

## Artist Statement

“Conceptually my art breaks down and unpacks the very foundations that our society is built on today. By physically cutting out and removing objects from their intended context, I begin to build up profiles and identities for my subjects. Our society today is built around consumerism. A person is no longer known for who they characteristically are but rather by what they possess. Humanity is constructed from the very items it creates. From afar these portraits look beautiful; however, upon closer inspection, the volume of material items begins to overwhelm, creating an atmosphere of obsession and greed. This characteristic of the artwork’s make-up reveals the grotesque nature of what is seen as beautiful in today’s time.”

## Biography

Dario Paulino Manjate, is a Mozambican born artist, currently living in South Africa. In 1993 Manjate relocated to Alexandra, a township in Johannesburg, South Africa. Hereafter Manjate found a love for art and decided to pursue a career as a professional artist. Manjate worked with Mr. Steve Mavusu, an art teacher at Thusong Youth Centre. Under Mr. Mavusu’s guidance developed his artistic skills in various mediums including oil, watercolour, acrylic painting and collage, a medium he is most known for.

## Education

Dario enrolled into Artist Proof Studio in 1998 to further his artistic skills by studying printmaking techniques, namely, drypoint, linocut, silkscreen and monotype.

## **Exhibition History**

### **Solo Exhibitions**

**2015** - 'Joburg Consumes Me', MB Studio Gallery Sandton

### **Duet exhibitions**

**2015** - Sports Awards, Sandton Convention Centre

**2014** - 'Building Blocks', Art Afrique Gallery, Sandton – Building Blocks

**2014** - 'Dream of an African Woman', Daville Baillie Gallery, Hyde Park

**2014** - 'EOH', Sandton Convention Centre

### **Group exhibitions**

2015 - Living Artists Emporium, Turbine Art Fair

2015 - 'Take Me to the Inner City', Synprop Gallery, Johannesburg

2015 - Jan Celliers, Johannesburg

2015 - 'The Legacy Continues', Legacy Art Projects, Durban Art Museum

2014 - Soweto Art Week, Legacy Art Projects, Soweto Theatre

2014 - Legacy Art Projects, Polokwane Art Museum

2014 - Art Afrique Gallery, Turbine Art Fair

2014 - 'First Introductions', Art Afrique Gallery, Sandton

2000 - Party Design, Johannesburg

1999 - IDC Offices, Sandton

1998 - Artists Proof Studios, Johannesburg

1996 - In Atlanta Georgia, USA

## **Awards**

In 1996, Dario won the 'Freedom of Expression Art Competition' (Gauloises Blondes) in Johannesburg.

## **Projects**

Dario participated in various community projects such as, "Work To Win," an environmental awareness project which included the creation of several art murals made to uplift his surrounding township community. These art murals particularly focused on what Dario considers to be an important topic, which is bringing awareness to the dangers of pollution and global warming.