

The Institute for Creative Arts

ICA ONLINE
FELLOWSHIP

PUBLIC PROGRAMME

RELEASE DATES & LAUNCH EVENT

24 OCTOBER - 18 DECEMBER 2020

WWW.ICAONLINE.NET



OVERVIEW

PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION

In May of this year, the Institute for Creative Arts (ICA) at the University of Cape Town invited applications for its Online Fellowship Programme – the first ICA fellowship to be run and hosted entirely online.

The Fellowship Programme was launched in response to the devastation wrought on our health and economies, and especially on artists, by COVID-19. It is also a response to the possibilities that crisis might offer for the development of new forms and new ways of seeing and experiencing artistic production.

The Programme recognises the limitations on movement and in-person gatherings at this time, and responds to this moment of crisis by inviting artists to reconceptualise their multidisciplinary works as online renderings, and by awarding selected artists a fee to create such work.

The ICA's primary interest in launching the Programme was to contribute tangibly to artists' career trajectories in this moment where art funds are dwindling, as well as to emphasise the critical role that the creative and performing arts have to play in this time of great change and uncertainty. The ICA received 218 applications and based on the high calibre of submissions, we extended the number of Fellows from 20 (the number initially advertised) to 34.

FEEL OWS

Mmakhotso Lamola

Billy Langa

Opiyo Okach

Rehane Abrahams

Kresiah Mukwazhi

Heidi Lu

Wezile Mgibe

Lorin Sookool

Gontse Makhene

mlondi.

Mthuthuzeli Zimba

Luke de Kock

Lesiba Mabitsela

Arafa Cynthia Hamadi

uLuvuyo Equiano Nyawose

Lehlogonolo Natalie-Ann Paneng

Oupa Sibeko and Nicola Pilkington

Scott Eric Williams and Darkroom Contemporary

Lindiwe Matshikiza and João Renato Orecchia Zúñiga

Sikhumbuzo Makandula

nora chipaumire

Lukhanyiso Skosana

Malebona Maphutse

Jared Onyango

King Debs

Themba Mbuli

Neo Diseko

kyle malanda

Kershan Vikram Pancham

Philiswa Lila

Thelma Ndebele

Faizal Mostrixx

Kwanele Finch Thusi

SPEAKERS

Shose Kessi

Jay Pather

Gabi Ngcobo

Nomusa Makhubu

Amogelang Maledu

Mbongeni Mtshali

Portia Malatjie

Catherine Boulle

LAUNCH PROGRAMME

24 OCTOBER 2020, 17H00

17H00	Website is live
17H15	Welcome by Dean of Humanities, Associate Professor Shose Kessi
17H30	Introduction, overview and opening remarks by Professor Jay Pather
17H45	Introductions of the 34 Fellows
18H15	Keynote address by Gabi Ngcobo, Artist, curator and educator
18H45	Q&A
19H15	Access to works by Mmakhotso Lamola, Billy Langa, Rehane Abrahams including opening performance by Opiyo Okach

PLAYING WITH PROCESS, FORM AND ENGAGEMENT - PART I

RELEASE 24 OCTOBER, 17H00

WEBINAR 28 OCTOBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY ASSOC. PROF NOMUSA MAKHUBU

Mmakhotso Lamola, Billy Langa, Rehane Abrahams and **Opiyo Okach** explore ideas of perpetual change in our current times and processes through which this is made palpable in a range of art forms. Through various individual frameworks of enquiry, their projects gesture to notions of the body as an archive in constant flux.

PLAYING WITH PROCESS, FORM AND ENGAGEMENT - PART II

RELEASE 31 OCTOBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 4 NOVEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY AMOGELANG MALEDU

Scott Eric Williams and Darkroom Contemporary,
Lehlogonolo Natalie-Ann Paneng and **Luvuyo**
Equiano Nyawose further expand on the
opportunities of rethinking what our current moments
of crisis have made visible: overstimulation. What of
intimations of rest, rethinking and recharging at the
present moment?

DISPLACEMENT AND INEQUALITIES

RELEASE 7 NOVEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 11 NOVEMBER, 17H00

HOSTED BY ASSOC. PROF NOMUSA MAKHUBU

The current global pandemic has not only devastated national economies, but has widened the socio-economic and political inequalities in the world, disproportionately killing Black people and marginalised groups. **Wezile Mgibe, Heidi Lu, Lorin Sookool, Gontse Makhene** and **Mthuthuzeli Zimba** interrogate these exacerbated fissures while exploring what makes them systemic.

BLACK MASCULINITIES

RELEASE 14 NOVEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 18 NOVEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY DR. MBONGENI MTSHALI

Oupa Sibeko and Nicola Pilkington, mlondi. and **Luke de Kock** make nuanced observations of the politicised Black man and his multiple intersections in socio-political and economic power dynamics. The fellows present projects dealing with patriarchy, identity dislocation and quests for multiple freedoms.

