

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ARTS ASSOCIATION OF BELLVILLE

## **1. Chairman's Report for the year ended April 2016**

(Juria le Roux)

Thank you all for attending this annual general meeting, probably the 59<sup>th</sup> to be held. Next year this association will celebrate 60 years of existence and support of artists and the arts in Bellville.

### **STAFF AND MANAGEMENT**

Art.b continued to face challenges in the respect of staff to manage and work at the gallery. In this past year, we have seen two new faces manage the gallery. Nico Eilers was appointed new gallery manager (in April?), but unfortunately resigned months later due to health problems. Fanie Scholtz is the current gallery manager.

Vicki Gagiano (then Vice Chairman) resigned from the committee.

However, in November 2015 the City of Cape Town granted staff members to work in the gallery again – Susan Jooste, a cleaner who works two days a week, Daleen Louw, who helps administrative work full time. This has lifted much of the work load off the shoulders of the manager.

The constitution has been updated as discussed at the last annual general meeting, which means that it is now possible to apply for funding more successfully in future.

### **EXHIBITIONS : FEBRUARY 2015 – APRIL 2016**

#### **2015**

February : annual **Member's Exhibition**, ever popular and an important drive for new memberships

March: Eric Jeppe '**Scattered Fragments**' curated by Brahm van Zyl

An inspiring solo exhibition of photographic images made by Eric Jeppe, who is visually challenged. Opening address by internationally acclaimed inspirational speaker and athlete, Hein Wagner, who is blind. This community orientated show was aimed at granting Eric his first solo exhibition, but also at creating awareness for those living with visual impairment and posing the question - what does it really take to be an artist?

April : **'Drawing the Line'** curated by Anne Wells.

An exhibition of works on paper, with a wide variety of participating artists; quite a few of whom had never been to or shown their work in this gallery before. Opening by Ellene Louw.

The exciting list of participating artists: Hanneke Benadé, Hugo de Villiers, Nicholas Esterhuizen, Mzimasi Funo, Wendy Gaybba, Taubelle Gersh, Susan Grundlingh, Elizabeth Gunter, Ruan Huysamen, Marlise Keith, Theo Kleynhans, Annette Klinger, Juria le Roux, Ellene Louw, Johann Louw, Sam Macholo, Clare Menck, Elizabeth Millier-Vermeulen, Mandisi Mncela, Anne Wells, Kendall Nash, Zuko Ponco, Cornelia Snyman, Vernon Swart, Adele van Heerden, Brahm van Zyl, Hanno van Zyl, Diane Victor, Theo Paul Vorster, Helen Wells, Ingrid Winterbach, Jeanine Bresler, Johan Coetzee and Anastasia Esterhuizen.

May : the second **Joint Photographic Exhibition** presented by The Photographic Society of South Africa in collaboration with Shangtuf Image and Art Club, to celebrate 2015 – the cultural year of China in South Africa. 250 photographs were shown. The diplomatic exchange that takes place annually with this exhibition is very positive and encouraging for both parties involved.

June : **'John Bauer & Friends'** – an exhibition of ceramic works by John Bauer and many of his artist friends . Opening by John Bauer.

July : **'Tiny Treasures II'** – our annual, very popular fundraising exhibition, always successful in terms of canvassing new memberships and generating hype and excitement at the prospect of buying work at a capped price. Sales were once again excellent and the proceeds are used for the stipend salary of our gallery manager. Opening by Juria le Roux.

August : our annual and always eagerly anticipated **'VULEKA'** competition - open to all artists who have not had a solo exhibition in the past 3 years, kindly sponsored for the past few years by Dr. Conrad Theys and *The Framed Feather & Artshopper*. The judges were **Henk Serfontein, Ashley Walters** and **Gabriel Clark-Brown**.

The winners **'VULEKA' 2015** :

1<sup>st</sup> prize: The Conrad Theys Award : **Inge Burmann** for 'Undergrowth' (R 20 000)

2<sup>nd</sup> **Rae Goosen** for 'Promethian Shame & my 7 tiers of mo(u)rning' (R 5 000)

3<sup>rd</sup> **Mark Rautenbach** 'A Plane of Imminence'( R 1 000)

Highly recommended :

**Thomas Catlin** for *'Concrete Aloe 1'* (R 1000 voucher from the FRAMED FEATHER )  
**Mark Rautenbach** for *'Burning from the Inside'* (R 1000 voucher from the FRAMED FEATHER)  
**Helen Wells** for *'Interstice'* (R 1000 voucher from the FRAMED FEATHER)

September : ***'Gregg Kerr 22 Students'*** a group show requested by Gregg Kerr and his students.  
Opening by Prof. Ampie Coetzee.

