

HOT WATER

ART AND CLIMATE CHANGE

symposium | exhibitions | film screenings

28-29 SEPTEMBER 2012

UCT HIDDINGH HALL

GORDON INSTITUTE
GIPCA
FOR PERFORMING
AND CREATIVE ARTS

ACDI
African Climate &
Development Initiative

HOT WATER: ART AND CLIMATE CHANGE PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER

- 17:30 Opening drinks
- 18:00 Welcome: Associate Professor Jay Pather (Director: Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts)
Opening address: Professor Mark New (Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director of the African Climate and Development Initiative, UCT)
- 18:45 Exhibition opening: *Facing the Climate*, curated by Ann-Marie Tully (address by Kai I Persson, Deputy Swedish Ambassador) and *EKDUO*, by Simon Max Bannister
- 19:00 Exhibition walkthrough
- 19:30 Supper
- 20:15 Film screening: *The Age of Stupid*, directed by Franny Armstrong (UK, 2009)
- 21:45 Ends

SATURDAY 29 SEPTEMBER

- 08:30 Tea/Coffee
- 09:00 PANEL 1
Penny Price (Climate Change and Biodiversity Directorate, Western Cape Government); Ann-Marie Tully (University of Johannesburg, Curator: *Facing the Climate*); Joseph Daron (Climate System Analysis Group, UCT); Kai Lossgott (Curator: *Letters from the Sky*); Chair: Warren Nebe (Director: Drama for Life, University of the Witwatersrand)
- 10:00 Film screenings: four top award-winning films from *Letters from the Sky*, followed by discussion
Custom, by Terry Westby-Nunn (Cape Town, 2011)
Consomania, by Samba Fall (Dakar / Oslo, 2011)
Cooling Reactors, by Sojin Chun and Alexandra Gelis (Toronto, 2011)
Take off your Veil, by Irina Gabiani (Luxembourg, 2011)
- 11:00 Tea/Coffee
- 11:30 PANEL 2
Tom Sanya (School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics, UCT); Simon Max Bannister (Artist); Sarah Ward (Head: Energy and Climate Change, City of Cape Town); Linzi Lewis (Environmental activist 'Liliana Transplanter'); Chair: Jay Pather (Director: GIPCA)
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:15 Film screening: introduced by Warren Nebe (Director: Drama for Life, University of the Witwatersrand), followed by discussion
COP17: Stories of the Future, directed by Xolelwa Nhlabatsi (Johannesburg, 2012)
- 14:45 Closing comments
- 15:15 Tea/Coffee
- 15:30 Film screenings: Jury's Choice Edition, *Letters from the Sky*; introduced by Kai Lossgott
Treebute to Yogya, by Sara Nuytemans and Arya Pandjalu (The Hague / Yogyakarta, 2009)
Air, by Dunet Chan (Hong Kong, 2011)
Dead Air, by Louise Coetzer and Oscar O'Ryan (Cape Town, 2011)
A Darker Shade of Grey, by Margreet Gouws, Graham Wickham and Salphy Ramohale (Johannesburg, 2011)
Cooling Reactors, by Sojin Chun and Alexandra Gelis (Toronto, 2011)
My Beach, by Leila Anderson and Clara Tilve (Cape Town, 2011)
Take off your Veil, by Irina Gabiani (Luxembourg, 2011)
Man Belongs to Earth, by Anna Barańska and Michal Barański (Lublin, 2011)
Custom, by Terry Westby-Nunn (Cape Town, 2011)
The Art-Qaeda Project, by Wei-Ming Ho (Taipei, 2010)
Consomania, by Samba Fall (Dakar / Oslo, 2008)
A little wind, by Xolani Ndhlovu, Jacqui-lee Katz, Melanie Hoenselaar, Tinashe Kamwendo (Johannesburg, 2011)
Nor any drop to drink, by Kyle O'Donoghue (Cape Town, 2011)
Rain, by Simone Stoll (Frankfurt, 2008)
The Highest Pinnacle of Knowledge, by Joas Sebastian Nebe (Hamburg / Berlin, 2010)
Future North, by Jane D Marsching, Mitchell Joachim and Terreform (Boston, 2008)
The Bear, by Anja Hitzemberger (New York, 2011)
Love The Waters, by Claire Beynon (Dunedin, 2011)
Struggle for Existence, by Laurie Sumiye (London / Hawaii, 2010)
- 16:30 Ends

