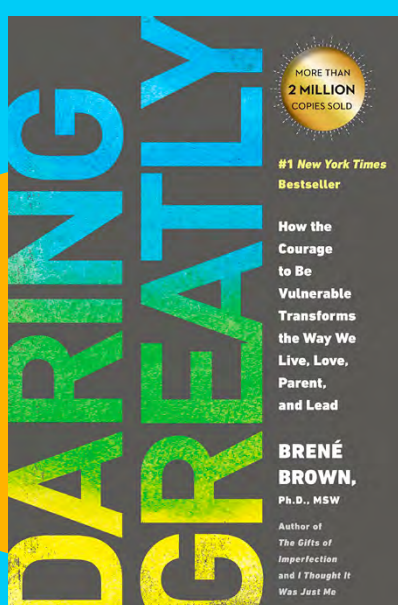
In a book that's bursting with big, provocative ideas, Rubin shows readers how to create the habits that will transform their lives, regardless of past failures. It takes work to make a habit, but once that habit is set, we can harness the energy of habits to build happier, stronger, more productive lives.

I find the topic of habit formation (or breaking) really interesting, which is probably why I liked this book. Aside from my personal curiosity, however, this book did offer me many tools for habit building that I plan to incorporate into my everyday life! If you are interested in forming new/better habits or breaking bad ones, this book has so many gems and will equip you with tools for success. I highly recommend you give this a read.

**Musical Pairing:** **"Work"** by Rihanna is the perfect song to play in the background as you read this inspirational book. Does this need an explanation, honestly? This jam might be about a relationship on its last legs, but it applies to anything you need to give your all to.

## 2. Daring Greatly: How the Courage to Be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead by Brené Brown

**Read if:** *you're ready to make some serious changes within yourself.*



Daring Greatly is a comprehensive guide to achieving your resolutions from researcher turned author Brené Brown. In this book, Brown argues that vulnerability is the secret to a successful, happy life and tells us just how to get it.

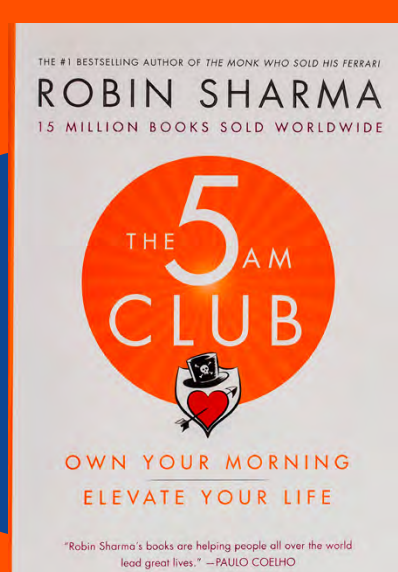
The author takes a hard look at what vulnerability itself is, where our fear to be vulnerable comes from, what keeps us from allowing us to be vulnerable even when we identify those fears, and how it impacts all of us differently depending on gender, class, and other factors. She backs up her conclusions with research data, numbers, anecdotes and helpful insights into her own life. You will really enjoy her humor and candor from start to finish as she looks at vulnerability as a woman, professional, partner, friend, and parent.

The bottom line is that we are hard-wired to be connected to others. However, these connections cannot happen if we do not allow ourselves to open up, welcoming vulnerability. For me, the topic of vulnerability is a topic that is often left unaddressed in our culture despite its importance. May this book inspire all of us to be more vulnerable, more open, more present, and more of who we are as we start the New Year.

**Musical Pairing:** It's scary to open up to another person – what if your heart gets broken? – but it's almost always worth it. Prepare to feel all the feels and be reminded that being vulnerable and baring it all is worth it with **"Love me now"** by John Legend!

## 3. The 5 a.m club by Robin Sharma

**Read if:** *your resolutions are career-focused.*



Legendary leadership and elite performance expert Robin Sharma introduced The 5 AM Club concept over twenty years ago based on a revolutionary morning routine that has helped his clients maximize their productivity, activate their best health, and bulletproof their serenity in this age of overwhelming complexity.

