



VISUELE KUNSTE

Kurator/Curator: Dr Johan Thom
(Senior lecturer, Fine Art, University of Pretoria)



Day one of Season 1 workshops. William Kentridge introduces over 60 participants to the Less Good Idea.

Saamklop 2017: 'n Keursnit van kontemporêre gemeenskapskuns, ruimte en artistieke samewerking.

Saamklop 2017: Selected contemporary community art projects, art spaces and artistic collaborations

The visual arts component of Aardklop 2017 will celebrate and pay homage to South Africa's rich history of collaborative creative process, community engagement and artistic freedom.

For the first time in South Africa's history Aardklop 2017 will exclusively showcase the work of artistic collaborations and community art projects for its visual arts component.

A selection of current artist-led community projects/ artistic collaborations both young and old will be exhibited together in a curated exhibition that span a number

of different venues. Participants include The Bag Factory (1991), Keleketla Library! (2015), The Found Collective (2015), The Dead Bunny Society (2015), NIROX Foundation Trust (2007), The Artist Proof Studios and the Centre for the Less Good Idea (2016). Expect a broad range of artworks ranging from paintings, drawings, videos, live performances, workshops, poetry and experimental new media projects.

This year's programme will be supplemented by talks with a number of artists, academics, curators and historians.

Also for the first time in its history, the visual arts component of Aardklop 2017 is expanded into a two-year programme. In this way the selected participating arts projects will be invited back during Aardklop 2018 to conceive and curate specific exhibitions and artistic projects. This may include solo exhibitions of artists that have been an instrumental part of the projects' inception development and/ or whose current work exemplify and showcase its particular vision and aims, or even the creation of context-specific community-based interventions in Potchefstroom that culminate during Aard-

klop 2018, for example.

In all curator Dr Johan Thom wishes to highlight the vital, creative role of community art projects and artistic collaborations in contemporary South Africa's visual arts. The history of South African art has been indelibly shaped by community art projects and spaces including The Polly Street Center (1950), Evangelical Lutheran Church Art and Craft Centre at Rorke's Drift (1962/3), the Amadlozi Group (1963), The Federated Union of Black Artists (1978) The Caversham Press (1985), The Thupelo workshops (1985), and numerous others.

Keleketla Library

*dinonwane txa rena
di fepa bana ba mmu
gomme di a tanta e bile
di na le maatla kgogedi*

This Sotho maxim has no direct translation in English, but for Keleketla! it represents a form of acknowledgement and consent that signal a willingness to be present and to listen to someone else's story with active participation.

From the onset, the whole idea of Keleketla! as a space is that of experiencing art and exploring what art does in life. For example, how does art begin, how does it end and how does it become

relevant to the community? As a community driven project Keleketla! addresses issues of heritage and the danger of one (hi)story. In this sense Keleketla! aims to be an open space where multiple stories and multiple narratives can exist parallel to each other in order to challenge dominant narratives, for example.

Core projects of Keleketla Library include:

- A lending and reference library
- After School programme
- Experimental projects such as STOKVEL, SKAFT-IEN, Nonwane, The Essential: Words From Her music

tour, Chimurenga Chronic public art intervention, Thath'i Cover Okestra and most recently, Teen Talk, We Are One! and Joburg, Radio

For Aardklop 2017 Keleketla will present a special project that showcases some of its activities and create the foundation for a longer, more in-depth context-specific project that will culminate during Aardklop 2018.

Rangoato Hlasane and Malose Malahlela are the Co-Directors & Co-Founders of Keleketla Library.

<https://www.keleketla.org/>

The Bag Factory Artists' Studios

Currently under the directorship of Thuli Mlambo-James, The Bag Factory Artists' Studios has been a space for visual artistic creativity since its inception in 1991. It was founded by Dr David Koloane and Robert Loder. The old bag manufacturing warehouse in Fordsburg, Johannesburg, was initially converted to provide studio space to artists from the diverse communities of South Africa. The concept was to bring together artists from different racial, cultural and educational backgrounds. Over the last two decades the organisation has grown to be synony-

mous with inclusion and diversity. Its groundbreaking and internationally renowned visiting artists' programme as well as its numerous professional practice workshops and exhibitions have extended the scope of the organisation towards one that supports, promotes and develops the visual arts and artists in South Africa. The Bag Factory has partnered with many other organisations around the world and is a member of the international Triangle Network.

For this year's Aardklop The Bag Factory will present a context-specific

interactive art workshop during the week of the festival.

Current Resident Artists: Miatta Kawinzi (Residency Artist, USA), Bronwyn Katz, David Koloane, Pat Mautloa, Ayanda Mabulu, Pebofatso Mokoena, Asuka Nirasawa, Bev Butkow, Onyis Martin (Residency Artist, Kenya), Diana Hyslop, Asanda Kupa, Tshepo Mosopa, Thonton Kabeya, Alka Dass (Residency Artist, Durban), Usha Seejarim, Gail Berhmann, LL Editions

Curator: Aysha Wala

<http://www.bagfactory-art.org.za/>

The Artist Proof Studios (APS)

The Artist Proof Studios was founded in 1991 by Kim Berman and the late Nhlanhla Xaba to 'reflect the spirit of a healthy democracy' and the non-racial ideals expressed in the new constitution. Printmaking was seen as a counter force to the suspicion and division left from the apartheid years and, as a democratic medium, it was considered to be especially appropriate in helping to build a truly

egalitarian society.

The Mission of Artist Proof Studio is to provide an environment to develop citizens with a common set of values, expressed in the notion of Ubuntu, that have talent and passion to achieve artistic excellence. APS focuses on printmaking and its allied outreach programmes to build capacity of people to reach self-actualisation and make a difference in society.

