

# MY EDITORIAL BRUSHSTROKES

A CARTOON EXHIBITION

BY

ANTHONY OGBO, P.H.D.



SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION | TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY  
THE TSU COMM WEEK | MARCH 27, 2023 | MLK BUILDING



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# WELCOME TO MY WORLD

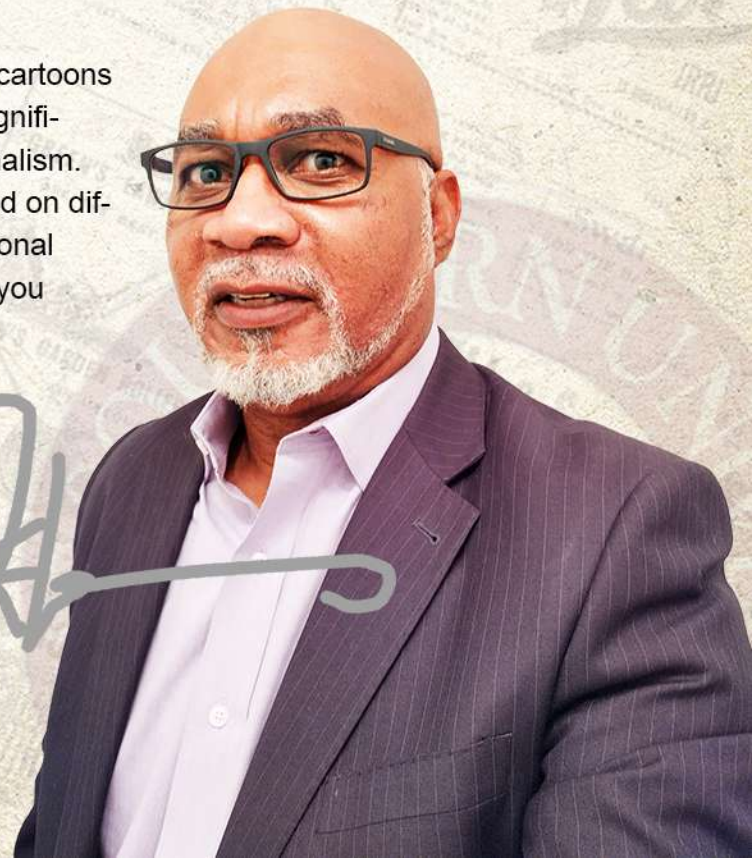

The Theme of this exhibition is “My Editorial Brushstrokes.” The traditional Newsroom, especially in the print media, has always been a fast-paced or perhaps chaotic environment where we process gray matters of editorial items.

Cartoon Journalism, also known as Graphic Journalism, breaks that monotony and replicates news or non-fiction events using hard-hitting issue-oriented caricatures and illustrations. This unique type of journalism thrives on visual medium or satirical illustration through Symbolism, exaggeration, sarcasm, stereotypical motifs, and so on. My name is **Anthony Obi Ogbo** – a faculty member of the school of communication; a journalist; organizational leadership and management exponent, and a media entrepreneur. I am a cartoonist.

Most folks (especially my students) do not know that I was a fine and applied artist before becoming a cartoonist. I was a cartoonist before becoming a journalist. In addition, I was a journalist before becoming a college professor.

My journey as a cartoonist is fascinating. I was an art student when I joined the journalism fraternity. I started my journalism career as a cartoonist in 1981 at the Weekly Trumpet — a Nigerian-based publication. I shortly became the publication’s chief cartoonist. Since then, I have worked in the Daily Star as a cartoonist, the Nigerian Guardian as a production supervisor, and the Prime People’s Magazine as a production director. In the United States, I worked at the Houston Sun; worked with the Chronicle; before starting my publication in 1998 called the **Texas International Guardian News**.

This exhibition displays some of my punchy editorial cartoons and illustration. The purpose is to demonstrate the significance of traditional editorial cartoons in modern journalism. The exhibits are hand-drawn cartoon pieces published on different media platforms, especially the Texas International Guardian News. Please feel free and have fun while you enjoy the cartoons.



# Special Guest | Presenter

Dorris Ellis Robinson, Ph.D., ABD



In 1983, exactly 40 years ago, Dr. Dorris Ellis Robinson founded the Houston Sun, an African American –based community paper designed to convey trusted quality news and information to the greater Houston community. Houston Sun was indeed the only Black-owned publication in the region that ran original editorial cartoons, produced in-house. At a time when the publishing business was a gold mine, the Houston Sun surged in circulation, assumed the leading mouthpiece to the minorities, and became the top-ranked community newspaper in Houston.

Publishing however was not her only endeavor. Dr. Ellis Robinson; also, a professor, has remained a passionate leader and educator and excelled in community engagement, community publications, not-for-profit organizations, and post-secondary education instruction.