Through an enchanting story about two struggling strangers who meet an eccentric tycoon who becomes their secret mentor, The 5 AM Club will walk you through:

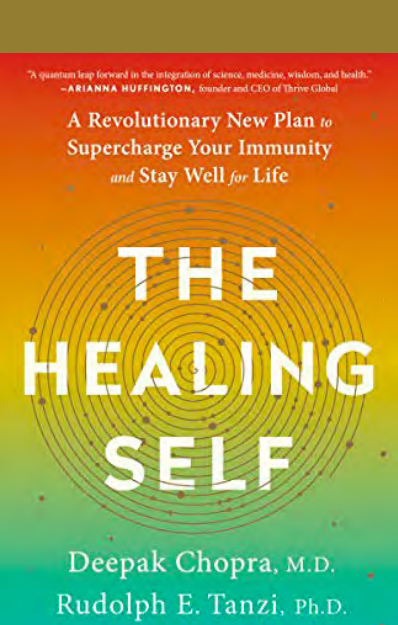
- how great geniuses, business titans, and the world's wisest people start their mornings to produce astonishing achievements
- a little-known formula to wake up early feeling inspired, focused, and flooded with a fiery drive to get the most out of each day
- a step-by-step method to protect the quietest hours of daybreak so you have time for exercise, self-renewal, and personal growth

The 5 AM Club is a work that will transform your life. For those of us who are morning people, it provides further motivation to stay committed to our morning rituals; for those who struggle with mornings, it provides inspiration for change and conquering a grueling battle.

**Musical Pairing:** **"On the Run"** by Beyonce and Jay Z will forever be my song of choice when I want to have a productive morning. This power couple are the epitome of living the life of your dreams and going after your goals with all your heart!

## 4. The Healing Self by Deepak Chopra

**Read if:** *you're looking for a new perspective to change your health.*



Who better to give you helpful advice on taking care of your body, mind, and soul than Deepak Chopra? There is a reason thousands, including Oprah Winfrey, have turned to this spiritual guru when undergoing a journey of spiritual awakening. If you are a beginner in the practice of self healing, this book will serve as the ultimate foundation of getting that journey started right. If you already know how to eat better, get enough sleep, and exercise, it will serve to deepen your enlightenment and motivate you towards greater inner and outer healing.

The Healing Self is divided into two parts. The first part, 'The Healing Journey', covers the journey towards healing our bodies, minds, and spirits backed with scientific data and research. The second part is titled 'A 7-Day Action Plan', where all the information from the first part is broken down into workable action steps for a full week.

A great read for anyone looking to improve their overall health beyond just the physical, linking the mind, body, and spirit for holistic growth. I suggest trying one of Deepak's 21-day spiritual world and meditation practices after reading this book. Trust me your world will be greatly altered and you will be filled with so much joy!

**Musical Pairing:** **"Joy"** by King and Country is a great anthem and song that will be a perfect song to start your spiritual journey! Don't sleep on Deepak and don't sleep on King Country as they are masters in their domain and will lead you to mastering a life of mindfulness.



# Addis Arts Karta

In partnership with Link Up Addis, the “Addis Arts Karta” brings together user-friendly information about the exciting network of galleries and craft stores based in the city of Addis Ababa.

The 25 locations listed here can be easily found on googlemaps and have regular opening hours. First launched in 2019, the “Addis Arts Karta” is an ongoing initiative which aims to contribute to the growing cultural economy of Addis Ababa, facilitating information for visitors and fostering connections between art lovers and artists.