Today the Artist Proof Studio is one of the largest and most vibrant community and professional printmaking facilities in Southern Africa, accommodating up to 50 students per year. Hosting, publishing and collaborative projects with many artists and organisations each year.

<http://www.artistproofstudio.co.za/>

The Center for the Less Good Idea

Founded by the artist William Kentridge The Center for the Less Good Idea aims to find the less good idea by creating and supporting experimental, collaborative and cross-disciplinary arts projects. The Centre is a physical and immaterial space to pursue incidental discoveries made in the process of producing work. Often, you start with a good idea, it might seem crystal clear at first, but when you take it to the proverbial drawing board, cracks and fissures emerge in its surface, and they cannot be ignored. It is in following the second-

ary ideas, those less good ideas coined to address the first idea's cracks, that the Centre nurtures, arguing that in the act of playing with an idea, you can recognise those things you didn't know in advance but knew somewhere inside of you.

The Centre is a space to follow impulses, connections and revelations. It's a physical space for artists to come together over two seasons every year and for curators to bring together combinations of text, performance, image and dance. The Centre believes an ensemble sees the world differently

to how one individual does. It is a safe space for failure, for projects to be tried and discarded because they do not work. It's a space for short form work which doesn't have a natural home in a theatre or gallery.

For Aardklop 2017 The Center will present an invisible exhibition combining cutting edge new media technology with the work of several well-known South African artists.

Curator: Bronwyn Lace
<https://www.lessgood-idea.com>

NIROX Foundation Trust

The NIROX Foundation Trust is a registered non-profit trust established and run for the benefit of the arts. NIROX comprises an artists' residency; studios and workshops; a sculpture park; outdoor concert venues; and related function facilities. It is located on 15 hectares of landscaped gardens and waterways within an extensive private nature reserve in the heart of the Cradle of Humankind

World Heritage Site, 45 minutes from the centers of Johannesburg and Tshwane. NIROX is committed to excellence in all disciplines of contemporary arts.

In partnership with Artlogic and Franschhoek Tourism NIROX is also the host of the Annual Winter Sculpture Fair. For the 2017 edition of the Winter Sculpture Fair, twelve dynamic curators were appointed by six South Af-



Shenaz Mahomed
The Quran and Peace - Approx. 291
The Quran and Jihad - Approx. 164
Mild steel
150 x 400 cm each
2017

rican universities to appropriate the park, to express their own insights through the work of fifty alumni artists who experienced their adulthood after the fall of apartheid – with all its promises, hopes and challenges. Historically the vanguard of change, universities and their relations with society could not be more relevant or

center stage than they are today.

For Aardklop 2017 a curated selection of sculptural works from The NIROX Winter Sculpture Fair 2017 will be exhibited at the botanical garden in Potchefstroom. The curated exhibition will comprise a number of artworks from recent graduates of universities

from all over South Africa including The University of the Witwatersrand, University of Pretoria, University of Johannesburg, the Tshwane University of Technology and the University of Cape Town.

Curated by Benji Liebmann and Johan Thom. <http://niroxarts.com/> <http://www.wintersculpturefair.co.za/>

The Found Collective

Found Collective is a community for Pretoria creatives that seek to elevate and challenge perceptions of art and its role in the Capital City.

Found Collective is run by artists who have a personal stake in the growth of the creative community in Pretoria. It operates without a profit motive, and invests its resources solely in its members.

Found collective strives to create opportunities for Pretoria-based artists to showcase their talents all over South Africa, and maybe one day create

international opportunities too.

Snake Eyes is a collaborative exhibition in the true sense of the phrase. We have paired up artists who we think will have unique creative synergy. These pairings are made up of some of Gauteng's most exciting young artists who produce excellent work on their own, but who we believe will produce something brilliant and entirely new when their creative energies are combined.

Works by the following artist pairings will be included on the exhibition:

Banele Khoza and Alet Pretorius
MJ Turpin and Dylan Graham
Lala Crafford and Io Makandal
Maaik Bakker and Cobus Haupt
Shenaz Mahomed and Jayne Crawshay-Hall
Carly Whitaker and Heidi Fourie
Johan Stegmann and Setlamorago Mashilo
Allen Laing and Jana+Koos



The Dead Bunny Society

The Dead Bunny Society (DBS) comprises three practicing artists with a wide variety of artistic and curatorial experience. These artists are Dirk Bahman, Stephan Erasmus and Neil Niewoudt. DBS aims to create a community of artists that work towards common

goals by supporting each other through creating independent platforms for exhibitions in various pop-up locations, workshops and various collaborative projects.

Established in March 2015 we have added to our list of collaborations and

pop-up venues around the country including Underculture Contemporary in Port Elizabeth, the Turbine Art Fair 2015 (Johannesburg), Priest in Jan Smuts, Joburg Fringe 2015 (Maboneng Precinct), The Art Room in Parkhurst, January a group exhibition curated by DBS at Fried Contemporary (Death and Taxes) in Pretoria, March at No End Contemporary Art Space in Linden, Johannesburg (I had a dream last night ((but I can't remember what it was about), followed by a group exhibition at KKNK (Klein Karoo Nasionale

Kunstefees) 2016 as part of the main curated Visual Art platform, followed by a group exhibition at Soma in the Maboneng Precinct.

For Aardklop 2017 DBS will present a group exhibition that provides an overview of its past artistic and curatorial activities and related projects.

Artist on the exhibition will include:

Wayne Barker, Bianca Brand, Minien Hatting, Wayne Matthews, Alison Jean Shaw, Nina Torr, Laetitia Lups & many more!