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EXHIBITIONS | FILMS

EXHIBITIONS

Facing the Climate

Conceptualised by the Swedish Institute, curated by Ann-Marie Tully

The ***Facing the Climate*** exhibition series combines climate-themed cartoons by five Swedish artists, with the climate-related artworks of artists in host countries. In this case five South African cartoonists join five Swedish cartoonists in taking a sharp look at the climate issue, with the aim of encouraging discussion about the sustainable society and heightening awareness of current environmental problems. ***Facing the Climate*** has been staged in a number of international contexts, with exhibitions taking place during 2012 in Rio, Athens, Tirana, Tel Aviv and Novosibirsk amongst other cities around the world. The ***Facing the Climate*** exhibitions in South Africa are curated by Ann-Marie Tully, in association with the Swedish Embassy of South Africa.

Facing the Climate is part of a concerted drive, conceptualised by the Swedish Institute, to promote critical sustainable development under the heading Facing the Future – Sustainability the Swedish Way. The impetus behind this began in December 2009 in relation to the Copenhagen Climate Conference, when a group of 25 Nordic newspaper cartoonists provided some amusing and alarming reflections on climate change. To illustrate Sweden's active involvement in this area, the Swedish Institute developed the exhibition ***Facing the Climate*** in collaboration with the Swedish cartoonists/illustrators Magnus Bard, Helena Lindholm and Riber Hansson. At Michaelis Galleries these artists will be joined by fellow Swedish artists Love Antell and Karin Sunvisson in commenting on the global climate dilemma. The South African cartoonists/illustrators involved in this project are Tony Grogan, Wilson Mgothozi, Ree Treweek, Sifiso Yalo and Zapiro.

EKDUO

Simon Max Bannister

Inspired by the regenerative processes of nature, Simon Max Bannister has been hunting plastic litter for four years - creating art that uses the menace as the medium.

EKDUO (from the ancient Greek, meaning "to put off the body, the clothing of the soul"), represents a longing to shed our skin, to be rid of excess and the obsolete. "In moulting lies destruction and creation, concepts central to all life. The snake's transformation reflects a need for entropy and rebirth - observing this has the potential to start a process of transformation within ourselves, adapting this shedding behaviour to our own culture. The symbolic moulting of a snake in this exhibition becomes a challenge to detach and innovate, to recreate new forms of consumption and being within culture" comments Bannister.

FILMS

The Age of Stupid

Directed by Franny Armstrong

The Age of Stupid is a drama-documentary-animation hybrid starring Oscar-nominated Pete Postlethwaite as a man living alone in the devastated future world of 2055, watching archive footage from our time and asking: why didn't we stop climate change when we had the chance? Amid news reports of the gathering effects of climate change and global civilisation moving towards destruction, he alights on six stories of individuals whose lives in the early years of the 21st century seem to illustrate aspects of the impending catastrophe. These six stories take the form of interweaving documentary segments that report on the lives of real people in the present, and switch the film's narrative form from fiction to fact.

Letters from the Sky

Curated by Kai Lossgott

The experimental film programme ***Letters from the Sky*** took to the screens in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town as part of the COPART cultural action in November 2011. Selections from the programme have since travelled to various national and international festivals. ***Letters from the Sky*** showcases a series of film messages from 40 artists and filmmakers from across the globe - personal responses to the effects of climate change on their communities, families and lives.

COP 17: Stories of the Future

Directed by Xolelwa Nhlabatsi

Stories of the Future traces the work of Drama for Life Company Laboratory's multi-disciplinary ensemble production and improvised performance interventions at the 2011 COP17 in Durban, focusing on environmental sustainability, the severe effects of climate change on the individual, as well as our global survival into the future. Three weeks before COP 17 an ensemble of 10 Drama for Life artists – actors, musicians, dancers and graffiti artists – began an imaginative and explorative process of devising a mixed media theatrical installation that was further developed and performed every day at the conference. Filmmaker Xolelwa Ollie Nhlabatsi followed the artists on their daily mission to create awareness at COP17.

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PARTICIPANTS



SIMON MAX BANNISTER

After working with his degree in Graphic Design, artist Simon Max Bannister found the need to express his creativity through alternative means. Inspired by the creative processes of nature, he has been hunting plastic litter for four years. His search has taken him from the streets of Johannesburg, down the rivers and coastlines of South Africa, into the open ocean; creating art that uses the menace as the medium. In 2011 Bannister joined a research vessel to sail across the South Atlantic to find the island of Plastikos. He has created various private commissions and has participated in events such as Site_Specific, AfrikaBurn, Infecting the City and the National Arts Festival.



