

COLBERT MASHILE

(b. 1972, Bushbuckridge, South Africa)

'I come from a place that is shrouded by powerful cultural norms and customs.' These customs, such as the ritual of circumcision both myself and my wife have undergone.

Colbert Mashile explores the psychological impact of traditional circumcision and initiation rituals on initiates. He also explores the often-problematic narratives of collective cultural determinants within these communities. As Colbert Mashile has matured, the psychological underpinnings are still evident, but his imagery has transgressed these limitations to begin addressing issues such as home, language and the natural landscape. Mashile, a quiet individual, reflects on his use of symbols and icons. He comments that it simply shows the 'truth about the land and its people and thus my existence in South Africa'. This poignant statement reflects someone who has a clear understanding of the prevalent issues in South Africa. His work references various elements of more traditional art production techniques (printmaking, drawing and painting). But, within this production, he isolates the personal narrative as the loudest voice within a cacophony of layers of symbology, meaning and reference.

SELECTED EDUCATION

2001 Master of Arts in Heritage Studies, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
1996-2000 Bachelor of Arts in Fine Arts, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 *VEDI, VINI, VICI*, Everard Read Franschhoek, South Africa

2018 *As We Are*, CIRCA, Johannesburg, South Africa
Who feels it, Knows it, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

2017 *Truth or Dare*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
Just My Imagination, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa

2016 *Man in the Arena*, 1:54 African Art Fair, London CIRCA Gallery, London, UK
Man's Duality (Unearthed) CIRCA, Johannesburg, South Africa

2015 *Beast of Burden* NIROX Projects, Johannesburg, South Africa
S'Ka Motho (Just Like Man) SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2013 *Messages from our Ancestors Art*, Eye Gallery, Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa

2006 *Mmawaka Montedi* AVA, Cape Town, South Africa

2004 *Tsa Bagale*, Gallery On The Square, Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 *Winter Collection*, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa

2018 *Summer Exhibition III*, Everard Read, London, UK
Winter, Everard Read, London UK

2017 *State of the Art*, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
FNB Joburg Art Fair, Everard Read Booth, Johannesburg, South Africa
Everard Read/Circa Booth Cape Town Art Fair
Winter Collection, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
Summer Exhibition II, Everard Read, London, UK

- 2016** Everard Read/Circa Booth Cape Town Art Fair
Opening Exhibition, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2015** *FNB Jo-burg Art Fair*, Everard Read Gallery Booth, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2006** *Les arts de la Coexistence?* Alliance Francaise, Paris, France
Les arts de la Coexistence? Musee des Arts Derniers, Paris, France
New Painting, KZNSA Gallery, Durban, South Africa
New Painting, Unisa Art Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa
DAK' ART, Dakar, Senegal
New Painting, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2005** *Brett Kebble Awards Exhibition*, South Africa
ABSA L'Atelier Competition Exhibition, Absa Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Sasol New Signatures Competition Exhibition, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa
Les arts de la Coexistence? Migrations Culturelles, Bordeaux, France
Les arts de la Coexistence? Médiathèque, Biarritz, France
Florence Biennale, Florence, Italy
- 2004** *ABSA L'Atelier Competition Exhibition*, Absa Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Brett Kebble Awards Exhibition, South Africa
A Decade of Democracy: Witnessing South Africa: 2004 -2005, Boston, Smithsonian, Gibbs Museum, Detroit USA
The ID of South African Artists, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
A Decade of Democracy: South African Art 1994 -2004 from the Permanent Collection, South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Making Waves (A selection of works from the SABC Art Collection) Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Negotiated Identities - Black Bodies, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2003** *Circumcised/Circumscribed*, Axis Gallery, New York, USA
New Works, Art Space, Johannesburg, South Africa
Show Me Home, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
A New Collection, Gallery On The Square, Sandton, South Africa
- 2002** *Insider / Outsider*, Art On Paper Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Klein Karoo National Arts Festival, Oudshoorn, South Africa
- 2001** Museum Africa Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
The Art Space Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2000** ABSA Gallery, Johannesburg UNISA Art Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa
Malangatana in South Africa, Sandton Civic Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Bill Ainslie Art Gallery, South Africa
Klein Karoo National Arts Festival, Oudshoorn, South Africa
- 1998, 1999** Martienssen, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 1994** JHB Art Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa

AWARDS

- 2000** ABSA l'Atelier Merit Prize, South Africa
- 1999** Certificate of First Class: Painting IV, Johannesburg Art Foundation, South Africa
- 1998** Certificate of Merit: Outstanding Results in Drawing & Design III, South Africa
- 1992-1994** Certificate in Art Foundation Course, South Africa
- 1989** Tladishi High School Matric, South Africa

SELECTED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COLLECTIONS

3M, South Africa
African Life, South Africa
BHP Billiton (Gencor) Daniel Erasmus Attorneys, South Africa
Durban Art Gallery, South Africa
De Beers, South Africa
E. Oppenheimer & Sons Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa
IBM, South Africa
MTN Corporation, South Africa
NEDCOR Bank, South Africa
SASOL Limited, South Africa
South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC), South Africa
Stanlib, South Africa
The Mandela Foundation, South Africa
The South African National Gallery, South Africa
University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

