

20

Exhibition
Programme

20

▲▼▲ Association
for Visual Arts
Gallery



17 decades of art

Our history

The AVA – arguably South Africa’s oldest arts organisation with a lineage dating back to 1850 – is a non-profit, artist-focused arts organisation whose primary aim is the advancement and promotion of South African contemporary art and artists.

1850

South African Fine Arts Society is founded in Cape Town.

1851

The Society arranges the first-ever exhibition of fine art in South Africa.

1871

Becomes SA Fine Arts Association. Members resolve to establish a permanent gallery & art collection for the residents of the Cape Colony.

1872

The National Collection is founded in part by a bequest of paintings by the art patron Sir Thomas Butterworth Bayley.

1875

The Association purchases a premises on Queen Victoria Street which temporarily houses the collection.

1945

Becomes the South African Association of Arts (SAAA), embracing existing art societies all over the country.

1971

SAAA headquarters in the Western Cape move into its current location at 35 Church Street.

1995

SAAA headquarters in the Western Cape transforms itself into the Association for Visual Arts (AVA), an independent and autonomous organisation.

2001

AVA forms a partnership with Spier, who through the donation of the AVA’s premises becomes its major sponsor.



A home for daring art

Why the AVA matters

In a time of political and economic upheaval, when support for the arts is not a policy priority and commercial considerations invariably pressure artists and gallery directors to play safe, the Association for Visual Arts's role is more important than ever. The AVA offers a much-needed space for daring ideas and maverick conversations to flourish. Through its exhibitions and other kinds of support, it has created a rare and vibrant home for fresh, original thinking and unconstrained art-making.

Associate Professor of Painting at Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, Virginia MacKenny highlights the diversity of the AVA's programming.

"All sorts of capacities, ages, concerns and demographics presented in almost every media imaginable are shown here. It is probably the most egalitarian gallery in Cape Town, which is a real reason why it needs to stay open as it provides a platform that no other gallery does. Its rental is accessible, its commission low, and its doors open to all. [...] It often provides a springboard for a career. It is a good place to start making a collection, too, as it is not as highly priced as other galleries whose overheads tend to rocket."

In its choice of artists, the AVA selection committee endeavours to promote the discursive and experimental nature of contemporary art. By doing so, the AVA seeks to make important contributions to the 'open texture' of South Africa's art community.

Key areas of activity

Exhibitions

ArtReach

Residencies

Events



ArtReach

Nurturing talent



Initiated in the late 1980s, the AVA ArtReach fund serves to nurture South African talent.

The ArtReach programme funds a broad spectrum of artists' needs, including art materials, art workshops, studio rentals, exhibition costs and many other art-related matters. AVA ArtReach has launched several emerging artists who have gone on to achieve success, notably **Maurice Mbikayi**, **iQhiya** and **Igshaan Adams**.

The programme's 'Western Cape' chapter serves to empower artists who don't live in urban centres through offering fully professional solo exhibitions, art production mentorship and other art facilitation services to artists who live and work in Mossel Bay, Oudtshoorn, Worcester and Robertson.

Funding for ArtReach has been received from the National Lotteries, Provincial Government Western Cape- Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport and Strauss & Co. Since 2016, the AVA also generates ArtReach funds through the annual production and sales of limited edition portfolios.





King Debs, *Yo o kwa legodimong*, Digital Print, Ed. 1/5, 2018, 74cm x 55cm (detail)



Programme 2020

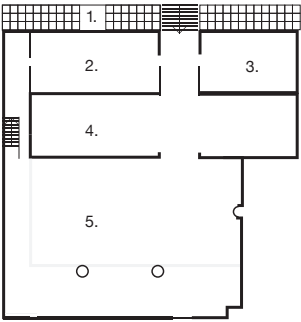
Exhibitions & residencies



The Ocean of Limitlessness, solo exhibition by Abdus Salaam, 2019, Long Gallery

The AVA Gallery is made up of four gallery spaces, each with a distinctly different character. In addition, the outdoor stoep and salon room are used for events, residencies, mini exhibitions, workshops, talks, presentations, etc. The spaces can be hired for events and film shoots; please enquire via admin@ava.co.za.

The Association for Visual Arts Gallery



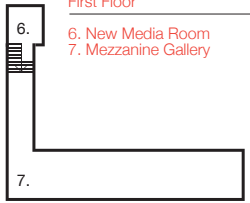
Ground Floor

Ground Floor

- 1. Stoop
- 2. Office
- 3. Salon Room
- 4. Long Gallery
- 5. Main Gallery

First Floor

- 6. New Media Room
- 7. Mezzanine Gallery



First Floor



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Christian Nerf, <3<3<3, *Archive as Terrarium: Part 3*, Installation, 2019,
Image courtesy of A4 Arts Foundation / Kyle Morland



Circle

Connecting art lovers



Limited to only 50 members, Circle provides art collectors with an opportunity to connect over their shared love of art while participating in a number of exclusive art events.

