

CAP Visual Art Learners

Luyanda Cwane
Lonwabo Kilana
Sibongile Kofi
Theminkosi Kohli
Melinda Lewis
Bangikhaya Maqoqa
Tristan McQue
Sithembele Mgadi
Elliot Mosia
Fezile Nxazonke
Ndikhumbule Ngqinambi
Erica Shifotoka
Sivile Sili
Monwabisi Tsholoba

Project Team

Robert Robson (Truworths consultant)
Joseph Gaylard (Design & Media)
Sara Schneckloth & Sivile Sili (Design & Painting)
Ian Garrett & Sivile Sili (Ceramics)
Velile Soha & Luthando Lupawane (Printmaking)

"I chose to paint mostly about myself because it is the best story I can tell... because my life starts from me within.

Erica Shifotoka

"How can we get experience when we want to feed ourselves, knowing art is a non-stop process. Have your own opinion or feeling about this work of mine, feel just the way it is."

Luyanda Cwane

"Whenever bad things happen to me, once I start drawing I forget everything and enjoy drawing. I turn to forget about the pain, no matter how the pain feels. I turn to forget even my name."

Ndikhumbule Ngqinambi

"Within a space of one year, I can live, I can live now without taking a bad job, I can sit at home and paint, and do mural paintings in the townships. I will not waste time – too much time has passed already."

Bangikhaya Maqoqa

About CAP

Established in 1977, the Community Arts Project (CAP) is one of the oldest arts non-governmental organisations in South Africa. During the 1970s and early 80s CAP served as a venue where artists from different backgrounds could interact and learn from one another. Many otherwise marginalised black artists launched their careers at CAP during this period. During the 1980s CAP also became well-known for its participation in the struggle against apartheid, producing theatre, banners, posters and t-shirts for political organisations and trade unions. CAP began to formalise its education and training work, running full-time classes in the visual and performing arts. With the unbanning of political parties and the election of a democratic government in the 1990s, CAP has been responsive to the fact that the struggle for social change now needs to address the effective development of the skills and employment potential of individuals and communities. Over the past five years, much of the organisation's energy has been channelled into motivating and enabling transformation within the arts sector through the provision of formal arts education and training programmes for unemployed adults.

Recent accolades for the organisation include having received the Cultural Development Project of the Year Award for 1998 from the Arts and Culture Trust of the President. CAP has also, through representation on the structures of the South African Qualifications Authority, been exploring and promoting the accreditation of non-formal education and training. In 1999, the organisation held a major retrospective exhibition ("Water in a Dry Place") at the South African National Gallery. While CAP is developing income-generating opportunities for learners, it is a non-profit organisation, reliant on local and foreign funding agencies and donors for its continued survival.

CAP acknowledges the support of the following sponsors in the funding of its education and training programmes: the Arts & Culture Trust of the President, Board of Executors, Business Arts South Africa, Cape Town City Council, Chiappinni Trust, Kulturhuset - SIDA, Manfred Mueller Preuss, Metrorail, National Arts Council, Raymond Ackerman Trust, Western Cape Department of Education, Western Cape Cultural Commission, Willemke de Groot & Hans Nooren



About this exhibition

This exhibition was conceived with a dual purpose. On the one hand, it has provided CAP learners with direct experience of the challenges of conceptualising and managing an exhibition. In this sense, the project represents a culmination of their learning at CAP: a unique opportunity for learners to explore a set of ideas around personal and collective identity, and to translate these ideas through a range of media onto the unusual circular format.

On the other hand, it has also provided the organisation with a platform for raising funds that can be used as a basis for creating a sustainable annual exhibition of student work. We believe that by presenting the tangible results of the work that the organisation is doing, exhibitions such as this one are an effective medium for advocating the ongoing relevance of that work.

The exhibition has been co-sponsored by the Truworths Emerging Artist Fund. The Emerging Artist Fund was established by Truworths to assist young black artists in developing their talents through the medium of group and individual exhibitions. A number of successful projects have been run with groups of artists and organisations. Proceeds from the exhibition will be divided between the artists, the Emerging Artist Fund and the Community Arts Project.

All work displayed is available for sale

Acrylic canvasses	R 400.00 each
Ceramic plates	R 125.00 each
Framed prints	R 250.00 each
Unframed prints	R 100.00 each

A limited number of collection boxes containing 14 prints are available at R 1,190.00

Cards

Banded set of 7 A5 cards with envelopes	R 30.00
Individual A5 cards (with envelope)	R 5.00
Banded set of 7 gift cards	R 12.00

Payment by cash or cheque issued to Community Arts Project. Works will be available for collection at: Community Arts Project, 106 Chapel Street, Woodstock between Monday 27th November and Friday 1st December

phone: 4653689 fax: 4652008 e-mail: cap@iafrica.com



Questions of identity

Ndingubani? Ungubani? Singobani?

What does it mean to ask yourself "Who am I?" There is risk inherent in such a question - what if the answer isn't what you thought it would be? What if you find yourself exploring new aspects of your identity by going into dark places, finding light and hope in new ideas? How do you break yourself down and build yourself anew?

What does it mean for us to ask "Who are You?" Are you a part of our community? Are you on the outside? How do you choose the symbols that mark you? If you had to tell us the story of your identity, what language would you use? Who would understand?

What does it mean for us to ask "Who are We?" Who are our friends, our foes, our family? What does it mean to be part of a community, a country, a collection of voices? What if you come from many cultures - how far do the limits of community extend? How great is our sense of unity and individuality?

Ndingubani? Ungubani? Singobani? Who am I? Who are You? Who are We? We chose to ask these questions, looking at ourselves from inside and out, as individuals and as members of a community of artists. The answers are as varied as we are and speak to what it means to be a young person in this complicated society. Please ask yourself these questions; choose your language and answer honestly, with your heart and your mind. See where the answers take you. Don't be afraid to push on and ask them again, of yourself and others.



TRUWORTHS



November 17 - November 24
The Annexe Gallery
South African National Gallery
Government Avenue

Community Arts Project
ph: 4653689 fax: 4652008 e-mail: cap@iafrica.com
web: www.museums.org.za/cap/