

***Sonya Rademeyer***

Sonya Rademeyer is a visual artist born in Zimbabwe and residing in South Africa. Placing her work at the intersection of art, science and consciousness she seeks to visualize empathy through deep listening. Using both sound and movement as the vehicles to explore empathy she places her work within culture at large. Likening an imaginary geographical space within her body as 'in- between', she views the fragility of deep empathy to be visualized from an embodied space. Since 2018 she started incorporating a performative element to her drawing practice and has done public performative drawing both locally and internationally.

Her interest in exploring empathy through sound and movement has been published in *Interalia Magazine* (UK), an on-line platform at the intersection of art, science and consciousness that encourages debate and critical thinking. Her experimental collaborative performance *Mis/Seen* funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation and showcased at VAF 2019 and was nominated for a Blinker Award. VAF commissioned Sonya for new work which was funded by NATi for VAF 2020. She is a keen inter- disciplinary collaborator and showcased two collaborate video works at vNAF 2020. A graduate of Willem de Kooning Academie (Netherlands) she has participated in multiple international group shows as well as representing South Africa at the 2008 DAK'Art Biennale (Senegal). More recently, she was selected as research-artist into the AIR Residency associated with the University of Johannesburg (2022-2023). The Zimbabwe National Gallery has selected Rademeyer for their International Artistic Residency commencing May 2024.



## *Caroline Sohie*

Caroline Sohie is an architect, curator and lecturer active between London, Brussels and Cape Town.

She creates across media. Her creative investigation focuses on the agency of space and connects diverse modes of expression, ranging from architecture, photography to sculptural installation, painting and scenography.

With an inherent understanding of space and the visual, her cross-genre work examines the human condition emulated by its spatial context, capturing the symbiotic, though often uneasy relationship, between human beings and their habitat. The work unearths deeper questions surrounding civilisation, power, memory, and the symbolic gesture of the human trace facing life's impermanence.

Her philosophy is informed by her interdisciplinary engagements with the Laboratory of Movement, associated with the Ecole Lecoq in Paris. The laboratory of experimental scenography is dedicated to the dynamic research of movement, space, and rhythm through structural form.

Caroline's work explores the intangible knowledge developed by 'seeing through the body' through movement. This embodied knowing forms the foundation for creative reflection, which she in turn intuitively translates into a or spatial language of physicality.



## *Franco Prinsloo*

Franco Prinsloo is an award-winning composer and conductor from Pretoria, South Africa. He creates in a diverse variety of contemporary classical styles with a specific focus on choral music, vocal music, and music for theatre. He has been the Musical Director for the Nedbank Arts and Culture Trust Performing Arts Scholarships from 2014 to the present. In 2019 he received the prestigious ACT IMPACT AWARD for Young Professionals from the Nedbank Arts and Culture Trust for composition. He was nominated in 2022 for two Naledi Theatre Awards and in 2023 for another, for this original soundtrack for the one-man play “Plesierengel”

He is an active composer in the contemporary music scene in South Africa. He has been commissioned by prominent choirs including: The King’s Singers; Kammerchor| Vocalisti (Hans-Joachim Lustig, Germany) and the acclaimed overtone singer Anna- Maria Hefele; The Akustika Chamber Singers (Christo Burger, SA); The University of Stellenbosch Choir (André van der Merwe, SA); The University of Pretoria Camarata (Michael Barrett, SA). Prinsloo established and conducts the semi-professional chamber choir, Vox Chamber Choir, in 2017. The choir received a golden medal at the Interkultur World Choir Games in Tswane in 2018 and another golden medal at the International Anton Bruckner Competition in Linz, Austria in 2019, during Vox Chamber Choir’s tour of Europe. Prinsloo has a unique approach to choral rehearsals. He strives to combine a visceral musical experience with voice technique, a specific focus on expression in the musical phrase, and an exploration of each chorister’s musical expression. This results in a unique and beautiful choral sound and musical interpretation that has been praised by music critics.

In 2021 he received a Fellowship in Music Composition from the London College of Music. In 2022 Prinsloo presented original work and group discussions at the Creative Research Laboratory. In 2023, Prinsloo also received the coveted Medal of Honor for Art from the South African Academy of Science and Art.