Circle commemorates 50 years since the AVA moved into its premises on Church Street in central Cape Town. Circle membership fees go towards the establishment of an endowment fund that will ensure the AVA's ongoing sustainability in the rapidly growing and commercialising Cape Town visual arts eco-system.

The AVA hosts a variety of events for its Circle members, up to four times a year. In the pipeline for 2020:

February - Excursion to Stellenbosch Triennale: meet visiting artists from elsewhere in Africa.

July - Curated collector's Pop-Up exhibition at the AVA Gallery. The AVA matches a curator with one of the member-collectors to curate an exhibition to be mounted at the AVA, consisting of works from the collection in question, augmented by new works by the same artists.

September - Dinner with AVA alumnus 2020: Christian Nerf. Artwork-inspired food hosted at Nerf's exhibition at the AVA Gallery.

December - Excursion to Art Basel Miami Beach & selected participation in panel discussion.

Collector Lizelle Kilbourn, one of the inaugural members of the collectors' circle, says, *"The AVA plays a meaningful role in the south African art ecosystem. With its can-do management team and support from the art community, it has the potential to flourish and continue to benefit current and future artists."*

www.ava.co.za/join





Byron Eksteen, *Ghost DNA*, Relief Ink on Canvas, 2019, 89cm x 71cm (detail)



January

23.01.20 - 27.02.20

Main Gallery

Jeannette Unite - *MINE: Who Owns Africa*

Long Gallery

Givan Lötzt - *Unearthly*

Mezzanine Gallery

Neil Overy - *Zones of Dissonance: Cape Town, Koeberg and Nuclearity*

New Media Room

Byron Eksteen - *The Machine in my Head*

Salon Room

Ricardo Kapuka as artist in residence (Benguela, Angola)
In partnership with ELA and Worldart

February

14.02.20 - 16.02.20

Investec Cape Town Art Fair

AVA Booth in the Cultural Platforms section

March

05.03.20 - 09.04.20

Main Gallery

Kings Debs- *Bokamoso (Future)*

Long Gallery

Brett Seiler in collaboration with Billy Monk Collection -
Love in a Loveless Time

Mezzanine Gallery

Anushka Kempken - *The Rain Makers*

Salon Room

ArtReach Chapter 5: Bradley Flynn

April

16.04.20 - 21.05.20

Main Gallery

Tangeni Kambudu- *More Meaningful in your Absence*

Long Gallery

Judy Woodborne - *Imaginarium, an exhibition of paper constructions and works on paper*

Mezzanine Gallery

David Hlongwane- *Conserve Myself to Communicate with my Ancestors*

Salon Room

ArtReach Chapter 6: Cecilia Pienaar

New Media Room

Philip Steele - *Unapologetic*





Jeannette Unite, *MINE: Who Owns Africa*, Mined materials, 2019, 30cm x 30cm (detail)



May

28.05.20 - 09.07.20

Main Gallery

Warren Maroon – *Living in a Box: A Retrospective*

Long Gallery

Michelle Marcuse – *Holding Absence*

Mezzanine Gallery

Isabella Kuijers – *Acts of Translation*

Salon and New Media

Greatest Hits - an AVA annual production

July

23.07.20 - 27.08.20

Main Gallery

Circle: AVA 50 Collectors Exhibition

Long Gallery

Elske Henderson - *Lost Expectancies*

Mezzanine Gallery

Elgin Rust – *Post Plastic*

September

03.09.20 - 08.10.20

All Galleries

Christian Nerf - *before four and after two*

AVA Alumni in partnership with A4 Arts Foundation

October

15.10.20 - 19.11.20

Main Gallery

Klara-Marié den Heijer – *Gedagtes van Stof*

Long Gallery

Anthony Cawood – *Reflections*

Mezzanine Gallery

Philippa Allen – *Ghost Scapes*

November

26.11.20 - 07.01.21

Main Gallery

Curated by Luvuyo Equiano Nyawose & Kopano Maroga –
Male Discourse: Stories about Boys

Long Gallery

Yoshiteru Hagiwara – *A life of Zanzibar*

Mezzanine Gallery

Chumisa Fihla and Bruce Bowale

New Media

Daleen Nel Hall – *I am not from here, nor there*



Become a Member

Complete the form below or visit www.ava.co.za to become a member, receive discounts from our partners (detailed on our website) and have a voice in the Association.

Membership Types

Single Membership:	R 150
– Two years:	R 280
– Five Years:	R 550
Couple:	R 280
Organisation:	R 300
Pensioners & Students:	R 75

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

Banking Details:

<u>Account Name</u>	Association for Visual Arts
<u>Bank</u>	First National Bank
<u>Branch Code</u>	250655
<u>Current Account</u>	628 3313 6733

VAT, NPO and PBO Details

<u>VAT Registration</u>	483 025 1536
<u>NPO Registration</u>	035-161
<u>Public Benefit Organisation</u>	930 002 912



Our Partners & Donors

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