

Artist Statement

“This is my art. This is my life. Come with me. I tell narratives of African women - their strength, their rise, their fall and their bloom. An apt word to describe my creative process is probably the word ‘scattered’. A thousand thoughts and a million moments need to be funnelled into a final finished product. I utilise painting, drawing and collage and I combine both traditional materials as well as computer work to get my art to where I want it to be. It is a long, complicated and messy process - a bit like life itself in Africa. My artwork rests somewhere between soulful and fashion, moody and hopeful, beauty in the flesh and beauty of the soul. I hope to inspire you to seize the beauty in your life. To see it with new eyes. To live it with renewed passion!”

Biography

Shelley-Anne Graham is a mixed media artist working from the seaside town of Nelson Mandela Bay. After graduating Shelley-Anne later went on to teach art in Port Elizabeth, Cape Town and Britain for 18 years. This was a safe career path but after a life altering emotional encounter with grief, following the passing of her husband in 2016, Shelley-Anne was led to pick up a paintbrush full time.

Education

Shelley-Anne studied Fine Art at Port Elizabeth (PE) Technikon.

Exhibition History

2022 - ‘Vivid Identity’, Artyli Gallery, Sandton, Johannesburg

2020 - Art@Africa, V&A Waterfront, Cape Town

2020 - ‘Reset’, Artyli Gallery, virtual exhibition, Johannesburg

2019- Art on Target, Target Kloof, Port Elizabeth

2019 - 'Kamers Makers', Blaaukkippen Vineyards, Stellenbosch

2019 - 'Art Meander', Kragga Kamma, Port Elizabeth

2018 - Nelson Mandela Bay Pop-up, Marine Drive, Port Elizabeth

2017 - 'Homemakers', William Moffat, Port Elizabeth

2016 - 'Wild Whimsy Wonder', Mackay Str, Port Elizabeth

2016 - GFI Gallery, Park Drive, Port Elizabeth