



# CCA Speaker Series #14

## Clive Kellner

**The Grammar of the Exhibition**  
Friday, 8 May 2015, 4.30 pm

**Anatomy Lecture Theatre**  
Centre for Curating the Archive  
Level 3, Old Medical School  
Hiddingh Campus  
31 – 37 Orange Street  
Cape Town

What is an exhibition? Is it a 'text', 'stage' or an 'event'? Recently the area of exhibition histories has become increasingly prevalent in contemporary art discourses. Florence Derieux asserts, "It is now widely accepted that the art history of the second half of the twentieth century is no longer a history of artworks, but a history of exhibitions." Exploring various modalities of 'exhibition making' and 'backstage' this presentation will discuss examples of monographic, historical and thematic exhibitions Kellner has curated. From museum collections to contemporary artists the dialogical aspects of curatorial work within a South African context will be explored.

Clive Kellner is the Executive Director of the Joburg Contemporary Art Foundation and curator-at-large of the gordon schachat collection. He was head of the Johannesburg Art Gallery (2004-2009), coordinator of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Johannesburg Biennale (1997), co-founder of the pan-African curatorial platform Camouflage and was editor-in-chief of Coartnews magazine (1999-2002). Curated exhibitions include Kendell Geers 1988-2012 at the Haus der Kunst (2013), the Thami Mnyele & Medu Art Ensemble Retrospective (2008) and Yinka Shonibare (2001). He has an MA(FA) from the University of Cape Town, a certificate in curating from de Appel, Amsterdam (1996) and the first Johannesburg Biennale (1995).

Image: Installation view of Ars Moriendi, How to Die Well (2008) Johannesburg Art Gallery, in the foreground, Jane Alexander 'Hit (Poor Walter)' (1995)

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