

Throughlines

Greatmore Studios Showcase 2017

3-20 November 2017



Still from the Video Installation titled 'Act No. 84 of 1996' 2017

By Dathini Mzayiya

Throughlines features recent works by past and present Greatmore Studios residents, highlighting the invisible threads that bind disparate artists to create a community. Narratives of history, identity, spirituality, technology, and politics are embedded in these diverse works, the artists drawing upon individual stories in order to convey shared experiences.

The fourteen artists in *Throughlines* use layered narratives to articulate unique perspectives through painting, video, photography, performance, sculpture, and installation. Often employing aspects of the personal or the everyday, the works on view embrace and confront fixed cultural assumptions. The spine connecting these distinctive works is the context in which they were created—each story stems from an entrenched cultural community.

Greatmore continues to foster a culture of learning and community for practising artists with the intention that the broader community is enriched by the diversity of voices.

Artists

Anthony Cawood | Roelf Daling | Rory Emmett | Mongezi Gum | Kimathi Mafofo | Margaux Dehry | Wonder Marthinus | Maurice Mbikayi | Unathi Mkonto | Thandiwe Msebenzi | Richard Mudariki | Dathini Mzayiya | Thania Petersen | Jill Trappler

Curated by
Lindsey O'Connor (Whitney Museum of American Art, New York)

Assistant Curator
Alex Abrahams (Greatmore Street intern)

Funded by DAC

A Short-Biography of Dathini Mzayiya

Born in 1979, Dathini Mzayiya is currently an artist in residency at The Factory of the Arts, a Centre for Humanities Research project at University of Western Cape (UWC), Woodstock in Cape Town. Mzayiya is a founding member of several arts initiative including Factory of the Arts (FOA), Africa South Arts Initiative (ASAI), Visual Arts Network South Africa (VANSA) and Gugulective artists collective.

After graduating at Community Arts Project (CAP) in Advance course for Visual Arts in 2001. Mzayiya participated in international artists Residencies and projects, including Greatmore Artists Studios, The Bag Factory Artist Studios, and Glenfiddich Distillery in Scotland, Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands and Ethiopia.. He's work is both in private and in public collection, notably at the Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), Maria Worth Town Hall in Austria and exhibited his work in several galleries including Erdmann Contemporary. Recently Mzayiya was commissioned work for a group exhibition titled 'Athlone In Mind' at the Castle of Good Hope, Cape Town 2017. Dathini has worked on projects for the South African Human Rights Media Centre with survivors of torture and violence in South Africa, Liberia, Kenya and South Sudanese refugees in Uganda.

Using oil paint, charcoal, sculpture, video and sound installation, Mzayiya's critical and expressive art depicts the socio-political landscape of the post apartheid and day-to-day life in contemporary South Africa.