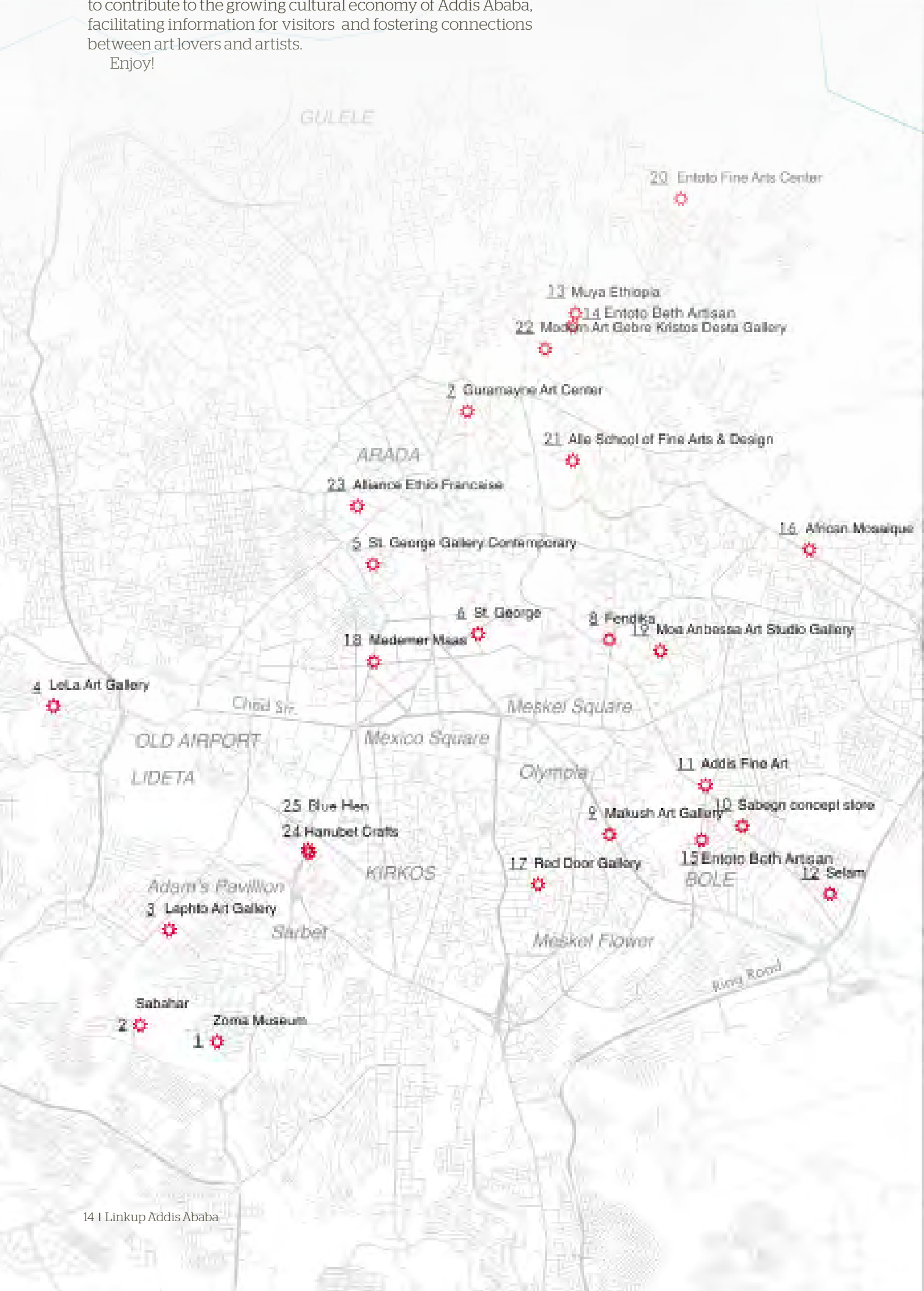
Enjoy!

Comments or suggestions?

Email [addisartskarta@gmail.com](mailto:addisartskarta@gmail.com)

Concept: Adriana Telles Ribeiro

Design: Nadezhda Bobyleva





# LOCATIONS

- 1** Zoma Museum  
Area: Mekonisa, Vatican Embassy  
Tuesday – Sunday, 10 AM – 8 PM  
T: + 251 118354262  
+ 251 941246180
- 2** Sababar Crafts  
Area: Old Airport  
Monday – Friday, 8:30 – 5 PM,  
Saturday 10 AM – 5PM  
T: +251 11 321 5112/3
- 3** Laphta Art Gallery  
Area: Mekonisa  
Wednesday – Monday, 10 AM – 6 PM  
T: +251 93 971 2314
- 4** LeLa Gallery  
Area: Old Airport, Golf Club  
Wednesday – Sunday, 10 AM – 6 PM  
T: +251 11 653 6506/ 91 130 0756
- 5** St. George Gallery  
Area: Arada  
Monday – Saturday, 9 AM – 1 PM,  
2:30 PM – 6:30 PM  
T: +251 11 551 0983
- 6** St. George Gallery Interior&Decor  
Area: Kazanchis  
Monday – Saturday, 9 AM – 1 PM, 2:30  
PM – 6:30 PM  
T: +251 11 551 0983
- 7** Guramayne Art Center  
Area: Piazza  
Tuesday – Sunday, 10 AM – 7 PM or  
by appointment
- 8** Fendika Gallery  
Area: Kazanchis  
Monday – Sunday, 13 PM – 6PM,  
21 PM – 4 AM  
T: +251 91 154 7577
- 9** Makush Gallery  
Area: Bole, Airport Road  
Monday – Sunday, 9 AM – 9 PM  
T: +251 11 552 6848/11 552 6855
- 10** Sabegn Concept Space  
Area: Bole Mehanemalem  
Monday – Saturday, 10 AM – 8PM,  
Sunday 10 AM – 5PM  
T: +251 92 913 1940
- 11** Addis Fine Arts  
Area: Atlas  
Tuesday – Saturday, 10 AM – 6 PM  
T: +251 91 342 6553
- 12** Selam Crafts  
Area: Bole Mehanemalem  
Monday – Saturday, 9 AM – 6PM  
T: +251 91 152 9682
- 13** Muya Ethiopia  
Area: Mennan  
Monday – Saturday, 8 AM – 5 PM  
T: + 251 11 123 4015
- 14** Entoto Bath Artisan  
Area: Mennan  
Monday - Friday 8 AM - 5 PM  
T: +251 11 896 5097
- 15** Entoto Bath Artisan  
Area: Bole EIU Road  
Monday – Saturday, 8 AM – 5 PM  
Saturday – 8 AM – 12 PM
- 16** African Masaique  
Area: Yeka Shola  
Monday -Saturday, 9 AM-5 PM  
T: +251978110431/By appointment
- 17** Red Door  
Area: Lanza  
By appointment  
T: + 251 912802149
- 18** Medemer Maas  
Area: Gama Kuteba  
Monday -Saturday, 10 AM - 6 PM  
or by appointment  
T: +251 91 250 7811
- 19** Maa Arbessa Art Studio Gallery  
Area: Kazanchis  
By appointment  
T: + 251 91 186 4677
- 20** Entoto Fine Arts Center  
Area: Entoto Park  
Tuesday -Sunday, 9h30AM - 4 PM
- 21** Allé School of Fine Arts and Design Gallery  
Area: Addis Ababa University  
Monday-Friday, 9AM - 5PM  
T: +251 11 123 2832
- 22** Modern Art Gebra Kristos Desta Gallery  
Area: Addis Ababa University  
Friday - Wednesday, 9 AM - 5PM  
T: +251 11 122 1695
- 23** Alliance Ethio-Française Gallery  
Area: Piazza  
Monday - Saturday 9 AM - 6 PM  
T: +251 91 124 7354
- 24** Hanubet Homek Design  
Open daily 10 AM - 6 PM  
T: + 251 98 217 6367
- 25** Blue Hen  
Area: Sarbet  
Tuesday-Sunday 9AM - 7 PM  
T: +251 94 597 5050



