



Joana Choumali: Arabic Sudanese, 2014. Rabiya Haidara, 28, is Ivorian-Sudanese; she lives and works in Ivory Coast. Rabiya is a Malinke from Boundiali (north of Ivory Coast), but she feels closer to her Sudanese culture. "I spent my childhood in Mauritius. I am African and proud for various reasons, including the African tradition, its morals, customs, and ethical colorations." Rabiya arrived at the studio wearing pants and a shirt and then changed into a traditional outfit called "Sudanese thawb," which came from her mother. "I have no words to describe this moment. I had the chance to share this

wonderful moment and very emotional experience with my sisters." For her, participating in this project, *Resilients*, was an extraordinary and magical experience. "When I saw the final picture, I was speechless. I asked myself if it was indeed me, the modern African woman." *Resilients* focuses on traditional clothing. The women portrayed are modern women, emancipated professionals, perfectly integrated into contemporary society. Here, they rediscover the inseparable bond that unites all women living today with those of previous generations. – Joana Choumali lives in Abidjan, Ivory Coast

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