

# Cape Unplugged

Issue 3  
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**FREE**

## The Party Edition



**MAPS**

INFORMATION AND MORE



# a different story altogether

TAKE A COFFEEBEANS TOUR FOR A FULL-STRENGTH SHOT  
OF LOCAL CULTURE – NO DECAF ALLOWED

CAREY's legwork  
MONIQUE's fingerwork

There are only so many times you can ride the cable car up Table Mountain and wander around the Waterfront. At some point, you'll want to experience the real Cape – the people behind the pulse of the city. The team at Coffeebeans Routes are on a similar wavelength and they specialise in going off the beaten track – and into other people's houses.

'We want to give you insight into other people's lives,' says Jacques, our tour guide for the day. He's taking us on the art route – one of many different options. The company operates under the maxim that everyone has a story to tell – especially in the

Mother City. 'It's a city coloured by its people,' reads the brochure, 'a port city that's been absorbing the world over hundreds of years.' Depending on the route you choose, you may encounter musicians, minstrels, poets, storytellers, soccer players, entrepreneurs or even spiritual leaders – not all from from Cape Town, but all living here now.

The art route takes us from the pick-up point at the Waterfront (where Jacques explains the itinerary and hands us a souvenir packet of roasted coffee beans) to the Castle, and onwards to the homes of two local artists. At the Castle, the William

experience  
35 Unplugged



'Have one less beer and buy 15 doilies instead.'

Fehr Gallery provides an introduction to 18th century art, quickly contrasted by the colourful Good Hope Art Studio, also in the Castle grounds. The studio houses an art residency where you can interact with the artists as they go about their work.

Warmed up and inspired to explore more local galleries in our own time, we head to the unassuming house of John the Potter.

A bohemian ceramicist with half a beard, John Bauer opens the door to the uncut, untidied version of his home and studio. As he shows us his work (he's one of the top ceramic chaps in the country), he chats about dolls, doilies, profits and porcelain erotica. John works hard to instil an appreciation of neglected art forms and he uses doilies and dolls in his ceramics as a means of both preservation and sensitisation. 'Have one less beer and buy 15 doilies instead,' he says matter-of-factly.

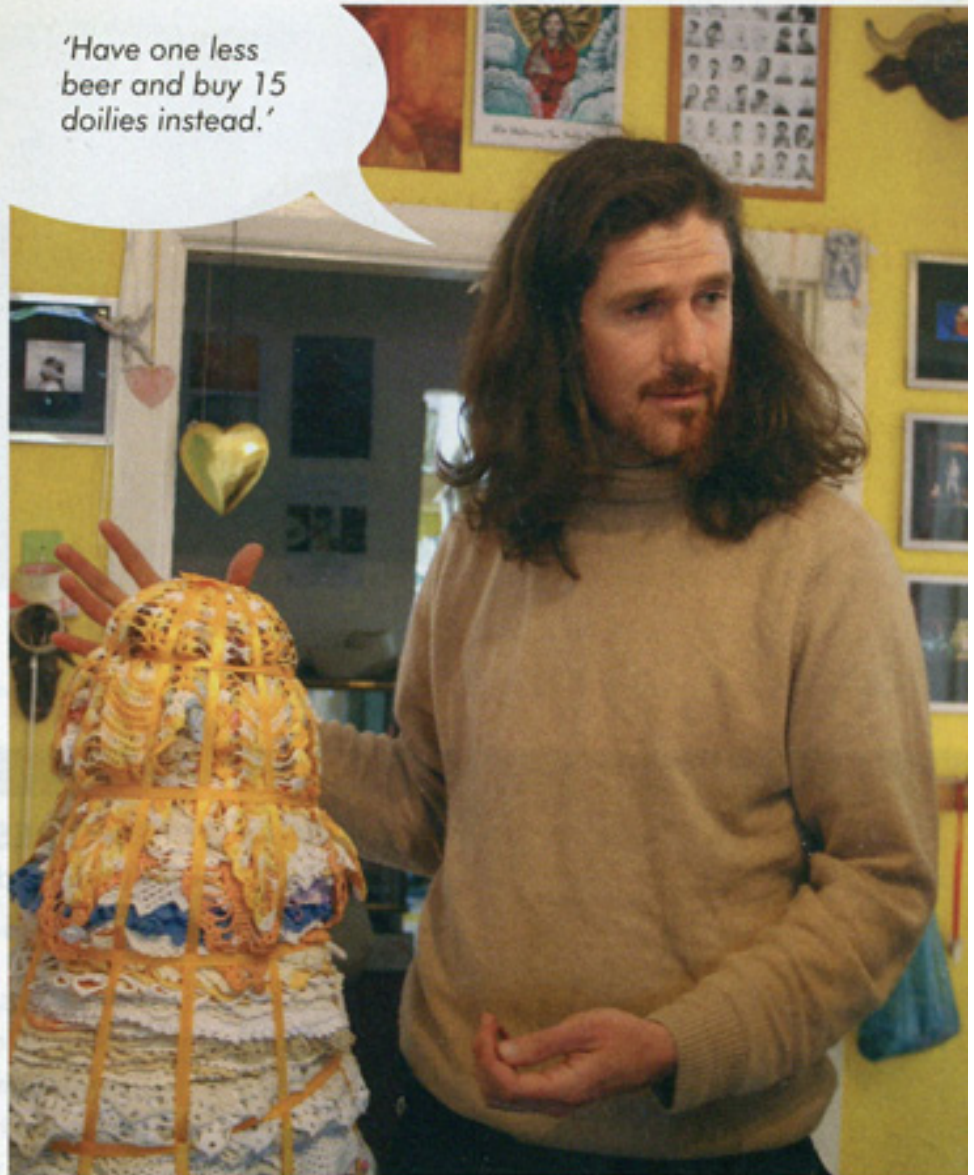
Our last stop is the home of Lizette – a Mozambican artist, mother and more. The smell of creamy dhal and soft, steaming rice greets us as we step into the light, bright house. We eat, and eat some more, as she tells us her story – how she came to be an artist in Cape Town, why she works with hessian, and how she makes such delicious food.

As she talks, our group is captivated. It's like a scene from a realist movie – and we don't want to leave. Eventually though, we must – but tour guide Jacques becomes the bad guy for ushering us out.

The other routes are equally, if not more, fascinating. If you can't decide on just one, why not do them all?

Let's be honest, we all want to see into other people's houses ...

To book one of the routes, call 021 424 3572.



Above: John and his doiley beacon of love.  
Below: Lizette and her hessian art.





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