

PRESS RELEASE

AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013

An Exhibition of Contemporary South African Sculpture



In 2012 the city of the Hague showcased South African sculpture as part of its annual exposure of contemporary sculpture from around the world. The occasion also marked the unveiling by Queen Beatrix of a statue of Nelson Mandela, installed permanently outside the International Court of Justice. The exhibition was entitled *The Rainbow Nation*.

The NIROX Foundation assisted the Dutch curators to assemble the exhibition, and thereafter many of the participating works were returned to NIROX with a view to affording South Africans the opportunity to view a part of the Hague exhibition.

With the assistance of curator Mary Jane Darroll, iconic works from the Hague exhibition have been supplemented with new works and new sculptors; extending the scope of The Rainbow Nation into an expansive view of sculpture in South Africa today, entitled AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013.

The exhibition does not aspire to review the subject of contemporary sculpture in South Africa. It has no thematic approach. It revels in the diversity of South African society and artistic practice through works that inspire, challenge and enrich the viewer and the ever-changing landscape of the NIROX Sculpture Park in the Cradle of Humankind.

The exhibition previews on Saturday 13 April and opens to the public on Sunday 14 April 2013. Thereafter it is open to the public on weekends and public holidays, and is otherwise open for viewing by appointment.

List of participating artists:

BETH ARMSTRONG | BEEZY BAILEY | DEBBIE BELL | KEVIN BRAND | DAVID BROWN | WILLEM BOSHOFF | MARCO CIANFANELLI | BAREND DE WET | GUY DU TOIT | RICHARD FORBES | GORDON FROUD | ANSIE GREYLING | RODAN HART | BRONWYN LACE | KIM LIEBERMAN | MAJA MARX | SAMSON MUDZUNGA | MARCUS NEUSTETTER | SERGE NITEGEKA | ANGUS TAYLOR | STRIJDOM VAN DER MERWE | EDOARDO VILLA | GAVIN YOUNGE | MAWANDE ZENZILE



Layers of Being | Rammed earth and hematite | 2012

Angus Taylor

The exhibition has provided opportunity for a number of special projects:

Human Intersection/Prof Lee Berger - Kim Lieberman

Lieberman's series of sculptures connecting selected South African personalities to their geographic presence, takes shape for AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013 through the iconic figure of Prof. Lee Berger, whose recent scientific research and ground-breaking discoveries at Malapa, in the Cradle of Humankind, have transformed our understanding of human origins.

The connection between artist and scientist; explorer and place; origins and the present; and humans inter se - is exposed through a laser cut steel image of a crouching Berger 'laced' with blood red 'threads' to his relationship with the earth and humanity.



surface weight (artist rendering) | 2013

Beth Armstrong

surface weight - Beth Armstrong

Armstrong has recently completed a residency at the NIROX Foundation during which she focused on the conception and production of her first work of monumental scale - a long held ambition. Her maquette and fastidious technical research has attracted patronage to produce this work for AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013. The work is now in production at NIROX, with the kind assistance of Christoff Wolmarans in the De Witt family workshop.



Fractal I | Mixed media, steel, haematite and hematite magnetite [Edition 4] | 2013

Angus Taylor

Layers of Being - Angus Taylor

In addition to recreating for the AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013 an incarnation of the rammed earth kneeling figure entitled Layers of Being, which attracted wide attention in the Hague, Taylor takes this opportunity to realize an ambitious new monumental work built on site in collaboration with staff and management of the Foundation.



Vortex I & II | 2013

Richard Forbes

Vortex I & II - Richard Forbes

Invited to submit work for AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013, Richard Forbes was motivated by the landscape to propose a 4,5 meter steel Vortex for the amphitheatre and a 1.5 meter Water Lily for the waters' edge. Kindly sponsored by private patrons, Forbes has been enabled to pursue this very ambitious project.



Father and Son | Painted wood | 2013

Serge Nitegeka

The Yorkshire Sculpture Park Project

NIROX has established a partnership with the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, one of the world's leading sculpture institutions, to exchange artists and particularly to afford sculptors from Africa global exposure.

During 2013 two NIROX residents, Serge Nitegeka and Rodan Hart, were selected for residencies at YSP, with the opportunity to propose works for commissioning as part of the highly prestigious YSP collection. As YSP residents they follow in the footsteps of some of the world's best-known sculptors, including the likes of Andy Goldsworthy, David Nash and James Turrell.

Following their recent residencies at NIROX Nitegeka and Hart have left behind works at NIROX, which will be shown with AFTER THE RAINBOW NATION | 2013.

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