JOSEPH DARON

Joseph Daron is currently working as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Climate System Analysis Group, UCT. He studied meteorology at the University of Reading in the UK and spent a further year at the University of Oklahoma in the US, where he became increasingly interested in the climate science-policy interface. Daron completed his PhD research at the London School of Economics, where he spent six months working in the Climate Impacts Team at the UK Met Office. In his current role, he is investigating methods and approaches to communicate climate information to the user community and has a particular interest in the interpretation of climate change uncertainties in developing country adaptation decisions.



TONY GROGAN

Tony Grogan is *Cape Times'* longest serving cartoonist, having joined the newspaper as editorial cartoonist in 1974. His work has been widely published abroad and in South Africa. For some years he also provided the main cartoon for the *Sunday Times*. Several collections of his cartoons have been published and he is a celebrated book illustrator. His cartoons are known for their penetrating insight, wit and gentle satire. Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu remarked that "his cartoons have the same charming quality that make you guffaw delightedly and say 'of course', even when you happened to be the butt of his mirth."



LINZI LEWIS

Inspired by the dynamics, ecological and cultural heritage of this country, Linzi Lewis (who goes by the name Liliانا Transplanter - her 'Guerrilla Gardener' persona) is driven to create multifunctional, beautiful and meaningful urban spaces, which reflect the diversity and desires of the local context. She uses creative dialogical techniques to allow for information sharing to ensure locally-defined development and sincere participation. Her Msc research focused on *An Assessment of the Biodiversity and Bio-Cultural Values in Food Garden Programmes in South Africa*.



KAI LOSSGOTT

Predominately concerned with the personal element in green politics, transmedia artist Kai Lossgott's work has been widely exhibited in South Africa and abroad. Lossgott is curator of Letters from the Sky (2011) and the City Breath Festival of Video Poetry and Performance (2010). He holds a B Journ from Rhodes University (specialising in documentary filmmaking and dance theatre), an Advanced Diploma in Visual Arts from UNISA, and MA in Creative Writing from the University of Cape Town. He has written and edited tertiary coursework and lectured at various South African universities, as well as facilitating community arts initiatives.



WILSON MGOBHOZI

Wilson Mgothozi lives and works in Johannesburg. He works for the Independent Newspapers SA (Pty) Ltd as a full-time editorial cartoonist, illustrator, courtroom sketcher, caricaturist and graphic artist. Mgothozi started out as an editorial illustrator and a courtroom sketcher at the *The Star* in 2004, before becoming their resident cartoonist in 2008. His editorial cartoons are also carried by other titles in the Independent Newspapers Group. He was invited to represent South Africa at the Ridep International Cartoon Festival (2011), won the Mondli Shanduka Journalist of the Year award (2010) in the Cartoonist Category and was recently announced the winner of the Vodacom Journalist of the Year award (2011) in the cartoonist category.

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WARREN NEBE

Warren Nebe is the Founder and Director of Drama for Life at the University of the Witwatersrand - an internationally acclaimed postgraduate academic and research programme that focuses on dialogue for purposes of social transformation through an integrated approach to applied drama, drama in education and drama therapy. As a research member of the Wits School of Human & Community Development's Apartheid Archives Research Project, Nebe has curated a number of social development initiatives. A previous Head of Dramatic Art, Wits School of Arts, Nebe is a theatre director, senior lecturer, and a Fulbright Alumni. His research focuses on identity construction, representation and memory in South Africa through an auto-ethnographic theatre-making approach.



MARK NEW

Professor Mark New is the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Director of the African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI), University of Cape Town. He holds a joint appointment as Professor of Climate Science at the School of Geography and Environment, University of Oxford. Completing his Honours studies at UCT, New went on to receive an MPhil in Environment and Development, and a PhD in Geography (Climate Change and Hydrology) from Cambridge University. He has a wide range of experience and professional training in communicating with diverse stakeholders. His research and consulting expertise in climate change, especially with respect to development in Africa, spans key interlinked areas of climate science: climate monitoring, climate modelling, impacts assessment, especially with regard to water, and adaptation.



PENNY PRICE

Penny Price has an interest in climate adaptation, which draws on her skills as a physical geographer (EGS Hons, UCT) and her disaster risk science training (UCT). She has worked on numerous projects which call on this particular combination of physical and social sciences. Among these are the five-year Water and Dryland Environments (WADE) project in Namaqualand, and developing the City of Cape Town's sector-based Climate Adaptation Plans of Action. Currently leading the climate adaptation work at the Western Cape Government, she chairs the provincial Climate Adaptation Working Group.