HISTORY AND THE ARCHIVE

RELEASE 21 NOVEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 25 NOVEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY PROF. JAY PATHER

How do we re-imagine history with reinvented archives encompassing indigenous and vernacular, intangible and ephemeral knowledges? Through their different project outputs, **Kershan Vikram Pancham**, **Lesiba Mabitsela**, **nora chipaumire** and **Sikhumbuzo Makandula** expand various histories and their retellings.

CULTURAL SHIFTS AND TRANSFORMATION

RELEASE 28 NOVEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 2 DECEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY DR. PORTIA MALATJIE

Lukhanyiso Skosana, Malebona Maphutse, Kresiah Mukwazhi and **kyle malanda** present projects interested in queering culture and liberating bodies. Through thematics of intersectional justice and the human right to autonomy over one's body, these fellows explore thematics ranging from *Mmamoloyi* (femme witches) to femme erotic justice and empowerment.

INTIMACY/SELF/RELATIONSHIP

RELEASE 5 DECEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 9 DECEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY CATHERINE BOULLE

Themba Mbuli, Lindiwe Matshikiza and João Renato Orecchia Zúñiga and Philiswa Lila explore the fragility, vulnerability and resilience of the human. While **Mbuli** offers a project centring his battles with mental health; **Matshikiza and Orecchia Zúñiga** are exploring several ideas around metaphysical boundaries and what there might be to gain or lose by crossing them. Meanwhile **Lila's** 3D beaded veil sculptures prompt us into interrogating ideas of marriage.

QUEER SUBJECTIVITIES AND VULNERABILITY

RELEASE 12 DECEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 13 DECEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY DR. MBONGENI MTSHALI

Through exploring themes of invisibility, violence to one's identity and the instances of surviving the discrimination that comes with queer identity, **Neo Diseko, Arafa Cynthia Hamadi** and **Kwanele Finch Thusi** reimagine utopian existences of safety for what they signal as heavily politicised bodies.

URBANITY AND AFROFUTURITY

RELEASE 14 DECEMBER, 08H00

WEBINAR 15 DECEMBER, 17H00
HOSTED BY DR. PORTIA MALATJIE

ROUND UP BY AMOGELANG MALEDU

Through thinking about spatial politics and a constantly shifting contemporaneity **Thelma Ndebele, Jared Onyango, King Debs** and **Faizal Mostrixx** think through these cultural, socio-political and economical shifts in a myriad of ways. From sonic subcultures in cities to ideas of play as legitimate forms of justice.

BIO
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FELLOWS

Mmakhotso Lamola Mmakhotso is a South African artist, architect and spatial practitioner based in Cape Town. Her practice can be described as existing at the node of various intersections and is constantly unfolding.

Billy Langa is an award-winning actor, playwright and educator. Langa takes a curious approach to theatre that's deeply relational to the body — puzzling out what theatre means to those who perform it and those who witness it.

Opiyo Okach is a catalyst for a new depth of intellectual reflection and new perspectives and vocabularies in dance from East Africa. Awarded the *prix du Nouveau Talent Chorégraphiques SACD* — a *Prince Claus Award for Culture and Development* and the main prize at the second *Rencontres Chorégraphiques Africaines*. These accolades places this director of the first contemporary dance company in Kenya amongst the pioneers of a new generation of choreographers from Africa.

Rehane Abrahams is a writer, theatre-maker and multiple award-winning actor on stage and screen based in Cape Town. She has lived and worked in the UK, USA and Indonesia.

Kresiah Mukwazhi is a multidisciplinary artist whose artistic practice focuses on the empowerment of the female body in relation to patriarchal societal norms and raises questions around belief and conformity.

Heidi Lu is a recent Masters graduate of the Graduate School of Architecture at the University of Johannesburg. She was born to a Taiwanese father and an Indian mother and has adopted the role of Time Traveller, Choreographer, and Architect in her work.

Sikhumbuzo Makandula is a Cape Town based visual and performance artist. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art from Rhodes University and holds a Masters in Public Spheres and Performance studies from the University Cape Town.

nora chipaumire is a product of colonial education for Africans only - group B schooling, and other studies at the University of Zimbabwe (law) and Mills College (dance) in Oakland, California. chipaumire is a four time *Bessie Award* winner and was a proud recipient of the *2016 Trisha McKenzie Memorial Award* for her impact on the dance community in Zimbabwe, the *Guggenheim Fellowship*, a *Foundation for Contemporary Arts Grant*, a *Doris Duke Artist Award* and a *Princeton Hodder Fellowship*.

