

Artist Statement

One may have so much knowledge about a particular thing, just to realize that there is still more to learn. As a learner, a creative, and a humanist, I not only learn about painting and drawing, but I learn more about myself as well. I may not conclude that I know myself, which is what makes this practice so interesting. I paint intuitively. At times, I become very uncertain when painting, never too sure about the outcome until a moment of clarity. I never rush to paint or plan to paint, it is simply an act that presents itself at any given time. Themes that surround my work are based on the human condition, freedom and identity. Charcoal, pastels and paint are the mediums of optimism, emotion and mystery. By using these mediums, I attempt to capture the essence of the human condition in the hopes that the viewer will become more aware of not only their own individuality but the whole movement of the human race. Once again, through this awareness, the learning never comes to an end.

Biography

John Nkosi is a self-taught artist from Johannesburg, South Africa. Just before graduating high school, Nkosi discovered his passion for art at an adolescent age, while playfully sketching on pieces of paper in art class. In early 2018, Nkosi stumbled upon Living Artist Emporium (LAE), where he was given the opportunity to gain insight into the art industry and a creative space to further develop his craft. That same year, Nkosi participated in a local art competition, in which he received the second prize. Nkosi appeared on Southern Courier, a local newspaper documenting the

influence of art in a community and how art can be used as a means for rehabilitating the youth and society as a whole. Nkosi took a break from art, but emerged back into the art scene in late 2021.

Exhibition History

2021 – ‘Arting the Art’, Dual exhibition with Stoffel Mogano, Rand Club, Johannesburg

2021 – ‘La Femme’, group exhibition, LAE Art Gallery

2020 – ‘Lockdown’, group exhibition, LAE Art Gallery