October : **Prestige Academy** Photographic Exhibitions: ***'Blank Space' & 'Singularis'***. Two beautiful annual exhibitions showing work by students of the locally based Prestige Academy, introducing many new faces to the gallery. Sales were good and the positive ongoing partnership between the gallery and the academy continues.

November : ***'30 x 40 Committee's Choice'*** each committee member was given the opportunity to invite 4 artists to show one work each, resulting in a wonderfully fresh selection of artists - some new to the gallery. Opened by Andrew Putter. Participating artists were: Luan Nel, Andrew Lovell, Helen Wells, Juria le Roux, Lien Botha, Yvette Beneke Molenaar, Mandisi Mncela, Jacobus Kloppers, Brahm van Zyl, Ellene Louw, Vicki Gagiano, Shaun Kaplan, Anne Wells, Hugo de Villiers, Mzimasi Funo, Clare Menck, Alet Swarts, Jeanine Bresler, Theo Kleynhans, Tuesday Houston, Gary Frier, Aviwe Plaatjie, Fanie Marais, Klara-Marie den Heijer, Senzeni Marasela, Eris Silke, Xenia Venter, Hanno van Zyl, Rentia Retief, Christine Olivier, Annette Klinger, Diane Johnson-Ackerman, Rodney Gee, Aletta Dorfling, John Kramer, Wendy Malan, Michael Tiez-Geldenhuys, Ilse Nieman, Verna du Toit-Scanlen, Laurette de Jager, Theo Paul Vorster, Catherine Meeding, Anathi Tyawa, Ydi Coetzee and Lara Kruger.

***November : Unisa Third and Fourth Level Visual Arts and Multimedia Student Exhibition***

Opening by Andrew Smith. This exhibition is traditionally held in the gallery and speaks of a long standing positive relationship with Unisa - it took place at a so-called 'quiet time' in the art calendar, filling this space with high quality innovative artworks.

December : an exhibition of selected artworks by the late **Joao José**. Opening by José Fernandes.

**2016**

January 2016 : ***'Art@60+'*** an exhibition of artworks by senior artists. Opening by Hetta Pieterse.

February / March : our annual **Member's Exhibition** ever popular and an important drive for new memberships

April : ***'Willie Bester Comprehensive'*** this current and exciting solo exhibition by a legendary local artist incorporates new work as well as works from the private collection of Aat Slot, dating from as far back as 1988. Opening by Robert Slingsby.

## UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

May : Albert Retief solo photographic exhibition

June : Tiny Treasures III 'Homeland'

July : VULEKA competition

August : Eris Silke &

September : *'Printmaking Month'*– Theo Paul Vorster

Clare Menck & friends

October : Prestige Academy Exhibitions

November : unconfirmed

December : UNISA

### 2. FINANCIAL REPORT (by Anne Wells)

The finances at Art.b have remained stable over the last two financial years. The major new expense over the last three years has been funding a small salary for the gallery manager.

Our annual fund raiser, Tiny Treasures, has been very successful and helps us with managing general expenses. Thanks to all artists who take part in Tiny Treasures.

We have been able to keep our exhibition expenses low due to a team of volunteers who offer their time and cover their own expenses. We also thank 'Vuleka' judges who have judged our competition free of charge.

City of Cape Town has helped us with maintenance of the floor tiles and lighting.

### 3. THANKS (Juria le Roux)

I would like to thank so many people for their efforts to keep the doors of this gallery open even with all the challenges faced. Without the work of volunteers, committee members and the gallery staff and manager, we would not be here today reporting on so many improvements achieved. Each one of these people has a role to fulfil. Each one of you here present also play a role tonight - thank you for being here.

Without artists the gallery cannot exist – a huge word of thanks to all artists who have submitted work to be shown in this space. Tremendous thanks also to the buyers of art – it is your patronage that keeps us and art alive.