# Hotels in Addis



## Sheraton Addis: Luxury Collection

**Location:** Taytu Street  
**Contact No:** +251 11 517 1717  
**Website:** <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/addlc-sheraton-addis-a-luxury-collection-hotel-addis-ababa/>  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Ethiopian Skylight Hotel

**Location:** Taytu Street  
**Email:** reservation@ethiopiaskylighthotel.com  
**Contact No:** +251 11 6818181 or +251 11 6176389  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Hyatt Regency Addis Ababa

**Location:** Meskel Square  
**Contact No:** +251 11 517 1234  
**Website:** [www.hyatt.com](http://www.hyatt.com)  
**Star:** ★★★★★



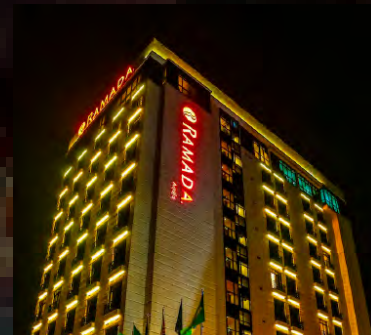
## Best Western Plus Addis Ababa

**Location:** Namibia Street (Across Morning Star Mall)  
**Contact No:** +251 11 667 1414  
**Website:** [www.bwplusaddisababa.com](http://www.bwplusaddisababa.com)  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Hilton Hotel: Addis Ababa

**Location:** Minilik II Street  
**Contact No:** +251 11 517 0000  
**Website:** [addisababa.hilton.com](http://addisababa.hilton.com)  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Ramada Hotel

**Location:** Africa Street  
**Contact No:** +251 11 639 3131  
**Website:** <https://www.ramadaaddis.com/>  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Intercontinental Hotel

**Location:** Kazanchis  
**Contact No:** +251 11 518 0444  
**Website:** <http://intercontinentaladdis.com/>  
**Star:** ★★★★★



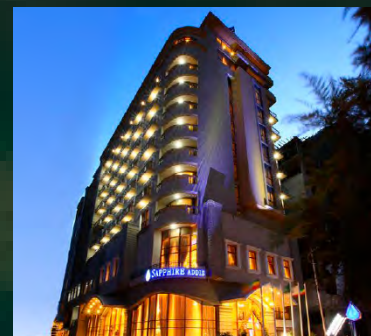
## Capital Hotel and Spa

**Location:** Haile G/silassie Avenue  
**Contact No:** +251 116 19 2000  
**Website:** <https://capitalhotelandspa.com/>  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Golden Tulip

**Location:** Bole Road  
**Contact No:** +251 116 18 33 33  
**Website:** <https://addis-ababa.goldentulip.com/>  
**Star:** ★★★★★



## Sapphire Addis

**Location:** Namibia Street  
**Contact No:** +251 639 3907  
**Website:** <https://www.sapphireaddishotel.com/>  
**Star:** ★★★★★



# Cafe & Pastries

Your choices for the best Ethiopian Coffee Experience



## Tomocca

**Location:** Namibia Street (Next to Bole Medhaniale), Piassa Across Eliana Hotel  
**Contact No:** +251 93 007 8086  
**Closes at:** 8:00PM  
**Customer Rating:** 4.8/5