TOM SANYA

Tom Sanya, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Cape Town's School of Architecture, employs a trans-disciplinary approach to undertake ethically engaged scholarship on design and fabrication, with a focus on buildings, space and related artefacts. Sanya attained a PhD from the Oslo School of Architecture and Design (Norway), and continues to aim for research results that are simultaneously relevant to academia and directly valuable to society.



JONATHAN SHAPIRO (ZAPIRO)

Jonathan Shapiro (aka Zapiro) became an anti-apartheid activist in 1983 and was detained by the security police in 1988, shortly before taking up a Fulbright Scholarship at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Since 1994 he has been published in many newspapers and is now editorial cartoonist for *Mail & Guardian*, *Sunday Times* and *The Times*. He has published 17 cartoon collections, has exhibited internationally and has two honorary doctorates. Among awards he has received are the 2005 Principal Prince Claus Award, the 2007 Courage in Cartooning Award from USA-based Cartoonists' Rights Network International, the 2009 Press Freedom Award from the Media Institute of Southern Africa, the 2009 Mondi Shanduka Newspaper award for Editorial Cartoons and the 2009 Vodacom Cartoonist of the Year award.



REE TREWEEK

Ree Treweek is the concept developer and character designer for the fantasy art collective The Blackheart Gang. The Gang's focus largely concerns explorations into a realm best known as 'The HouseHold', documenting its stories and inhabitants through sculpture, short films, books and paintings. She is also co-founder, art director and production designer at Shy The Sun, a production house and concept studio that specialises in animation.

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PARTICIPANTS



ANN-MARIE TULLY

Ann-Marie Tully is an artist, curator, art writer and lecturer. She holds a MAFA degree from the University of the Witwatersrand (2003), and is a Research Associate at the Visual Identities in Art and Design Research Centre, at the University of Johannesburg's Faculty of Art Design and Architecture. Her art practice is primarily as a painter, but she also works with mediums such as textiles, ceramics and film. Tully has curated various exhibitions and is a published academic author and art writer. Her visual and written research is concerned with the rhetorical and reductive representation of non-human creatures, and the disparate interface between human 'culture' and the 'natural' world.



SARAH WARD

Sarah Ward has worked in urban planning, housing, and urban and national energy planning and implementation since 1986. She was a founder of the Development Action Group and of Sustainable Energy Africa (SEA), where she was a director from 1995 to 2005. Since 2008, Ward has been employed as the head of Energy and Climate Change for the City of Cape Town. She has also overseen an in-depth energy data and energy futures modelling study for the city to inform forward planning, and was a leading member of the City's Climate Change Think Tank. Ward is the author of *The New Energy Book* (2008) and has co-authored a number of manuals on sustainable urban energy planning, including *Sustainable Energy Planning for Cities in Developing Countries* (2010).



SIFISO YALO

Sifiso Yalo is an accomplished cartoonist, illustrator, caricaturist and graphic artist. During his Fine Art studies, Yalo began working as a weekly cartoonist for a local Zulu newspaper, *umAfrika*. He has been associated with independent newspapers such as the *Tribune* and *Mercury*, and in 2005 was appointed as the resident cartoonist at the *Sowetan* newspaper. Yalo has since received various awards for his cartoons. His work is published daily in the *Sowetan*, and he has been published in several books including a recent publication on HIV and AIDS by Marine Coleman.

Hot Water: Art and Climate Change is presented by the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA) in association with the African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI).

ABOUT GIPCA

The University of Cape Town's Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA) facilitates new collaborative and interdisciplinary creative research projects across Faculty but particularly in the disciplines of Music, Dance, Fine Art, Drama, Creative Writing, Film and Media Studies. Interdisciplinarity is a key theme of the Institute and projects are imbued with innovation, collaboration and dialogue with urbanism and community. Projects bring together diverse entities: the various creative and performing art disciplines at UCT, as well as the University and City, training institutions and the profession. The Institute actively seeks partners both outside of the University and within it, in an effort to enrich the research and development of creative work and to make such work available to all communities. GIPCA was launched in December 2008 with a substantial grant from Sir Donald Gordon, founder of Liberty Life. An Advisory Board comprising Heads of Departments of all Performing and Creative Arts departments at UCT helps to shape contexts for the instigation and development of projects of students and staff, as well as a wide range of institutions and individuals outside the University.

For more information on the 2012 GIPCA programme:

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