In May 2021, she was awarded the Thomas F. Freedman's Honors College Professor of the Year. This was not a surprise because she founded Community-Texas Southern University Classroom Connections whereby business owners and professionals assisted Political Science students by listening to their presentations and evaluating them. Consequently, she restarted the Texas Southern University Urban Planning Student Planning Organization at Texas Southern University.

Dr. Ellis Robinson is also an advisor to the Texas Southern University Beta Psi, National Association of Negro Business, and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. undergraduate students. She spearheaded efforts to preserve the historic Freedmen's Town through the Freedmen's Town Preservation Coalition; and raised \$33M for a not-for-profit community organization, Friends of Emancipation Park. She is a polished and influential communicator with numerous speaking credits and publications.

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# Cartoonist | Exhibitionist

## Anthony Obi Ogbo, PhD

Anthony Obi Ogbo, joined the media fraternity in 1981 in Nigeria as the Cartoon Editor at a political newspaper, "The Trumpet." He was a college student of Fine & Applied Arts at the time. He progressed in his media profession and worked as a Production Supervisor at the Nigerian Guardian (1985-1989) and Art Director at the Prime People Publication magazine (1989-1991). He is also a member of the Editorial Board of The West African Pilot News, a multimedia entity he co-founded in January 2020.

Dr. Ogbo came to the United States in 1991 to escape hostility between the Media and a dictatorship government in Nigeria. He joined the Houston Sun as a cartoonist and production director. During the same period, he worked with the Houston Chronicle as a graphics designer through the Houston Creative Concept. In 1998, he incorporated a newspaper business in Houston, "Guardian News." In 2005, he established another Newspaper, The Black Senior News (The first Newspaper for African-American Seniors in Houston). Ogbo also worked directly with other African American entities on Newspaper redesigns and production efficiency. These include; African-American News and Issues, Houston Sun, Tiger News (Texas Southern University), The Christian Herald, and The Houston Punch.

Besides a longtime initiation in the newsprint community, Ogbo served as President of the Houston Association of Black Journalists (HABJ) in 2002. He was the longest-serving executive board member in this group affiliated with the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ). He served as the Vice President from 2000 to 2002, the president from 2002 to 2004, and the Vice President from 2004 to 2006.



As a member of NABJ and HABJ, Ogbo won numerous journalism excellence awards, including the 2004-NABJ Regional lifetime award, and first place in the journalism excellence award for the editorial cartoon category. Furthermore, he received certificates of appreciation for his services and commitment to training aspiring African-American Journalists.

Dr. Ogbo attended The Institute of Management and Technology (Nigeria), Houston Community College, and The University of Phoenix. He holds a Degree in Fine & Applied Arts, Certificate in Commercial Arts, a Master's degree in Human Resources and Human Resources Management (MHRM), a Master's in Business Administration (MBA), and a Doctorate in Management in Organizational Leadership.

# Graphic Journalism | Communication Arts

Graphic journalism visibly uses drawing or a combination of illustration and text to tell a timely, reported, and nonfiction story. This exhibition features such illustrations and demonstrates the real-world reality of the practice and process of comic or graphics journalism.

## TRIED AND TRUE

### Six Cases from the Harris County Court House

These illustrations represent an untold story reflecting the lawsuits that people filed, the crimes they were accused of committing, and the overlooked record of what life was like for 19th century Houstonians of all persuasions. The entire story depicts the history of Harris County in the lives of the early African-American residents.

Years ago, the documents that inspired these illustrations were stored in an unkempt warehouse overrun by insects, rats and roaches. When eventually they were largely saved and restored, there were no images to properly convey the narrative.

During the 2010 Black History Month, the Houston Community College, represented by Debra Mcgaughey, currently the Director of Communication Services at the Central Campus, facilitated a documentary of these historical cases titled, **Tried and True: Six Cases from the Harris County Court House**. A Houston-based cartoonist and illustrator, **Anthony Obi Ogbo**, was contracted to create an imaginative composition of the historic events.

These illustrations are displayed in this exhibition.