Lukhanyiso Skosana is an actress, performance artist, vocalist/composer and theatre-maker. Skosana won a coveted *Fleur De Cap Award* in 2019.

Malebona Maphutse is an artist who completed her BA (Fine Art) Degree at the University of Witwatersrand in 2017. She works in and outside of the academic institution. She has recently exhibited at the *Stellenbosch Triennale 2020 (Tomorrow There Will Be More of Us)* and *Bergen Triennial 2019 (The Dead Are Not Dead)*.

Jared Onyango is a performer and choreographer based in Nairobi, Kenya. Jared conceives and presents his work as contemporary dance and in writing.

King Debs is an artist who focuses on multimedia art and design. He draws his influences from his MoTswana heritage and lived experiences as a child being born in Mafikeng and growing up in Tshwane.

Wezile Mgibe is an award-winning art practitioner using interdisciplinary practice encompassing performance, visuals, film and installation as a tool for social change.

Lorin Sookool is an independent dance artist invested in creating dance-based work, that is able to reach beyond its own artistic community.

Gontse Makhene is an exceptional percussionist born and bred in Soweto with an extensive repertoire, spanning genres across the local and international music scenes. He is a founding member of some of the most revolutionary local and international contemporary bands including *Kwani Experience*, *Shabaka* and *the Ancestors*.

mlondi. is a researcher, director, aspiring writer, performer and co-founder of noise inside. mlondi's. practice engages with the simultaneously private and public performance of black maleness and cultural belonging, and the slippages between intimacy, desire, playfulness and violence that bedevil the navigation of (heteronormative) relationships among black men.

Mthuthuzeli Zimba is an interdisciplinary artist, passionate about storytelling and believes in performances of transgression and disruption as a way of creating dialogue to confront and address unresolved socio-political issues that plague contemporary South Africa.

Luke De Kock is a choreographer and dancer. His latest theatre choreographic works were performed at the Artscape Opera House with the Cape Town Philharmonic Orchestra at the Debut Gala and *Location* at Youngblood Art Gallery.

Themba Mbuli is an independent choreographer, performer and dramaturge for collaborative creations who was awarded the *Standard Bank Young Artist Award for Dance* in 2016.

Neo Diseko is a Johannesburg-based visual artist. Diseko obtained their BTech (2017) at the University of Johannesburg. Their artistic practice explores themes around the performativity of gender and its multiple dimensions.

kyle malanda is visual artist whose work, primarily through photography and fashion design, explores the intersections of sexual identity, mental health, tribalism, and generational trauma in an increasingly globalised digital world.

Kershan Vikram Pancham is an educator, performative artist and digital and film arts maker. They hold a BSc. in Computer Science from UKZN, a BA and BA Hons from AFDA in Film Writing and Directing, and an MPhil in Diversity Studies from UCT.

Philiswa Lila is a visual artist and scholar fascinated by the socially relevant and timely issues of authorship and agency. She works across disciplines like painting, installation and performance art. Her interests are in memory histories and theories of personal identities. Lila won the *Absa L'Atelier 2018 Gerard Sekoto Award*.

Thelma Ndebele is a non-binary architecture graduate student and DJ (DORMANTYOUTH) whose main interests lie in the intersection of music and architecture. Ndebele insists on the importance of underground music subcultures within architectural discourse concerning urban environments, especially but not exclusively post-apartheid Johannesburg.

Lesiba Mabitsela is a South African artist and fashion practitioner who uses performance, video, textiles, and immersive technology to explore a concept or feeling expressed by what he terms 'cultural homelessness'.

Arafa Cynthia Hamadi is a non-binary, multidisciplinary artist working in Tanzania and Kenya. They create artwork in various mediums that address the intersections of the conceptual and the physical, as well as the ephemeral and the permanent, in the hopes of provoking their visitors into considering their daily realities.

uLuvuyo Equiano Nyawose ingane kaCindy noKwazi, baKwa-Mashu H section, nga Kwesethu High School. uGogo wakhe, uMaSibisi, umchaza njenge ngane "eyenza izinto zo-Arts & Culture." Nyawose engages in a transdisciplinary practice which navigates between curation, filmmaking and photography to produce work rooted in decolonial knowledge production.

Lehlogonolo Natalie-Ann Paneng is a multi-disciplinary artist who completed a BADA(Hons) from the University of Witwatersrand in 2018. Photography and videography are her main media, the use of which led to the development of her YouTube channel *Hello Nice* where she uses her skills in theatre and performance to connect to an online audience.

Oupa Sibeko and Nicola Pilkington

Oupa Sibeko is an interdisciplinary performance artist, scholar and educator whose work deals with matters and politics of the body as a site of contested knowledge.

Nicola Pilkington is a theatre-maker, filmmaker and educator with an interest in conscious collaborations. Nicola's current vocation is to forge ways to hybridize her skills for storytelling on stage and screen simultaneously.

