Association

**Association for Visual Arts Gallery



Our History

The history of the AVA reflects much of the social, political and cultural changes that have taken place in South Africa.

The AVA had its origins in the South African Fine Arts Society, the first organized art body in South Africa, founded at a meeting in Cape Town in 1850. The aims of this Society were the formation of a permanent art gallery and art library for exhibiting and promoting art.

At a members meeting in 1871 it was resolved to acquire a gallery and a permanent art collection in trust for the residents of the Cape Colony. The AVA's most significant legacy is that this collection, which started with a bequest of 45 pictures by the art patron Sir Thomas Butterworth Bayley, would form the core of the South African National Gallery, now part of Iziko Museums. In 1895, by means of the South African Art Gallery Act, the government took over the existing national art collection in trust and formed a board of trustees. In 1924, after years of campaigning, a team of architects was appointed and the new gallery, the South African National Gallery, finally opened in 1930.

Having achieved its primary goal, the Association developed into a national body in 1945, the South African Association of Arts (SAAA), which embraced existing art societies all over the country. Branches were established throughout South Africa with the SAAA Western Cape as headquarters. In 1995 the SAAA, Western Cape transformed itself into the Association for Visual Arts (AVA), an independent and autonomous organisation.

In 2001 the AVA formed a partnership with Spier, who through the donation of the AVA's premises became its major sponsor. This partnership has secured the continuation of the AVA as an NPO and its role in arts development. The AVA's current vision is a natural follow-on from its past.

About Us

The Association for Visual Arts is a non-profit, membership-based arts organization whose primary aim is the advancement and promotion of South African contemporary art and artists.

The AVA Gallery is based in the heart of Cape Town. Here contemporary visual art production is promoted through regular exhibitions showcasing all media – by established and emerging artists. In its choice of artists, the selection committee endeavours to promote the discursive and experimental nature of contemporary art. In doing this the AVA seeks to make important contributions to the 'open texture' of South Africa's art community.

The current medium-term strategy is aimed at steering the AVA into a new phase of its remarkable, long, life. It includes new programmes, a larger international scope and a rebranding. 2021 is the year to muscle up for, as the AVA will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in the current location and its 171st anniversary as association.

The AVA produces activities in five main categories, which feed each other in a holistic manner to encompass a fully integrated, cyclical programme. Half of these activities are curated in-house whilst the other half are open to the public by way of call for proposals.

Our Key Areas of Activity

- 1. Exhibitions
- 2. ArtReach
- Residencies
- 4. International Exchange Programme
- Events

ArtReach

Initiated in the late 1980s, the AVA ArtReach fund serves to nurture South African talent.

Over the years, the ArtReach programme has funded a broad spectrum of artists' needs, including: art materials, art workshops, art tuition, framing, studio rentals, galleries in schools, exhibition costs, catalogues and a host of other activities. ArtReach has launched several emerging artists who have gone on to achieve success, notably Maurice Mbikayi, iQhiya and Mandla Vanyaza.

The programme's new 'Western Cape' chapter serves to empower artists who don't live in urban centres, whilst simultaneously enriching the visual landscape for gallery visitors: through offering fully professional solo exhibitions, art production mentorship and other art facilitation services to artists who live and work in Mossel Bay, Oudtshoorn, Worcester and Robertson. Follow our 2018 Mezzanine Gallery programme for details.

Funding for ArtReach has been received from the National Lottery and from PGWC-DCAS. Since 2016 the AVA also generates ArtReach funds through the annual production and sales (by Strauss & Co.) of limited edition portfolios. As the fund must be kept alive, donations small and large are much appreciated.

ArtReach Partners









Ubulungiswa/Justice Collaboration: Business Owner, 2017 Rest In Peace Mandisile Keva AKA Kola