## Cascara Coffee & Cocktails

**Location:** Meskel Square (Inside Hyatt Regency)  
**Contact No:** +251 11 517 1234  
**Closes at:** 12:00AM  
**Customer Rating:** 5.0/5



## Chaka Coffee

**Location:** Africa Avenue  
**Contact No:** +251 91 120 2888  
**Closes at:** 9:00PM  
**Customer Rating:** 4.4/5



## Bilos Cafe & Pastry

**Location:** Next to Millennium Hall  
**Contact No:** +251 93 003 3177  
**Closes at:** 8:30PM  
**Customer Rating:** 4.4/5



## Tryst Addis

**Location:** Olympia (on the way from Dembel City Center to Bambis)  
**Contact No:** +251 94 406 1818  
**Closes at:** 7:00PM  
**Customer Rating:** 4.4/5



## Bake and Brew

**Location:** Bole, in front of Tele next to Rungo liquor store  
**Contact No:** +251 11 835 9698  
+251 91 015 1248  
**Closes at:** 8:00PM  
**Website:** [bakeandbrewaddis.com](http://bakeandbrewaddis.com)  
**Customer Rating:** 4.3/5



## Dumerso Coffee

**Location:** South Africa Street (Bisrate Gabriel)  
**Contact No:** +251 320 3973  
**Closes at:** 8:30PM  
**Customer Rating:** 4.8/5



## YA Coffee Roasters

**Location:** CMC Road, Next to Gesund Cardiac Hospital  
**Contact No:** +251 92 795 7171  
**Closes at:** -  
**Customer Rating:** 4.9/5



## Feresula Coffee

**Location:** Africa Street  
**Contact No:** +251 96 641 1151  
**Closes at:** 6:00pm  
**Customer Rating:** 5.0/5



# Coworking Spaces

Affordable spaces for startups looking for spaces to work and for business people in Addis for a short or long-term stay



## iceaddis

**Location:** Bole, Near Hayat Hospital, Zewdu Bldg. 5th floor

**Contact:** [www.iceaddis.com](http://www.iceaddis.com)  
[contact@iceaddis.com](mailto:contact@iceaddis.com)  
 +251 11 667 4804

**Services:** High speed wifi, standing desks, bean bags, printer, scanner, projector, microphone, kitchen, free parking

**Starting Rates :** 380ETB/day



## Blue Space

**Location:** Namibia Street, Grace Plaza 4th Floor, near Atlas Hotel

**Contact:** [www.bluespace.work](http://www.bluespace.work)  
[info@bluespace.work](mailto:info@bluespace.work)

**Services:** High speed wifi, working desks, printer, scanner, projector, relax zone, kitchen

**Starting Rates :** 350ETB/day



## Xhub Addis

**Location:** Cameroon Street, Morning Star Mall 5th Floor

**Contact:** <http://xhubaddis.com/working/>  
[info@xhubaddis.com](mailto:info@xhubaddis.com)  
 +251 91 170 1361

**Services:** Wifi, free photocopy/print (30 pages)

**Starting Rates :** 250ETB/day



## Abro Coworking Space

**Location:** Namibia Street

**Contact:** <https://abro-co-working-space.business.site/>  
 +251 911 11 0742

**Services:** Wifi, photocopy/print, desk, chair

**Starting Rates :** 250ETB/day

# Restaurants

If you are thinking to explore international and cultural cuisine Addis has to offer, here are a few you may consider.

## Italian restaurants



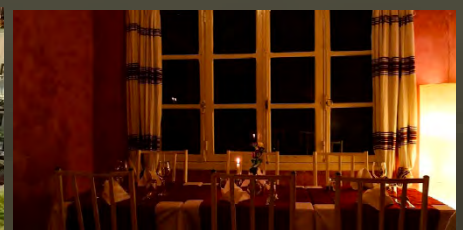
### Agnese Restaurant

**Location:** Old Airport  
**Contact:** +251 98 048 3824



### Castelli Italian Restaurant

**Location:** Piassa, Mahatama-Gandhi Street, in front of Mohamud Music Shop  
**Contact:** +251 11 557 1757



### Mama Mia Italian Restaurant

**Location:** Next to Mele Zenawi Foundation, DAR Sahara Street  
**Contact:** +251 92 900 2218



### Bella Pizza & Pasta

**Location:** Bole Medhanialem, Near Abyssinia Mall  
**Contact:** +251 94 141 5422



### Dok Restaurant

**Location:** Next to Bole Medhane Alem Church on Cameroon Street between Zemen Bank & Abyssinia Bank  
**Contact:** +25195 399 2126  
**Working Hours:** Mon - Sun: 08:00 am - 12:00 pm  
**Website:** [www.dokrestaurantaddis.com/](http://www.dokrestaurantaddis.com/)  
**Email:** [dokrestaurant1@gmail.com](mailto:dokrestaurant1@gmail.com)