Scott Eric Williams and Darkroom Contemporary

Scott Eric Williams is a self-taught artist from Cape Town and 2019 *Andrew Mellon Award* winner. He uses diverse media, which includes sculpture, weaving zines and Wheatpaste street art. As a founding member of the collective Burning Museum (2012-2015) Williams' work is strongly characterized by themes of archive, remembrance and marginalized histories. **Darkroom Contemporary** Dance Theatre is a project based company formed as vehicle to reimagine dance, through its innovative approach to staging and presenting contemporary works.

Lindiwe Matshikiza and João Renato Orecchia Zúñiga

Lindiwe Matshikiza is an artist working with writing, directing and performance in a variety of media and modes. She uses her training in theatre-making as a base from which to approach other kinds of work, often collaborative, exploratory projects that take on more than one form.

João Renato Orecchia Zúñiga is a Johannesburg based artist, composer and maker of physical and virtual "things" that play with reality by deconstructing it, shifting expectations of standard uses or purposes of objects and processes.

Faizal Mostrixx is a multi-faceted counter-culture visionary and a versatile artist whose distinctive aesthetics are rooted in modern urban narratives, while steeped in ancient African traditions.

Kwanele Finch Thusi is a contemporary dancer, dance teacher, entrepreneur and director. Thusi is currently the lead movement coach for a new dance series that is in partnership with *Netflix* and *Blue Ice Productions*.

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SPEAKERS

Shose Kessi is the Dean of Humanities at the University of Cape Town. Currently serving as Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology, the focus of her research is on community-based empowerment and social change, particularly exploring how to address issues of identity, such as race, class, and gender, that impact on people's participation in transformation efforts.

Jay Pather is a curator, choreographer and an academic. As a Professor at the University of Cape Town, he directs the Institute for Creative Arts. He also curates the *Infecting the City Public Art Festival*, the *ICA Live Art Festival* in Cape Town, *Afrovibes* in the Netherlands, the *Biennale of the Arts of the Body, Image and Movement of Madrid*, and the *French Season Africa 2020*. He has also served as juror for the *International Award for Public Art*, and was made *Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres* by the French Government.

Gabi Ngcobo is an artist, curator and educator living in Johannesburg, South Africa. Since the early 2000s Ngcobo has been engaged in collaborative artistic, curatorial, and educational projects in South Africa and internationally. Recent curatorial projects include *All in a Day's Eye: The Politics of Innocence* in the Javett Family Collection, at the Javett Art Centre - University of Pretoria and *Mating Birds* at the KZNSA Gallery, Durban. In 2018 she curated the 10th Berlin Biennale titled *We don't need another hero* and was one of the co-curators of the 32nd Sao Paulo Bienal (2016).

Nomusa Makhubu (BFA, MA, PGDHE, PhD, Rhodes University) is an Associate Professor of art history at the University of Cape Town and an artist. She received the *ABSA L'Atelier Gerard Sekoto Award* (2006) and the *Prix du Studio National des Arts Contemporain, Le Fresnoy* (2014). She was the 1st Runner-Up in the *DSTWomen in Science Awards*, 2017.

Amogelang Maledu is an independent curator and researcher. She graduated with a BA Degree in Anthropology and Visual Culture Studies at the University of Pretoria; and received an Honours Degree in Curatorship from the University of Cape Town (UCT). She sits as a committee member for *UCT's Works of Art Committee*, which is responsible for the art curation and acquisitions of the university.

Mbongeni Mtshali holds a doctorate in performance studies from Northwestern University. He is currently a lecturer and the head of section for theatre at the University of Cape Town's Centre for Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies. He is also a practising multimedia artist who uses movement, live and digital performance in both conventional and site-specific spaces to investigate concepts of social justice, identity and belonging.

Portia Malatjie is a curator and researcher in Art History and Discourse of Art at the University of Cape Town's Michaelis School of Fine Arts. She is Adjunct Curator, African and African Diaspora, at Tate Modern, London and Adjunct Curator at Norval Foundation (Cape Town). She holds a PhD in Visual Cultures from Goldsmiths University of London (2019), an MA in History of Art (2011) and a BA in Fine Arts (2009) from the University of the Witwatersrand.

Catherine Boule is a writer and researcher based at the Institute for Creative Arts (ICA), University of Cape Town. Since completing her Master's in English Literature at the University of Oxford, focusing on feminism in African-American theatre, her work at the ICA has included curating the Institute's lecture series and symposiums, initiating new research on live art in South Africa and, most recently, producing and editing *The ICA Podcast*. She co-edited *Acts of Transgression: Contemporary Live Art in South Africa* (Wits Press, 2019) with ICA Director, Jay Pather.



The Institute for Creative Arts

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