

Abdu Mongo Ali  
Baltimore, MD  
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## CV

### Education

2014, BA, University of Baltimore, Baltimore, MD

### Summary

Erected from the ghettos of Baltimore, Abdu Ali raps, sings, and chats over unorthodox and future sounds, creating music that's visceral, spiritual, and very real. From his energetic visceral performances, spiritualizing audiences as a cosmic, punk, and soulful tempest on stage to his work to transcend musical boundaries has put in him in genre categories along lines of afro-futurism to noise rap to "post-apocalyptic" sounding.

Championing Baltimore Club music in the fabric in most of his beats, through his work as a curator of Kahlon, think piece writings, poetry,, and outspokenness via social media/interviews Ali, has been elected as a radical underground Baltimore music and cultural figure. Unapologetically black and queer, Abdu Ali is bold, raw, and most importantly life-affirming.

Abdu Ali has done several tours all over the US and released 4 music project with his latest mixtape MONGO making plenty of noise in the underground. He has shared the same stage with various artists like Big Freedia to MC Lyte to Venus x, performed at many colleges, has toured with Lower Dens in Fall 2015, and his work has been covered by Complex, AfroPunk, Saint Heron, Noisey, Impose Magazine, Stereogum, The Fader, and many more

### Published Writings

- 2012 Poetry, *Untitled*, Welter Magazine
- 2013 Poetry, *Dissolution*, Welter Magazine
- 2015 Op - Ed, *Why We Mad Tho?*, Afropunk
- Op - Ed, *Keep Movin': Abdu Ali talks about moving back to Baltimore*, Baltimore City Paper
- Nonfiction, *Slapped Up*, Baltimore City Paper
- Blog Series, *QTIPOCs On The Block*, True Laurels
- 2016 Essay, *Looking for Black Art in Baltimore Conversations With Joyce J. Scott & Theresa Chromati*, Art Papers Magazine
- Review, *As the Ocean Tells Me So*, Queen Mob's Tea House

### Selected Performances

- 2013 Music Performance, SXSW GaybiGayGay,
- Music Performance, Transmodern Festival
- 2014 Music Performance, Idapalooza
- Music Performance, Fields Festival
- 2015 Music Performance, Off Brand Fest presented by Impose Magazine, Brooklyn, NY
- Music Performance, Via Fest, Pittsburgh, PA
- Performance Art, Borders, Boundaries, & Barricades presented by LabBodies, Gallery CA, Baltimore, MD
- 2016 Music Performance, Im Alive, The Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, Atlanta, GA
- Reading, Tender FM x BALTI GURLS, The Crown, Baltimore, MD
- Music Performance, Renne Fayre, Reed College, Portland, Oregon
- Music Performance, Summer Music Series, Holding Space, Sculpture Center, Queens, NY
- Music Performance, You Are Here (Trouble Maze), Knockdown Center, Queens, NY
- Music Performance, Southern Fried Queer Festival, EyeDrum Gallery, Atlanta, Georgia

### Curatorial Exhibitions

- 2013 Arts Editor, Welter Magazine, Baltimore, MD
- 2014 (2014 - Present) Music and Art Show Series, Kahlon, Baltimore, MD
- 2016 Multimedia Presentation, Im Alive, The Crown, Baltimore, MD  
(2015 - Present) Music and Civic Engagement showcase, EarthseedxEarthseed, Baltimore, MD  
Multimedia Community Block party, People 4 People, Baltimore, MD  
Music Showcase for Queer People of Color, SupaBent, The Crown, Baltimore, MD  
Multimedia Presentation, The Ointment, Signal Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
Scriptures, The Word
- 2017 Multimedia Pop Up Exhibition, Proximity to Dead Skin, Emp Collective, Baltimore, MD

### Lectures/Panels

- 2014 *Panel*, Baltimore City Paper Presents: Blade Runner, Baltimore, MD
- 2015 *Panel*, Bridging the Gap of Disparities in the Baltimore Art Scene hosted by Art-Part'heid, Baltimore, MD  
*Presentation*, Do The Right Thing for The Maryland Film Festival, Baltimore, MD  
*Lecture*, Organizing, Race, Queer identity, for Visibility SAAB Lecture Series, BB Gallery, Baltimore, MD
- 2016 *Panel*, People of Color in DIY, MacRock Festival, Harrisonburg, VA

### Selected Bibliography

1. [Myspace: Artist of Day](#)
2. [Teen Vogue: Coolest Queers on The Internet](#)
3. [The Fader: Abdu Ali Debuts Mongo](#)
4. [Impose Magazine: ABDU ALI, FREDDIE GRAY, COPS, SUPERHEROES, AND ANTI-HEROES](#)
5. [TIU Magazine: ABDU ALI ES MÚSICA PARA LA NUEVA RESISTENCIA](#)
6. [Les InRocks: Abdu Ali, rappeur queer de Baltimore à découvrir absolument](#)
7. <http://www.steinershow.org/podcasts/community-event/baltimore-musician-and-writer-abdu-ali/>
8. [Saint Heron: ABDU ALI WELCOMES US TO HIS SURREAL WORLD IN NEW ANIMATED VISUAL](#)
9. [Time Out NY: Hot List](#)
10. [Noisey: BALTIMORE'S NEW WAVE OF RAP IS LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE SEEN FROM THE CITY BEFORE](#)
11. [Break Through Radio: Tune Up](#)
12. [Thump Documentary: Hands Up! How Baltimore Weathers the Storm](#)
13. [Pitchfork - Op-Ed: White Privilege and Black Lives in the Baltimore Music Scene](#)
14. [Complex - Premiere: Listen to Abdu Ali's "Keep Movin \(Negro Kai\)"](#)
15. [Noisey - ABDU ALI IS THE BALTIMORE RAPPER PUSHING THE CITY'S SOUND 'TIL IT BLEEDS](#)
16. [Afro Punk - NEW MUSIC + INTERVIEW: ABDU ALI & HIS BANGING BALTIMORE CLUB MUSIC EP #SOUNDCHECK](#)
17. [Pitchfork - Standing Still: The Stagnant Life of Baltimore Club](#)
18. [Mask Mag - Abdu Ali: Baltimore's Wizard of the Real](#)
19. [BMORE Hush Documentary](#)