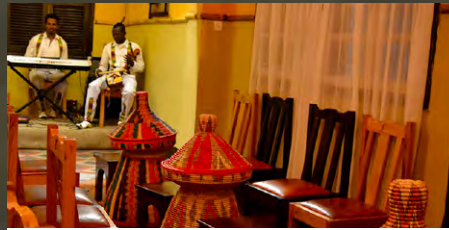


# Ethiopian Cultural restaurants



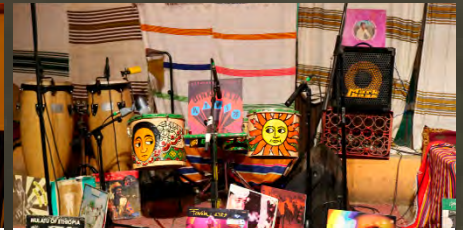
## Yod Abyssinia Cultural Restaurant

**Location:** Carl Square, Sar Bet  
**Contact:** +2516612985  
**Known for:** Ethiopian food, cultural performances



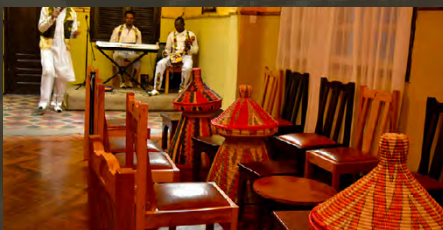
## Dashen Traditional Restaurant

**Location:** DAR Sahara Street, Near Swedish Community School  
**Contact:** +251 91 120 1723  
**Known for:** Cozy atmosphere, cultural performances



## Fendika Cultural Center

**Location:** Kazanchis  
**Contact:** +251 91 154 7577  
**Known for:** Exceptional jazz and Ethiopian Azmaris



## Desalech Kitfo

**Location:** Africa Avenue, behind Skylight Hotel  
**Contact:** +251 91 123 1859  
**Known for:** Ethiopian traditional kitfo (minced meat)



## Totot

**Location:** Anbessa Garage, In Front of World Vision, Bole Sub city, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.  
**Contact:** +251 646 0718  
**Contact:** totottraditionalrestaurant.com



## 2000 Habesha Cultural Restaurant

**Location:** Namibia St. on the way to Atlas, in front of Romie Burger  
**Contact:** +251 91 151 2590  
**Website:** 2000habesha.com

# Middle Eastern & Mediterranean restaurants



## Bait Al Mandi

**Location:** Mickey Leland/ EU Street  
**Contact:** +251 91 151 8903  
**Known for:** Middle Eastern Mediterranean Cuisine



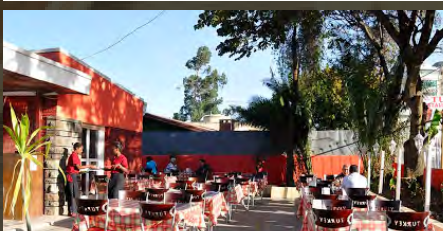
## The Kitchen

**Location:** Meskel Square, Inside Hyatt Regency  
**Contact:** +251 11 517 1234  
**Known for:** Mediterranean Cuisine



## Aladdin Restaurant

**Location:** Off Bole Road, near Japanese Embassy Residence  
**Contact:** +251 11 6614109  
**Known for:** Arabian Cuisine



## Istanbul Restaurant

**Location:** Cameroon Street, across Ukrainian Embassy  
**Contact:** +251 910 17 4728  
**Known for:** Turkish cuisine

# Modern Restaurants



## Golden Plate Restaurant

**Location:** Abessinia Building, 1st floor Cameroon St  
**Contact:** +251 95 225 5555  
**Website:** goldencatering.net



# Marketing Companies in Addis



## Profit Marketing Solutions

**Location:** Cameroon Street, Gulf Aziz Building, 2nd Floor  
**Contact No:** +251 953 42 77 97  
info@profit.com



## Ttree Advertising

**Location:** Cape Verde Street, KT Building, 3rd Floor  
**Contact No:** +251 118 21 2112  
info@ttreadvertising.com  
ttreadvertising.com



## 251 Communications

**Location:** Gabon Street, Aster Plaza, 3rd Floor  
**Contact No:** +251 116 63 0182  
info@251communications.com  
<https://251communications.com>



