

## Artist Statement

“My subject matter captures the world I live in, the people in my environment, thus my artworks are a form of social commentary. In my earlier work I responded to the poverty and suffering that I saw around me. However, in my more recent works I have chosen to focus on happier everyday occurrences in the inner city, and my works began to describe a greater array of emotions that express the human condition despite circumstances.

My works consist of human figures placed against a collaged background reflecting global issues that have affected South Africa and the broader African continent. Although the collaged background tends to flatten the illusion of space, I wish to depict real people with dreams and aspirations, people who occupy space. The style of my work is therefore a form of realism, and the people are painted in a naturalistic way. I am influenced by impressionism and realism, as the subject matter for both of these styles focuses on ‘the ordinary person’ and their daily lives.

I use photographs that I have taken as source material and see my works as series. I tend to group these together, that way I keep track of my progress or growth with every series. My work is undergoing a gradual change as I am beginning to work in layers now. It is still in its early stages of development but I am interested in the relationship between the figures and the collaged elements. I have always been intensely fascinated with colour and since the backgrounds are mostly monochrome I make sure the colour of the figures stand out. I wish to use my art to motivate and inspire people. I hope that my pieces get people thinking because I feel that I am documenting history past and present. I am proud of my journey thus far and am motivated by the fact that I love what I do for a living.”

## Biography

Andrew Ntshabele was born in the small rural town of Moruleng in the North West province of South Africa. When Andrew was four years old, his family moved to the city of Johannesburg, where he currently resides. Andrew Ntshabele is influenced by his surroundings - his embodied experiences of growing up during the apartheid era and subsequently witnessing the transition to a democracy in creation of a post-apartheid South Africa.

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## Education

In Andrew Ntshabele's early years, he showed exceptional talent, leading him to complete a BTech degree majoring in painting from the University of Johannesburg in 2013.

## Exhibition History

### 2014

Two-Person Exhibition, MAP

Mashumi Art Projects), Next Door Restaurant, Vilakazi Street, Orlando, Soweto West

Two-Person Exhibition, 'The Other Side of Joburg', StopSign Art Gallery, 203 Fox Street, Maboneng Precinct

Visual Art Riot group exhibition opening, Basha Uhuru Freedom Festival, presented by Constitutional Hill, in association with Kalshnikovv Gallery

IDC Gallery group exhibition

### 2015

Live painting and solo exhibition, 'Meetings Africa', Sandton Convention Centre

'KaPlan' group exhibition, Constitutional Hill, 1 Kotze Street

Turbine Art Fair, Assemblage Studios and Fresh Produce emerging artists group exhibitions

'After the Winter' group exhibition, The Henry George Gallery, 45 6th Street, Parkhurst

### 2016

Bowan Gilfillan group exhibition, 11 Alice Ln, Sandhurst, Sandton

'Dark Passages; Lighted Rooms', MAP Contemporary, 87 4th Avenue,

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Melville

'Expressions', The Henry George Gallery, 45 6th Street, Parkhurst

Group Exhibition, Art It Is Gallery, 11 Chester Rd, Parkwood, Randburg

## **2017**

The Joburg Fringe Art Fair, Victoria Yards, Lorentzville

'Expressions 2', The Henry George Gallery, 45 6th Street, Parkhurst

## **2018**

Inaugural Themba Gala Auction, Fox Junction Event Venue, 1 Fox Precinct, 14 Alexander Street, Ferreirasdorp

The Travelling Art Gallery pop up group exhibition in Germany, Hamburg, Hildesheim, Ludwigshafen

'The Art of Law',,, Werksmens Attorneys, The Central, 96 Rivonia Rd, Dennehof, Sandton

'See Your Art Amsterdam', pop up group exhibition, Netherlands, Amsterdam

## **2019**

'What is South Africa Even?', volume 2, group exhibition, Bag Factory Studios, 10 Mahlatini St Newtown, Fordsburg

The Travelling Art Gallery, pop group up exhibition in Germany, Frankfort, Stuttgart, Munich

Affordable Art Fair Brussels, Art chemistry Gallery, Brussels, Belgium

Our City with Portraits, The Henry George Gallery, 45 6th street, Parkhurst

ARTMUC Contemporary Art Fair Munich, The Travelling Art Gallery, Munich, Germany

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Kings Day Celebrations Week, solo exhibition, Art Chemistry Gallery, Muurhuizen, Amersfoort, Netherlands

Art Laren, Art Chemistry Gallery, Het Gooi, Gelderland, Netherlands

'Reflecting on August', THK Gallery, 52 Waterkant St, Cape Town City Centre, Cape Town

'Moving Into Dance', charity exhibition, AGOG Gallery, 12 Lower Ross St, New Doornfontien

'People of the Shadow Economy', solo exhibition, The Henry George Gallery, 45 6th street, Parkhurst

Affordable Art Fair Stockholm, Art Chemistry Gallery, Nackastrandsmässan Augustendalstorget 6, Nacka Strand 131 52, Stockholm, Sweden

'Europe Art Fair and Beyond', Art Chemistry Gallery, Westergasfabriek, Amsterdam

Pop-up exhibition of EADT (The Emerging Artists Development Trust), V&A Waterfront, 19 Dock Rd, Cape Town

## **2020**

Innsbruck International Art Fair, The Travelling Art Gallery, Austria

Artyli.com Gallery, group exhibition, Monte Casino, Montecasino Blvd, Fourways  
'Reset', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery Shop 6, Stanley Studios, 39 Stanley Ave, Milpark

'I am Because We Are', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 6, Stanley Studios, 39 Stanley Ave, Milpark

Pop Up Group Exhibition, The Travelling Art Gallery, Crailsheim, Germany

Solo Exhibition, The Travelling Art Gallery, Berlin, Germany

Phakama Art Online Art Auction

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'Sounds in Solitude', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 6, Stanley Studios, 39 Stanley Ave, Milpark

'Trio Umoyo', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 6, Stanley Studios, 39 Stanley Ave, Milpark

## **2021**

'Encounters 1', solo exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 6, Stanley Studios, 39 Stanley Ave, Milpark

'Encounters 2', solo exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 6, Stanley Studios, 39 Stanley Ave, Milpark

Online Charity Auction, The Travelling Art Gallery, Germany/ South Africa  
Pop Exhibitions, The Travelling Art Gallery, Germany

'Africonic', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 53, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

'Art The Hague', group exhibition, Art Chemistry Gallery, The Netherlands

## **2022**

Pop Exhibitions, The Travelling Art Gallery, Germany  
Pop Exhibitions, The Travelling Art Gallery, V & A Waterfront, Cape Town

'Dance of the Counterpoints', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 53, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

'The Stories in Between', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Shop 53, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

Group Exhibition, Loo and Lou Gallery, 20 Rue Notre Dame de Nazareth, 75003, Paris, France

## **2023**

'JUSTMAD' contemporary art fair 2023 edition, Loo and Lou Gallery,

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Madrid, Spain

Pop Up Exhibition, The Travelling Art Gallery, Germany

'Streams of Dreams', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

'Reflecting Forward', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

'Roots to Wings', group exhibition, Artyli.com Gallery, Nelson Mandela Square, Sandton

### **Awards**

During his early years as a professional artist, Andrew received the painting merit award at the Thami Mnyele Fine Arts Awards (TMFAA) in 2012.

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