



# FRIENDS' NEWS

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Friends of the South African National Gallery,  
Iziko Museums of Cape Town

Info 2/07

APRIL-JUNE 2007

**MEET SOPHIE PERRYER  
CURATOR OF THE EXHIBITION  
AFTERLIFE**

Michael Stevenson Contemporary  
Hill House, De Smidt Street, Green Point  
Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April  
11:00  
R20 members only

*Afterlife*, with works by Angela Ferreira, Moshekwa Langa, Claudette Schreuders and James Webb, among others, and acclaimed French/Algerian artist Zineb Sedira, explores the intersection of spiritual and material, communication with ancestors or spirits, transition, transformation, rebirth and reincarnation.

The selected works are in a variety of media and the curator will guide us through the artists' evocations, interpretations and lyrical meditations.

**WALKABOUT WITH THE ARTIST  
SANTU MOFOKENG  
OF THE EXHIBITION INVOICE**  
Iziko South African National Gallery  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April  
17:30

R40 members, R50 non-members  
Including drinks in the company of the artist

*Invoice* is a mid-career survey show of the work of Santu Mofokeng and commemorates the 50<sup>th</sup> year of one of South Africa's foremost photographers. He has been awarded the Mother Jones Award, the Ernest Cole Scholarship and the Kunstlerhaus Worpswede and the DAAD Fellowships.

The selection on this exhibition was made by Mofokeng himself of works from 1982 to 2006, 12 years before and 12 years after the end of apartheid, yet not limited to South Africa or its politics. During the walkabout we will learn something of the consciousness and independent thinking that lead to the making and selection of images and the ideas concerning this show. It is a rare opportunity for a special meeting with this Johannesburg and German-based artist.

**LECTURE BY  
NASAN PATHER ON  
THE INVENTION OF TRADITION AND  
'INDIAN ART' FROM DURBAN**  
Barry Lecture Theatre  
Iziko South African Museum  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May  
17:30

R40 members, R50 non-members

Nasan Pather, who is a lecturer at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, UCT, specialises in Asian and Islamic art and culture. He previously taught in the Fine Arts departments of the University of Durban-Westville, Natal Technikon and the University of the Witwatersrand.

This illustrated lecture, entitled *The invention of tradition and 'Indian Art' from Durban*, examines ways in which artists from Durban have engaged with Hindu, Buddhist and Islamic visual forms in work produced since the nineteen-eighties.

Nasan Pather took up his post at UCT in October 2006 and we welcome this opportunity to present a public lecture by this respected art historian.

**VISIT TO SASOL ART MUSEUM,  
UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH  
WALKABOUT BY DR LYDIA DE WAAL  
OF PAUL DU TOIT RETROSPECTIVE AND  
UNIVERSITY PERMANENT COLLECTION**  
52 Ryneveld Street, Stellenbosch  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May  
10:30

R40 members, R55 non-members  
Including tea/coffee

Paul du Toit (1922-1986) was born in the Cape Peninsula, the son of a Huguenot-Afrikaner missionary. As a young man he was apprenticed to Jean Welz from 1944-46, during which he acquired the skills of observation and analysis that remained lifetime traits. He lived in the Cape, Paris and London and drew upon these locations to express "the physical and spiritual unity of the elements". While

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painting the natural landscape or non-figurative works he simultaneously explored the mystic notion of organic growth.

This important retrospective is presented by the University of Stellenbosch in the Sasol Museum which celebrates its centenary year.

**VISIT TO THE STUDIO OF  
DAN HALTER**  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 26 Commercial Street, Cape Town  
(between Buitenkant and Plein Streets)  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May  
14:30  
R40 members and non-members  
R20 students  
Including refreshments

Dan Halter graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art, UCT, in 2001 with a BA(FA) and received the Michaelis Painting Prize. *Take Me To Your Leader* was his 2006 debut solo show, from which the Friends purchased *I don't know what to believe anymore* (2005) for the Iziko SANG Permanent Collection. See it currently on exhibition in Room 1 (*Why Collect?*). His video work *Untitled (Zimbabwean Queen of Rave)* (2005) similarly impressed in *Second to None* in 2006 at the National Gallery.

Halter's juxtapositions unsettle, his combinations are radical. His solo exhibition was described as an "intelligent and dark critique" and individual work as "characterised by a conceptualism that employs play as a principal device". He currently teaches Videography at Michaelis. A visit to the studio of this dynamic young artist is a timely event.

**WALKABOUT OF THE EXHIBITION  
CYPRIAN SHILAKOE REVISITED  
WITH PHILIPPA HOBBS**  
Iziko South African National Gallery  
Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> June  
13:00  
R30 members, R40 non-members

*Cyprian Shilakoe Revisited* is a travelling exhibition of a substantial body of the artist's life's work. Included are eight early works never seen publicly, described as "the most exciting find in the history of 20<sup>th</sup>-century South African art". Images of the spirit world and the realm of dreams are seen in woodcuts, etchings, linocuts and semi-abstract wood sculptures, on loan from public and private collections.

The achievements of Cyprian Mpho Shilakoe, who

had barely reached the age of 26 when he tragically died, are remarkable. He was a master of aquatint and his prints are rich and lustrous. Symbolically and uniquely he expressed a profound visionary quality.

Philippa Hobbs, Curator of the MTN Art Collection, met with the Shilakoe family in preparation and was intimately involved in the selection of works for this exhibition.

**We would like to remind you  
to present your  
2007 FONG Membership Card  
at the front desk for free entry  
to the Gallery.**

**VISIT TO THE STUDIO OF  
CLEMENTINA VAN DER WALT**  
205 The Colosseum  
3 St George's Mall, corner of Riebeeck Street  
Cape Town  
Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June  
14:30  
R40 members, R60 non-members  
R20 students  
Including refreshments

Clementina van der Walt has relocated her studio to the city centre. She has been a significant force in ceramics in South Africa for three decades. Her work is in the collection of Iziko South African National Gallery and other major public art collections.

She demonstrates a mastery of her medium in her ceramic objects. Lyrical, sensual forms, seductive textures and the colours of the African cultural and physical landscape express her personal language.

Her work is characterised by irregularity that proclaims its handmade status. It reflects her ongoing inquiry into the nature of her materials and her exploration of ideas. Solo exhibitions of her creative output have "raised important issues attendant on the intersection of studio ceramics and sculpture".

Clementina van der Walt's star continues to rise and her achievements and international recognition are legion. Most recently she was selected to exhibit for the third year at Ceramic Art London 2007 at the Royal College of Art and she has been invited to participate in SOFA New York 2007. This is the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary Exposition of Sculpture Objects & Functional Art, from which she will have just returned at the time of this new studio visit.

**Booking is essential for all these events**