

About Turiya Magadlela

Employing art-making techniques traditionally associated with femininity and craft, the South African artist Turiya Magadlela sews and embroiders nylon pantyhose, correctional service uniforms, prison sheets, and other conceptually loaded fabrics to address issues that shape a gendered and racialized society. Magadlela studied at the University of Johannesburg and Rijksakademie, Amsterdam. Since winning the FNB Art Prize in 2015, and shortlisted for the Prix D' Prat Prize, she has shown at the 2016 Armory Show and exhibited in Berlin, USA and Ghana. Her work was included in the acclaimed group show "Blue Black," curated by artist Glenn Ligon at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation in St. Louis. Magadlela cuts, stitches, and folds her materials across wooden frames to create multilayered abstract compositions. Drawing from her experiences as a Black woman and a mother as well as from Black South African history, Magadlela's works serve as vibrant celebrations of Black womanhood while simultaneously suggesting the implicit eroticization of and violence against the body.

Biography of Turiya Magadlela

Education

2004 Postgraduate Research Study, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Netherlands 2001 National Diploma of Fine Arts, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

1998 Certificate in Fine Arts, Funda Community College, Johannesburg, South Africa

1997 National Senior Certificate, The National School of the Arts, Johannesburg, South Africa

Selected Awards

2018 Jean-Francois Prat Prize, Bredin Prat Foundation for Contemporary Art, Paris, France

2015 FNB Joburg Art Prize, Johannesburg, South Africa

2003 Goethe Institut and Johannesburg Art Gallery Young Artist Award, Johannesburg, South Africa 2002 Top 100 Best National Artists, ABSA L'Atelier, Johannesburg, South Africa

Residencies

2005 Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten

Grants & Fellowships

2004 National Arts Council of South African

2004 Dutch Ministry of Arts and Culture, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2004 National Ministry of Arts Culture, Science and Technology, South Africa

Solo Exhibitions

2021 Would Say II, Ubuntu un rêve lucide, curated by Marie-Ann Yemsi, Palais De Tokyo, Paris, France

2021 A Few Good Friends, Motho Fela, LatchKey Gallery, New York City, USA
2020 Mandisa, Nil Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
2019 Mashadi WouldSay... - MSGSU Resim ve Heykel Muzesi, Santiyesi, Istanbul, TUR
2017 The Armory Show - Solo Exhibit for the Armory Show Presents, / New York City, USA 2017 Wabona lapho isifebe, wangena kuso - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2015 Impilo ka Lova, blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2015 Kaffersheet - Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, RSA
2015 Imihuzuko (for the FNB Art Prize) - FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, RSA 2012 Everybody knows uFeela, blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2003 Young Artist Award, Goethe Institute, Johannesburg, RSA

Selected Art Fairs

2024 Art Brussels; Expo Chicago; Art Dubai; Spark Art Fair
1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London (with Kalashnikov Gallery), GBR: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, New York (with LatchKey Gallery), USA: 2020
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, RSA: 2021 / 2022
Frieze Art Fair, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Brooklyn and San Fransisco, USA: 2019
UNTITLED ART, San Francisco, USA (with Jenkins Johnson Gallery): 2019
UNTITLED ART, Miami Beach, USA (with Jenkins Johnson Gallery): 2018
16th Istanbul Biennial, Istanbul, TUR: 2019
EXPO Chicago, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Chicago, USA: 2018
2017, Magadlela presented a solo exhibit at The Armory Show, NY.
2016 Newcomers to frame Frieze New York, (sold out)
2016, she participated in the Armory Show and her work was presented at the collective exhibition Blackness in Abstraction at the Pace Gallery in New York.
2015 FNB Art Fair, Johannesburg, RSA

Bibliography

2022 Planet B: Climate Change and the New Sublime, Nicola Bourriaud
2022 The seventh BMW Art Guide, BMW Group Independent Collectors 2022
2021 African Artists, From 1882 > Now, Phaidon Press Inc
2019 Vitamin T: Threads and Textile in Contemporary Art, Phaidon Editors Janelle Porter, Phaidon PressInc 2019 How to Attend an Art Fair' by Charles Desmarais, DATEBOOK
2019 Pantyhose That make you think, New York Times

2019 My Top 5 Gems at EXPO Chicago by Caira Moreira-Brown, FAD MAGAZINE
2019 Light as Air, Tough as boots pantyhose in art by Charlotte Jansen, FINANCIAL TIMES
2019 16th Istanbul Biennial Announcement by E-FLUX
2018 Turiya Magadlela 2016-2017, Blank Projects, Contemporary &
2018 The Same As Ever, But More So., Braunsfelder, Art Viewer
2017 Turiya Magadlela selected by Sue Williamson,
2018 Future Greats by Sue Williamson, Art Review
2015 In Conversation with Turiya Magadlela by Chad Roussouw, Art Throb
2015 Art born of shared pain and pantyhose by Stefanie Jason, Mail & Guardian
2015 Artist Showcase: Remaking the Material World by Mary Corrigall, The Times

Collections

Foundation Bredin Prat Studio Museum Harlem Brooklyn Museum
Iziko Museums
Foundation Gander pour L'Art Schussing Art Collection
Jac Forbes Gallery
Scott Newman Collection
Superior Collection
Collection Société Générale
Creative Art Partners
Jack Shainman Gallery
Natalie Kates
Pace Gallery
Nich McCree
Stefan Simchowitz
Destinee Ross-Sutton
Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation Olm Collection
Leridon Collection
Collection UHODA
Cuperior Collection