## Spotlight Ethiopia

**Location:** Africa Avenue, DH Geda Tower, 7th Floor  
**Contact No:** +251 913 98 6445  
<https://spotlightplc.com>



## Zeleman Communications

**Location:** Africa Avenue, Snap Plaza, Snap Plaza, 10th floor  
**Contact No:** +251 116 63 2800  
info@zeleman.com  
<https://zeleman.com>



## Cactus Communications

**Location:** Africa Avenue, Bedesta Building, 4th floor  
**Contact No:** +251 115 54 4901  
info@cactusethiopia.com  
<http://cactusethiopia.com/>



## Berry Advertising

**Location:** Cameroon Street, Gulf Aziz Building, 3rd Floor  
**Contact No:** +251 930 07 8086  
[www.berryethiopia.com](http://www.berryethiopia.com)



## Eternal Media & Communication

**Location:** Gabon Street, Aster Plaza  
**Contact No:** +251 114 70 3039  
info@eternalmedia.com  
<https://eternal-media.com>



## Orangeswitch Creative Agency

**Location:** Bole Medhanealem, WoldeFikir Building, 3rd Floor  
**Contact No:** +251 116 723 030  
**Email:** Hello@orangeswitch.com  
**Website:** www.orangeswitch.com



# Parks & Museums in Addis



## Zoma Museum

**Location:** Mekanisa, Near Abo Church

**Contact No:** <https://www.zomamuseum.org/>

**Feature:** Landscaping, gardens, antique shop



## Addis Ababa Museum

**Location:** Meskel Square

**Contact No:** <http://www.addisababa.gov.et/de/web/guest/museums#3>

**Feature:** Museum, Restaurant, Panoramic View of Meskel Square



## Unity Park

**Location:** Inside Ethiopian National Palace

**Contact No:** [unitypark.et](http://unitypark.et)

**Feature:** Historical palaces, Zoo, cultural museum, restaurants



## African Unbound

**Location:** Off Churchill Road (On the way to National Palace)

**Contact No:** <https://africanunboundmuseum.com/>

**Feature:** African Arts



## Entoto Park

**Location:** Entoto Hills

**Contact No:** -

**Feature:** Bicycle and track, reading benches, camping site, restaurants, panoramic view of Addis Ababa

# Leather shops in Addis

The leather industry in Addis is thriving with countless local and international leather lines. Here are a few.



## Kuncho Design

**Website:** <https://www.kunchodesign.com/>

**Contact:** [kunchodesign@gmail.com](mailto:kunchodesign@gmail.com)  
+251 96 799 5384



## Undken- Made in Ethiopia

**Website:** <http://www.undken.com/>

**Contact:** +251 912 75 2524



## Meron Addis Ababa

**Website:** <https://www.meronaddisababa.com/>

**Contact:** [info@meronaddisababa.com](mailto:info@meronaddisababa.com)  
+251 911 12 2108




## Zaaf Collection

**Website:** <https://www.zaafcollection.com/>

**Contact:** +251 910 14 9965



# Electronics stores




**HEY Online market**

**Known for:** Phones, computers, cameras and other electronic devices retail

**Location:** Bole Medehanealem, Hidmona Bulding Ground floor #12

**Contact No:** +251 95 396 4175




**Ramanet Computer Solutions**

**Known for:** electronics retail, accessories, maintenance

**Location:** Bole Road DH Geda Tower G Floor, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and DH Geda Mezanine floor Office #2

**Contact No:** +251 92 234 3536, +251 91 121 3566




**Bino Tech Store**

**Known for:** electronics retail, accessories, maintenance

**Location:** Bole Medehanealem, Berhane Adere Building 1st floor #119floor #12

**Contact No:** +251 91 181 1446



**Yonas Mobile**

**Known for:** mobile maintenance and Unlocking service provider in Ethiopia. loaded with dedicated mobile engineers.

**Location:** Awlo Buisness center First floor office #102

**Contact No:** +251 91 191 1111

# Medical Centers

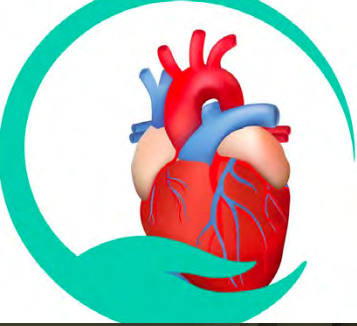


**Washington Medical Center**

**Location:** Bole, In front of Rwanda Embassy

**Contact No:** +251939515151/+251939525252

**Email:** frontdesk@wmcethiopia.com




**Addis Cardiac Hospital**

**Location:** Bole Ring Road in front of Ethiopian Airlines Head Quarters

**Contact No:** +25116634720/40/41

**Email:** info@addiscardiac.com



**Nordic Medical Centre (NMC)**

**Location:** Around Rwanda Embassy, in front of Tizeze hotel

**Contact No:** 8901 or +251929105653

**Email:** reception@nordicmedicalcentre.com



**Bethzatha General Hospital**

**Location:** Next to Addis Ababa Stadium

**Contact No:** 7477 or +251115514141





### MCM General Hospital

**Location:** Wereda 14, Gerji, Bole Sub-City  
**Contact No:** (Ethiopia) +251116292963  
(S.Korea) +82269309555  
**Email:** msmcmet@gmail.com



