

NIROX|Winter Sculpture 2017

OPEN LABORATORY

The 1st edition

Press Release

For its 2017 annual winter sculpture exhibition, NIROX inaugurates its program for ongoing collaboration with public institutions to produce and exhibit sculpture, installation and live performance in the NIROX Sculpture Park.

12 dynamic curators appointed by 6 South African universities appropriate the park, to express their own insights through the work of 50 alumni artists who experienced their adulthood after the fall of apartheid – with all its promises, hopes and challenges.

Historically the vanguard of change, universities and their relations with society could not be more relevant or center stage than they are today.

The exhibition brings the universities into conversation with the public and encourages discourse amongst themselves and their students through public walkabouts, workshops and talks before and during the exhibition.

Seldom do curators and artists have the opportunity to come together to express their concerns on this scale, with this latitude.



Artwork by Manu Manjesh Lai

Universities & curators

The **participating universities**, their selected curators and exhibition titles are:

UP: Johan Thom & Shenaz Mahomed

'Mmarakas.

The Free Noise Station at Nirox'

TUT: Philiswa Lila & Runette Kruger

'Classes and Methods: objects to perform'

UCT: Dr Siona O'Connel & Jade Nair

'FREE-DOM : Ways of Life in the Wake of Catastrophe'

Unisa: Dr Gwenneth Miller, Maaike Bakker & Prof Nombeko Mpako

'Against the Surge'

UJ: Gordon Froud & Thabang Monoa

'Materiality, liminality, impermanence, dissolution and the environment'

Wits: Dr Same Mdluli

'INYALA Station: #Operation Occupy Nirox'



Artwork by Manu Manjesh Lai

Artists

University of Pretoria (7)

Shenaz Mahomed

La Rochelle Olwagen

Leandre le Roux

Allen Laing

Josly Van Wyk

Cazlynne Peffer

Lelani Nicolaison

Guest artist – The Cool Couple (Italy)

TUT (9)

Poorvi Bhana

Kgaogelo Mashilo

Liesl Roos

Kutala Chopeto

Lwandiso Njara

Thabo Pitso

Nkhensani Rihlampfu

Sylvester Mqeku

Sifiso Mkhabela

UNISA (8)

Yvette Dunn
Emma Willemse
Alex Trapani
Manu Manjesh Lal
Siziwe Sotewu
Nel du Preez
Odun Orimolade
Smangaliso Khumalo

Guest artist – Katharien de Villiers (Stellenbosch)

UJ (7)

Thabang Monoa
Jessica Doucha
Nompumelelo Vuyiswa Tshabalala
Kiveshan Thimbiran
Casper Whiteman
Colleen Winter
Lilly Oosthehuizen

UCT (5)

Zyma Amien
Hasan & Husain Essop
Laylaa Jacobs
Stephen Symons
Xhanti Zwelendaba

Wits (12)

Title and Transgression Collective (Boitumelo Motaung, Simnikiwe Buhlungu, Dineo Phofa and Malebona Maphutse)
Michelle Monareng
Dineo Bopape
Anti Clockwise (Refiloe Namise, Tsholofelo Seleka, Siyandea Marengame)
Sithembile Msezane
Pamela Sunstrum
Buhlebezwe Siwani
Sheeka Kalan
Tracey Rose



Artwork by Kgaogelo Mashilo

Patronage

Many of the participating artists have been awarded production funding from corporate and private sponsors, through the NIROX Patronage Program, with special thanks to PPC, BACARDI, Caleo Capital, Burger Radiologists and private patrons.

Performances

The exhibition includes 5 *plein air* live performance works, mentored and developed in conversation with Nelisiwe Xaba.

NIROX App

Powered with the help of Grotech, visitors will be able to download the NIROX App to provide live mapping of their location in the park, the exhibition catalogue and related information.



Artwork by Emma Willemse

Opening times

The exhibition opens for preview, by invitation only, on 7 May; and to the general public, under the auspices of the annual Winter Sculpture Fair, on 13 & 14 May 2017.

It will remain open to the public on weekends and public holidays from 10am till 5pm until the end of July 2017. Admission is free except for the Winter Sculpture Fair, and when the park hosts public concerts, which will be announced in local media and on the NIROX website.



Artwork by Lwandiso Njara