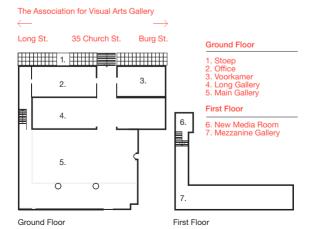
2018: Exhibitions, Openings & Events

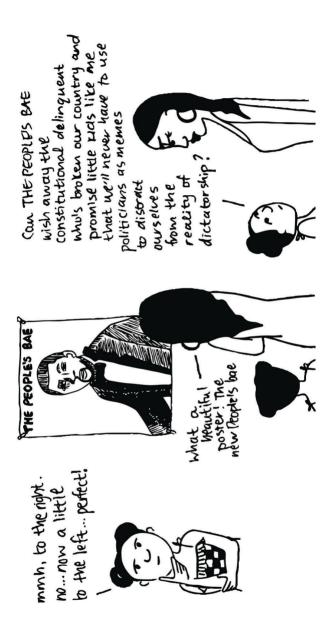


Pixels of Ubuntu (AVA, 2016), Zimbabwe Pavilion at Venice Biennale 2015

The Gallery and Spaces

The AVA Gallery consist of four gallery spaces, each with a distinctly different character. In addition the outdoor stoep and voorkamer are used for events, residencies, mini exhibitions, workshops, talks, presentations, etc. The spaces can be hired for events and film shoots; please enquire via director@ava.co.za.





January

14.12.17 - 27.01.18

All Galleries

Cape Town Salon 2017/2018

February

31.01.18 - 24.02.18

Main Gallery

Sorrel Hofmann - & Friends

Long Gallery

Brian Bradshaw - Gouaches

Mezzanine Gallery + New Media Room

Marguerite Moon – Shape-Shifting: Reimaging Mothering and Mother-Being

16.02.18 - 18.02.18

Investec Cape Town Art Fair

AVA Booth F5 – Fikile Mqhayi, Boyce Magandela, Sandile Ashar Mhlongo, Lindile Magunya, Emalie Bingham, Elsabe Milandri, Emma Nourse and SaySay.Love

March

08.03.18 - 05.04.18

Main Gallery

Ubulungiswa/Justice Collaboration

Long Gallery

Deborah Lazarus - The Layered Garden

Mezzanine Gallery

Danny Shorkend - Philosophical Conundrum

New Media Room

Greatest Hits

April

12.04.18 - 10.05.18

Main + Long Gallery + New Media Room

Greatest Hits

Mezzanine Gallery

ArtReach Western Cape - Chapter 1



May

17.05.18 - 14.06.18

Main + Long Gallery + New Media Room

PPC Imaginarium

Mezzanine Gallery

Adele van Heerden

In Memoriam

June

21.06.18 - 19.07.18

Main Gallery

AVA Winter Production – Comics Focus

Long Gallery

Ingrid Coerlin/ Mem Sevenster/ Yolanda Warnich

Scape

Mezzanine Gallery + New Media Room

Taryn Miller & Tracy Megan - Re-vision

July

26.07.18 - 23.08.18

All Galleries

Kemang Wa Lehulere 2018 AVA Alumni

August

30.08.18 - 26.09.18

Main + Long Gallery

Nando's Creative Exchange 2018

Mezzanine Gallery

ArtReach Western Cape - Chapter 2

New Media Room

Greatest Hits



September

29.09.18 - 06.10.18

Main + Long Gallery

Members Exhibition 2018

October

11.10.18 - 27.10.18

Main Gallery

Mary Visser - Funny Things Are Everywhere

Long Gallery

Abraham Cunio - 48.7

Mezzanine Gallery

ArtReach Western Cape - Chapter 3

New Media Room

Greatest Hits

November

01.11.18 - 29.11.18

Main Gallery

Josie Grindrod – Gesturing Objects: Ghastly tenderness and the Doubly Present

Long Gallery

Yoshiteru Hagiwara - Wander Tokyo

Mezzanine Gallery

ArtReach Western Cape - Chapter 4

New Media Room

Simon Ker-Fox - LOCUS

December

06.12.18 - 12.01.19

Main + Long Gallery + New Media Room

Cape Town Salon 2018/2019

in collaboration with Artist Proof Studio

Mezzanine Gallery

ArtReach Western Cape - Chapter 5

Become a Member AVA for Visual Arts



Fill out the form below or visit www.ava.co.za to become a member, receive discounts from our partners, detailed on our website, and have a voice in the Association.

Membership 7	Types		
Single Membe		R 150	
– Two	Two years:		R 280
- Five Years		R 550	
Couple:			R 280
Organisation:		R 300	R 300
Pensioners &	Students:		R 75
Please compl	ete		
Name:			
Address:			
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Telephone:			
Banking Deta	ils:		
Account Name		Association for Visu	ıal Arts
<u>Bank</u>		Nedbank	
Banch Code		101709	
Current Account		100 9933 299	
VAT, NPO and	PBO Details		
VAT Registration:		4830251536	
NPO Registratio:		035-161 NPO	

Public Benefit Tax Exception: 930 002 912

Our Partners & Donors



Long Term Partners





Joan St. Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust

Programme Partners



















Artist Proof Studio

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