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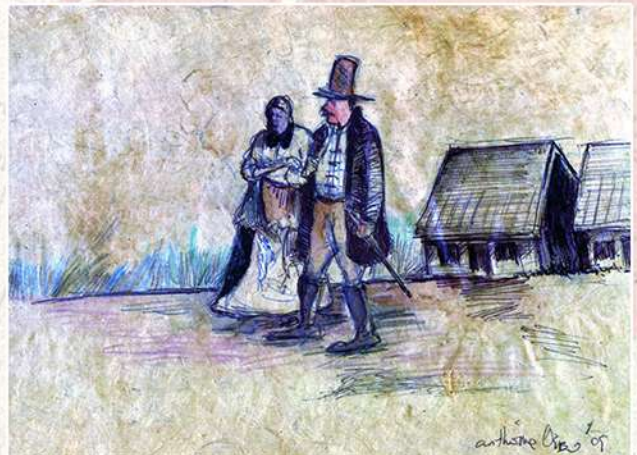
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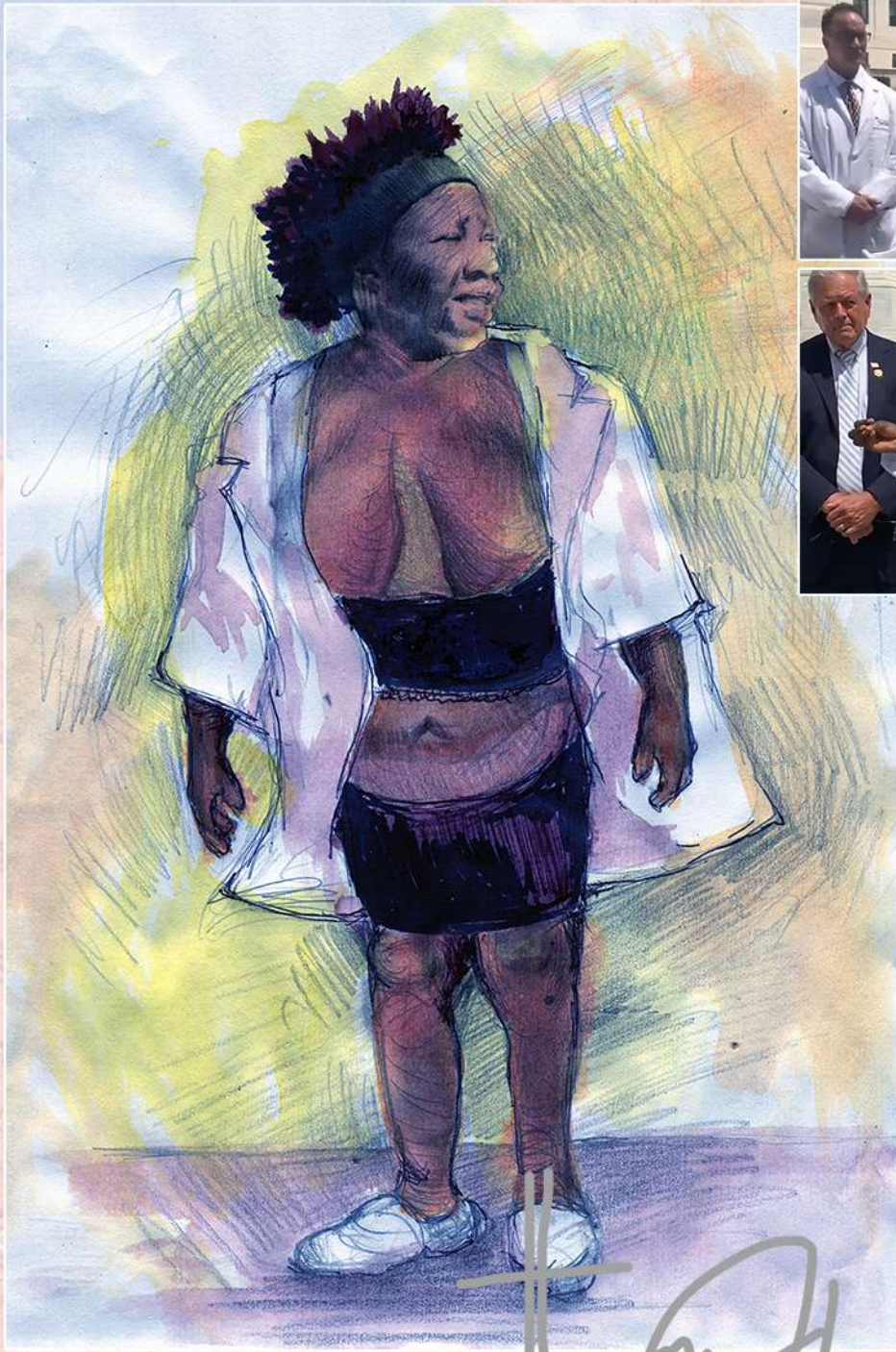
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**Illustration:** Stella Immanuel, the doctor at the center of controversy over unproven and potentially dangerous claims that an anti-malaria drug can treat Covid-19, became a subject of editorial satire.

**Photos:** In July 2020, she joined a so-called America's Frontline Doctors to give a speech on the steps of the US Supreme Court in Washington, promoting damaging rumors and conspiracy theories about COVID-19.

*The illustration by Anthony Obi Ogbo was published in the International Guardian.*

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COVID-19?  
HELP'S ON  
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