

Sipho Charles Gwala was born and raised in Alexandra Township. In 2009 he received his Diploma in Fine Art from the University of Johannesburg. Sipho Charles Gwala is founding member of Gomorollective, a collective of artists working together in Alexandra. The aim of the collective is to have an art centre in the township, a space where artists can express themselves. He is currently teaching children from Alex how to draw. In 2009 Gwala collaborated with the Trinity Session on art works for BRT bus stops commissioned by the Johannesburg Development Agency. In 2010 he further designed works for the Ernest Oppenheimer Park with the Trinity session that were as well commissioned by the JDA. In 2011 Gwala produced a drawing for a commemorative stamp and a cover letter for the 100 years anniversary of Alexandra. Both will be launched in October 2012.

Keabetswe Mokwena was born in Johannesburg. She grew up in Alexandra Township. She has spent the last few years studying and working and her experience includes practicing as an artist, arts adman, managing a prominent arts center in JHB and co-organizing a series of workshops and exhibitions between Mozambique, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

Although based in Johannesburg, she now spends a significant amount of time in the North West Province where she plans and coordinates art based programs for disadvantaged youth.

Reatile Mokwena was born in Johannesburg, grew up in various locations and now lives back in Johannesburg, although she has a longing to be by the seaside.

She earned a national diploma in graphic design from Tshwane University of Technology having completed two years at the University of Pretoria, she has been illustrating and designing ever since.

Claire Rousell is an artist, lecturer and writer with an interest in the economies of second hand objects and art as a way of creatively re-using the things one ordinarily discards. She has a BA from Rhodes University and an MA Photography from the University of Sunderland. Alongside her creative practice, Rousell teaches at Market Photo Workshop and the University of Johannesburg. Website: www.giveupbelonging.com

Buhlebezwe Siwani, born and raised in Johannesburg, completed her degree in fine arts at The University of the Witwatersrand. Her work is made up primarily of performances and installations, and is centered around change and journeys that one undertakes, spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally. At times these four factors that define change, growth, regression and journey are challenged or simply explored. Siwani tries to create a space, or a platform for the individual to relate to her work in an emotional sense which carries with it the physical, because it is the body that reacts first without thought. In the spaces that she create it is up to the audience to become a part of the space, they either become the viewer or the viewed, a part of the reflection, a space where they are allowed to feel.

Katharina Rohde studied architecture in Cottbus (Germany) and Caracas (Venezuela) and received her Master in Advanced Architectural Design (M.Sc.AAD) with honors (N-Morcos Assad Award for excellence in Design) 2004 at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow (Scotland). Her Masters' project was further awarded with the International Bauhaus Award 2004 and received recognition of the Archiprix International Prize 2005.

After her studies Katharina Rohde was a fellow at the International Bauhaus Kolleg 2005 of the Foundation Bauhaus Dessau and investigated on the topic of *Transnational Spaces* in Berlin and Istanbul.

In 2005 Katharina Rohde was invited to teach at the University of the Witwatersrand, School of Architecture and Urban Planning as a guest lecturer in Johannesburg. In 2006 freelancing work for architecture & planning offices Raumlabor Berlin and Raumtaktik Berlin followed. Katharina Rohde initiated and realized the two year long arts & fashion project TEK-STIL in 2007 funded by the German Cultural Foundation in the Fonds Work in Future. She further initiated the urban lab_el foundation, an interdisciplinary, international and intercultural Project platform.

In 2008 Katharina Rohde returned to Johannesburg as a visiting artist at the Fordsburg Artist Studio The Bag Factory and has since been back in different contexts on numerous occasions. As an artist Katharina Rohde participated in Cascoland Mafikeng 2010 as part of the Football World Cup in the North Western Province of South Africa.

Since 2010 Katharina Rohde is part of the Intercultural Cities program by the European Commission and the Council of Europe as an expert for intercultural planning.

In 2011 her proposal for the exhibition project *Just do it! Creative strategies of Survival* was selected as winner of the New York based apexart Franchise program. Currently Katharina Rohde is back to Johannesburg, curating the work of five emerging South African artists for the show to be opened on February 4th 2012 in Spaza Shops in Alexandra.

www.katharina-rohde.com