



in South Africa: alive and free!

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Introduction

It is often said that an artist's work is really only valued and appreciated once the artist is no longer around. People nowadays don't appreciate art as they should – but art tells a story about the artist, his life and where he comes from, as well as the history, culture and traditions of his people.

The real value of art lies in the fact that it is an expression of emotion, creativity, energy and passion – it reflects and shapes the society and culture in which we live. It helps us to make sense of our lives. It is a means of communication, a language which can help us to make sense of ourselves, of others and of the future.

Artists play an important role in the community; they question the world around us, and their art, in whichever form, contributes to the creative and intellectual prosperity of our nation. It thus forms an important part of the country's history, reflecting social, moral and political attitudes.

South Africa has an abundance of artistic talent among its people, and this rich development of contemporary art must be nurtured and celebrated.

The collection of art books – specifically about emerging young and promising South African artists of all cultural groups – in SN is therefore one that should be visited by all who want to experience the creative spirits of these talented people.

A selected list of titles is offered here –

there are many more on the SN shelves!

Directories and catalogues

Art from South Africa: an exhibition organised by the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford in association with the Zabalaza Festival, London.- Museum of Modern Art, c1990.

ARTTHROB 1998-2003: the archive [of] contemporary art in South Africa.- Double Storey, 2003.

The Brett Kebble art awards, 2004.- Marulelo Communications, 2004.

The Collector's guide to art and artists in South Africa.- Chase Publ., 2003.

A Decade of democracy: South African art, 1994-2004: from the permanent collection of Iziko: South African National Gallery.- Double Storey, 2004.

A Directory of Southern African contemporary art practices.- Contemporary Arts Pub., 1999

Dumile Feni retrospective: Johannesburg Art Gallery exhibition and catalogue.- Johannesburg Art Gallery, 2006.

Fresh: a series of publications which celebrates the contributions of seven young artist's residencies at the South African National Art Gallery in which these artists were given stipends to create new work. The artists are:

Dorothee Kreutzfeldt, 2002.

Moshekwa Langa, 2003.

Senzani Marasela, 2001.

Robin Rhode, 2001.

Tracey Rose, 2003.

Bernie Searle, 2003.

Usha Seejarim, 2003.

Returning the gaze: public arts project at the Cape Town One City Festival, 2000.- [Blac?, 2001?]

The right to hope: five South African artists.- Right to Hope Trust, c1995.

Thirty minutes: multi-media installations in the Visitors Block on Robben Island by nine Cape Town artists: Willie Bester, Kevin Brand, Lisa Brice, Lionel Davis, Tracey Derrick, Randolph Hartzenberg, Brett Murray, Malcolm Payne, Sue Williamson.- Robben Island Museum, 1997.

Individual artists

Cecily Sash: working years / edited by Victor Thorne.- Studio Sash, 1999.

Feni, Dumile. Dumile – artist in exile.- B. Smith, 2004.

Hassan, Kay. Kay Hassan.- Hatje Cantz, c2000.

Langa, Moshekwa. Moshekwa Langa.- Renaissance Society, c2002.

Langhan, Donve. The unfolding man: the life and art of Dan Rakgoathe.- D. Philip, 2000.

Murray, Brett. Brett Murray, plasticien = Brett Murray, visual artist.- Double Storey, 2005.

Faith Loy Plaut: a tribute.- [s.n.], 1999.

Tadjo, Veronique. David Koloane.- D. Krut, c2002.