Tiroche DeLeon Collection
Hoosein Mahomed Collection

Selected Group Exhibitions & Projects

- 2023 Dark Matters, Kates-Ferri, NYC, USA
- 2023 A woman's work, Jac Forbes Contemporary, Malibu, USA
- 2023 Lean On Me, Ko Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2023 He Said She Said, 1:54 New York Kates-Ferri Projects, New York, USA
- 2023 Contemporary African Art Survey, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands
- 2022 A Collection of African Portraits, Kunsthalle Krems, Vienna, Austria
- 2022 We Paint, Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts de Paris, curated by Christiano Raimondi, 10 years by Jean-François Prat Prize, Paris, France
- 2022 (De) Framing Identity and the body, I know you are, but what am I? UMOCA, Utah, USA
- 2022 Mama, PRIOR Art Space, Berlin
- 2022 4000+ years of African Art + Ans D'art African, curated by Destinee Ross-Sutton, Musee Wallhouse, Saint Barthélemy Foundation, La Fondation Gandur pour L'Art Geneve
- 2022 Shades of human nature: Storytelling, through resilient colour, curated by Katherine Finerty, BloomGallery, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2022 Home Strange Home, curated by Reservoir, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Whatiftheworld Gallery and Krone Cap Classique, Tulbagh, South Africa
- 2022 Water is not for sale, curated by Cassandra Bowes, Bloom Gallery Saint Tropez, France
- 2022 When Yonic, Becomes Phallic, Editions, Artthrob in association with DGI Studio and Latitudes
- 2022 Untitled Art Fair, Kates Ferri Projects, South Beach Miami, Florida, USA
- 2022 Artissima, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Italy
- 2022 Quantity of Movements, AKAA Fair, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Paris, France
- 2022 Planet B. Climate Change and the new sublime II, Charles Darwin and the coral reef, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud, Palazzo Bollani, Venice, Italy
- 2022 Planet B. Part III, The Tragic Death of Nauru Island, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud, Palazzo Bollani, Venice Art Now
- 2023 Kates Ferri Projects, NYC, USA
- 2022 FNB Art Joburg, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2022 African Galleries Now, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa and Artsy
- 2022 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2022 Dirurubela, 1:54 London, Kalashnikovv Gallery Johannesburg, South Africa

2022 Current Identities, BODE Projects and Bloom Gallery, Berlin, Germany
2021 L' aventure ambiguë, BISO
2021, The International Biennial of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
2021 West Bund Art and Design, Bloom Gallery and HdM Gallery, Beijing, China
2021 Last Supper curated by Tamecca Seril - LatchKey Gallery, in special partnership at Industry City, New York, USA
2021 KUGARISANA - Group show of artists from the Continent of Africa Presented by Simchowitz - Beverly Hills, California, USA
2021 Hello And Goodbye - Kalashnikovv Gallery, Cape Town, RSA
2020 Against Interpretation - Everard Read, London, GBR
2020 Courage is as Contagious as Fear - Norval Foundation, Cape Town, RSA
2020 BLACK VOICES/BLACK MICROCOSM, curated by Destinee Ross, CFHILLofficial, Sweden Colour of the African Di-as-po-ra {noun} LACK
2019 King of the Hill - Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, USA
2019 Material Insanity, Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden (MACAAL) Marrakech, MOR 2019 New Conversations - Malibu Art Walk, Malibu, California, USA
2019 Gossamer - Curated by Zoe Bedeaux, Carl Freedman Gallery, Margate, Kent, GBR
2019 Speculative Inquiry, on abstraction curated by Nkule Mabaso Michaelis Galleries, South Africa
2019 Frieze Art Fair, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Brooklyn and San Francisco, USA
2019 UNTITLED, San Francisco, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, USA
2019 Open Agenda - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2018 Blank Projects & Galerie Guido W. Baudach, Berlin, GER
2018 More for less, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, RSA
2018 The Same As Ever, But More So - Braunsfelder, Cologne, GER
2018 UNTITLED, Miami, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Miami, USA
2018 EXPO Chicago, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Chicago, USA
2018 Jean François Prat Prize, Bredin Prat Foundation, Paris, France
2017 Looking Back, Moving Forward - Constitutional Hill, Johannesburg, RSA
2017 Blue Black curated by Glenn Ligon - Pulitzer Arts Foundation, St Louis, USA
2017 MO Simple Passion, Complex Vision: The Darryl Atwell Collection - Gantt Centre, Charlotte, USA
2017 Les jour qui vient, curated by Marie-Ann Yemsi, Galerie des Galeries, Paris, FRA
2017 A Painting Today - Stevenson, Cape Town, RSA
2017 MO Simple Passion, Complex Vision: The Darryl Atwell Collection - Gantt Centre, Charlotte, USA

2017 The Past is Present - Jack Shainman Gallery, New York City, NY
2016 B lackness in Abstraction - Pace Gallery, New York, USA
2016 The Quiet Violence of Dreams - Stevenson, Johannesburg, RSA
2016 3 881 days - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2016 Figure - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2015 Furniture: A Sculpture Exhibition - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2015 Back to the Future II: Abstract Art in South Africa - SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, RSA
2014 The Poetry In Between: South-South - Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, RSA
2014 half- devil and half- child - blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa
2013 This is the thing - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2013 Blank projects in Johannesburg - Ithuba Arts Gallery, Johannesburg, RSA
2012 When Form Becomes Attitude - blank projects, Cape Town, RSA
2006 De Grote Oversteek, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2004 Rijksakademie Open Ateliers, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2001-2002 Activate Architects, Johannesburg, South Africa
2001-2002 ABSA L 'Atelier Exhibition, Johannesburg, South AfricaMuseum Africa, South Africa

Get in touch.

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