

Some reflections from Thupelo

I started looking forward to the presentations everyday I could relate to so much of what people talked about, like people from different nationalities speaking the same language that was awesome. I found the interaction and discussions with other artist and between artists fascinating. The differences in opinions left me with a lot to think about. I've learned so much and I feel like I've made a lot of progress in a short period of time. I feel very fortunate to have had this experience, Thank you

Anonymous

Thupelo provided a wonderful focus and an opportunity to work with an intensity that is difficult to claim in the demands of daily living. The stimulus provided by other artists was enervating.

Josie Grinrod (Cape Town)

....A place to experiment, an inspiring space, an open minded group, from lots of nations, all of them with their own skills, ideas, backgrounds, talking, discussing, reflecting was one part of the whole..... the other was the luxury of time and material to work with and just to be...working as a fulltime artist, with out any other function than art and creating any work was a luxury.... From the inner to the outer spaces..... at the end I landed here and with myself

Uta Göbel-Groß (Germany)

I could not have imagined what a great impact these two weeks would have on my work. Participating in the Thupelo workshop somehow created a mental space for experimentation, taking chances with my pieces, not being precious about the end result. This kind of change happens within a stimulating challenging and free environment.

Ena Carstens (Cape Town)

I participated in my first Thupelo workshop in 1996. It was a turning point for me. Now I'm back for my second workshop experience, I must say this workshop is more important for me. All new ideas..... sharing experiences with all friendly, kind hearted and skilful artists from all over the world. I'm so grateful to be a part of this exchange

Torsten Jurell (Sweden)

The Thupelo Workshop hosted exposed me to a variety of art form productions. This was possible through activities such as the afternoon power point presentations which provided us with a glimpse of what each artist was engaged in. In addition to that, the three day walkabout sessions gave us an opportunity to engage with each artists' conceptual concerns with the different inputs from the group.

Nozipho Zulu (Durban)

I would therefore like to proclaim that as a young developing artist, the workshop was a platform of exploration, growth and conceptual growth. As a participant, I would like to express my feelings of gratitude This has been a metamorphic, affirming and inspirational experience that will remain engraved in my soul, like a permanent imprint of assurance. The workshop provided a space for me to not only interact with a variety of catalysts, but to further probe and sincerely reflect on my artistic aspirations. Thank you.

Witty Nyide (Durban)

For me, the Thupelo International Workshop (2007) has been an exciting experience. I enjoyed, firstly, meeting and working with artists from various cultural backgrounds, sharing and testing ideas outside my comfort zone. I am grateful to the organizers, funders and facilitators of the

workshop and wish to be part of this family of artists for an extended period of time.

Mduduzi Xakaza (Cape Town)

What Thupelo meant for me? It was an opportunity for artists from different parts of the world to get together, work together and learn from each other and grow richer in their art making. It is an opportunity to interact with people in a personal and social level and help break down barriers. By drawing so many African people together from very different backgrounds in a nation bedeviled with so much racism and xenophobia, Thupelo provides an opportunity for people to understand each other's value system; it is about developing a world that is built on understanding and peace.

Lionel Davis (Cape Town)

Thupelo Art workshops are very demanding for the participants because they are unstructured, unfacilitated and not theme based. You can work without distraction. Art and work —the process is very rigorous...

Jill Trappler (Cape Town)

It was really revealing getting "lost" in the process of print making at this workshop. Normally I facilitate workshops. I was invited to this Thupelo workshop to participate and it was a real treat for me.

Leonard Shapiro (Cape Town)

Thupelo spoke about shared studio space and shared personal spaces...

Natalie Craig (USA)

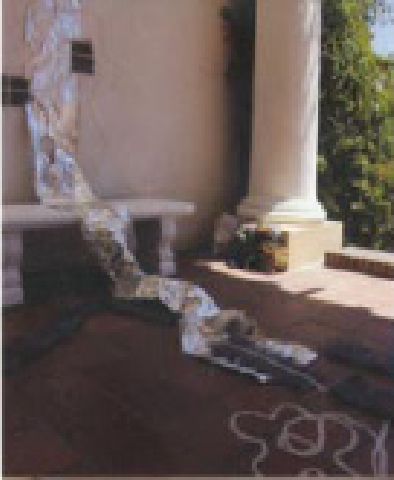
Thupelo enabled artists from around the globe, professional and aspiring, young and old, a space to establish themselves in a conducive environment in which they would work, explore space, media and ideas. The presentations and walkabouts created an enabling environment for artists to share their works and engage in a robust sincere and honest dialogue that ranged from challenging socio-political and cultural status quo, to questioning beliefs and value systems as well as social ills like the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

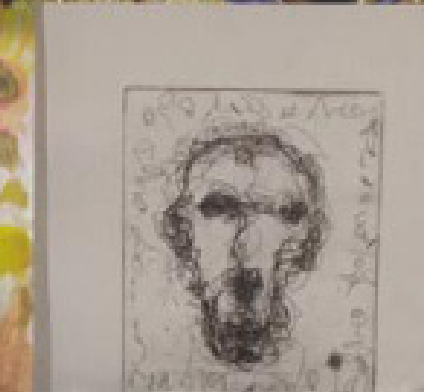
One thing that stood out was the artists' portfolios that evoke human emotions beauty, serenity, anger and celebration of life...To all the wonderful family of artists I look forward to ongoing networks

Mlandeli Lennox Bonile (Cape Town)

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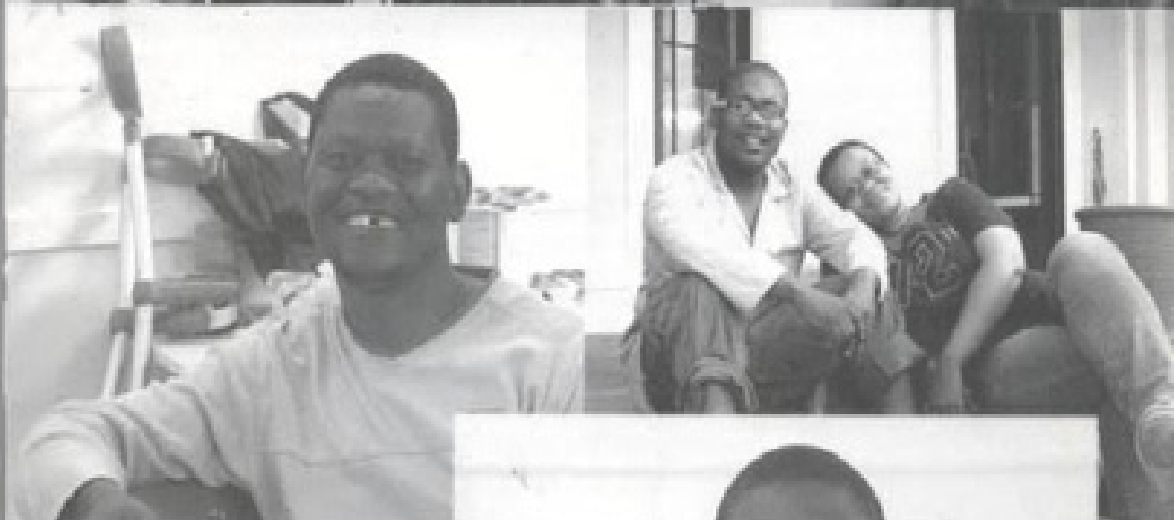




Thupelo International Urban

Cape Town, South Africa • December 20

Namibia, Tanzania, Kenya, India, Sweden, Germany, S



Art Workshop

7 • 27 Artists • 11 Countries

South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, Congo (D.R.C.), USA