### Landmark General Hospital

**Location:** Mozambique St, Kirkos  
Subcity  
**Contact No:** +251115525463  
**Email:** contact@landmarkhospital.et



### Droga Physiotherapy Specialty Clinic

**Bole Branch:** Next to Japan Embassy  
**Contact No:** +251116687006  
+251974959595  
**Email:** info@drogaphysiotherapy.com

## Cinemas



### Vamdas Entertainment

**Location:** Megenagna, next to Panorama hotel  
**Contact No:** +251910878248  
+251118678098



### Alem Cinema

**Location:** Africa Avenue  
**Contact No:** +251986959595  
**Website:** www.alemcinema.com



### Century Cinema

**Location:** Gurd Shola  
**Contact No:** +251987202020  
**Website:** www.centurymalladdis.com



### Gast Cinema

**Location:** CMC, in front of St. Michael Church  
**Contact No:** +251930113388  
**Email:** www.cinema.gastmall.com



# Ride Hailing Apps



## ZayRide

**Location:** Bole Mafi Mall  
#602, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Call Center:** 6303  
**Telephone:** +251 116 721 052  
**Website:** [www.zayride.com/](http://www.zayride.com/)  
**Email:** [info@zayride.com](mailto:info@zayride.com)



## Seregela All Women Drivers

**Location:** Merkeb Plaza, 5th Floor,  
Bole, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

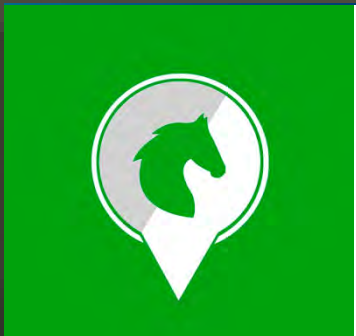
**Call Center:** 7878  
**Telephone:** +251 11 557 3640/43/44  
**Website:** [www.seregelagroup.com/](http://www.seregelagroup.com/services/)  
**Email:** [hello@seregelagroup.com](mailto:hello@seregelagroup.com)



## Ride

**Location:** Shekinah Bldg 4th floor,  
Bole, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

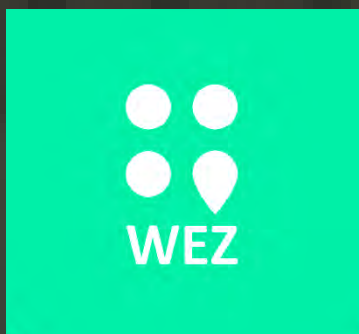
**Call Center:** 8294  
**Website:** [www.ride8294.com](http://www.ride8294.com)  
**Email:** [Support@ride8294.com](mailto:Support@ride8294.com)



## Feres

**Location:** Getu Commercial  
Business Center, Airport Road,  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Telephone:** +25190 704 0404  
**Call Center:** 6090  
**Website:** [www.feres.et](http://www.feres.et)  
**Email:** [info@feres.et](mailto:info@feres.et)



## WEZ Ride

**Location:** Raksym Plaza, Bole  
Medhanealem, Addis Ababa,  
Ethiopia, ET

**Website:** [www.wez.et](http://www.wez.et)

# Apartments



## La villa Apartments

**Location:** Around Urael Church,  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
**Telephone:** +251 97 289 8989



## Red Door Apartments

**Location:** Wello sefer Ethio-China  
friendship road, KADCO Group  
No.2 Building 1st floor

**Line Number:** +251 11 443 0597  
**Phone number:** +251 98 396 9696  
3640/43/44  
**Email:** [info@Reddoor.et](mailto:info@Reddoor.et)



## Zen Apartments

**Location:** Olympia/Kasanchis-  
Kirkos Wereda01 House Nb 200  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Telephone:** +251 980 193313  
+251 91 140 2093  
**Website:** <http://www.zenapartmentsaddis.com/>  
**Email:** [zenaparts@gmail.com](mailto:zenaparts@gmail.com)



## Noah Real Estate

**Location:** Abyssinia Plaza, 12th  
Floor in Bole Right beside Bole  
Medhanealem Church

**Telephone:** 6100  
+25194 911 1111  
**Website:** <http://www.noahrealestateplc.com/>