"The Maestro"
A painting motivated by the inspired roles of the female gender.

Artist’s perspective
This painting is fundamentally captured with two main colour schemes as the backdrop. The red scheme to the left is to buttress the strong character of the female subject (the female has coloured lips). The red scheme suggests the female’s determination to excel. She has a lot of drive and a stronger sense of purpose. On the contrary, the male’s demeanour is laid back and dependent on the female. This is captured by the very calm and cool set of greyish-green colours to the right of the painting. Moreover, the male is seen leaning on the female, a departure from the usual gender stereotype where females are expected to rely on males for support. The painting depicts the female figure holding a ball, symbolizing her strong leadership role in maintaining the household. This act solidifies the portrayal of her dominance and highlights the significant contribution that many women make towards keeping society together.

Take a journey through the painting and identify with the attributes meant to enhance humanity’s survival. The rest of the story lies with the viewer.

Editors’ view
We appreciate the unique perspective offered by Tabi Crentsil’s interpretation of gender dynamics in this painting. The use of colour schemes to depict the contrasting personalities of the male and female subjects is particularly interesting. The red scheme used for the female subject suggests her determination and drive, while the calm and cool greyish-green colours used for the male subject suggest his relaxed demeanour and dependence on the female. Indeed, the use of composition to depict gender roles is insightful. The female subject is seen carrying the ball, which signifies the leadership role many women play in keeping the society together. The smaller eye on the female subject also suggests the need for intuitiveness, while the interpretation of the light source on the face suggests that everyone has a lighter as well as a darker side.

Take a second look. The male’s eyes are almost of the same size. What is your interpretation?

The features in the portrait are consistent with the following. A head that goes off the canvas space, suggesting limitless capabilities; a smaller eye which suggests the need for intuitiveness; and the interpretation of the light source on the face which suggests that everyone has a lighter as well as a darker side.

Tabi Crentsil (2020). “The Maestro”, a male and female couple clad in football jerseys, with the lady firmly in custody of the football.