

EVERARD READ

JANE EPEL

(b. 1979 Cape Town, South Africa)

Jane Eppel is a South African printmaker based in the Cape Peninsula, which is the smallest yet richest of the world's six Floral Kingdoms. Inspired by nature, her work focuses on the abundance and diversity which daily surrounds her.

Eppel's copperplate etchings are a contemporary interpretation of the traditional genre of botanical art. Her intricately detailed studies of local flora are depicted singly, in sequence, or knotted into suggestions of further shapes and signs. The quietness of the works belies the physical rigour of their making: copperplate etching is a very laborious process. From preparing the sheets of copper to finally etching the needle-drawn lines in ferric chloride, a work can take Eppel weeks and even months to complete.

Though true to the ready familiarity of its subject matter, Eppel's flowers are not indebted to the conventions of photorealism. They operate as a form of storytelling, each of the works taking its place within a series of interlinked points, stages and movements. The artist's eye is an obsessive one, probing the sensitivity of every stigma and stamen and matching their specificity with the exactness of her incisions. Yet the micro gives way to the macro and some of the flowers allude to seemingly more remote forms – to the imagined lines of a constellation and the orbital planes of a planet or, conversely, to the smallest unit of an atom or the bonds of a molecule.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 What I Feel When I Think About The Cosmos, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2022 Seduction, group show, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020 On Being, a womxn's group show, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
Journeys of the Mind, group show, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2019 Southern Aspect, group show, Everard Read, London, UK
Recent Works, solo, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa, South Africa
- 2018 Winter, group show, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2013 Recent Work, solo, Rust en Vrede Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2012 TRACE, a joint show with Cathy Abrahams, In Toto Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
An Alphabet of Fynbos, solo, South African Print Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Nature of the Earth: conversations from above & below, with Nic Bladen, Astrid Dahl & Katherine Glenday, Amaridian Gallery, New York, USA
- 2011 In Bloom II, group show, Casa Labia, Muizenberg, South Africa
Print, group show, Rust en Vrede Gallery, South Africa
Art on Paper, group show, Kalk Bay Modern Gallery, South Africa
Recent Prints, solo, South African Print Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Natural Selection, with botanical sculptor Nic Bladen, Rust en Vrede Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
10 Years On, group show, curated by Andrew Lamprecht & Jessa Mockridge, Michaelis Gallery, UCT, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2010 In Bloom, group show, Casa Labia, Muizenberg, South Africa
Coppertone 77, group exhibition, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
20-squared, Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa
Print, group show, These Four Walls Gallery, Observatory, South Africa
HEEMS, group show, Kruisrivier Farm, South Africa
Art on Paper & Ceramics, group show, Kalk Bay Modern Gallery, South Africa
Contemporary South African Art, curated by Geeta Chagan, Degree Art Gallery, London, UK



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- Tretchikoff & Me, group show, curated by Andrew Lamprecht, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa
Smorgasbord, group show, Wessel Snyman Collective, Cape Town, South Africa
Affordable Art Fair, Bristol, UK
Heartland, with Marieke Prinsloo & Mila Reyneke, Gallery at Grande Provence, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2009 Let them eat cake, group show, Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa
Angels IV, group show, Gallery at Grande Provence, , Franschhoek, South Africa
Artworks on Paper' group show, Kalk Bay Modern Gallery, South Africa
- 2008 Sanctum, solo, Bell Roberts Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2007 RINT 07, group show, Bell Roberts Gallery, Lourensford, South Africa
Greenhouse, group show, Bell Roberts Gallery, Lourensford, South Africa
- 2006 Orientation: bearing east, solo, Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2004 Brett Keble Award finalist
Curiosity CLXXV, group exhibition, celebrating the University of Cape Town's 175th anniversary, UCT, Cape Town, South Africa