

Dr. Esther Mahlangu

Biography

Solo Exhibitions

2024

'Then I Knew I Was Good at Painting: Esther Mahlangu, A Retrospective', Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2020

'Esther Mahlangu 85', Johannesburg, South Africa

Unveiling of the 'Mahlangu' Rolls-Royce Phantom, Cape Town, South Africa

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Past Modern Section, The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

'Disrupting Patterns', The Melrose Gallery, One&Only, Johannesburg, South Africa

2019

'Timeless', Oliewenhuis Art Museum in Bloemfontein, South Africa

Esther Mahlangu, Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, South Africa

2017

A Tribute to Nelson Mandela, The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2016

BMW Lounge, FRIEZE ART FAIR, London, UK

2015

Esther Mahlangu 80, UCT Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

2014

Esther Mahlangu: An Artistic Residency, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Virginia, USA

2012

Overlay, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa

2010

Centro Espositivo St. Art, Calenzano, Italy

2008

Esther Mahlangu: Reacquiring, The Kyle Kauffman Gallery, New York, USA

2007

Esther Mahlangu 2007, 34LONG, Cape Town, South Africa

Why Africa?, Fiat 500, Turin, Italy

2005

Esther Mahlangu, 34LONG, Cape Town, South Africa

2003

Esther Mahlangu 2003, UCT Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

1998

Museum of Oceanian and African Art, Paris, France

Selected Exhibitions

2024

'Giants: Art from the Dean Collection of Swizz Beatz and Alicia Keys', Brooklyn Museum, New York, US

'To Weave the Sky: Textile Abstractions from the Jorge M. Perez Collection', El Espacio 23, Miami, US

'Africa Supernova. Contemporary African painting collection by Carla and Pieter Schulting', Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands

'Dhai Dubai Light Art Festival', Al Wasl Plaza, Expo City Dubai, United Arab Emirates

2020

Carol Bouwer Bag Collection Collaboration, South Africa

Mural - Southgate Mall, Johannesburg, South Africa

Rolls - Royce Phantom 'The Mahlangu', South Africa

2019

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, The Melrose Gallery, CT

Conflict Resolution Art, Athens, Greece

Timeless, One and Only, Cape Town, South Africa

2018

Public Commission, Three Murals, The Market Theatre foyer, Esther Mahlangu Boardroom at Windybrow Theatre in Hillbrow, The Contemporary Market Square Complex, Johannesburg, South Africa

Group Exhibition, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA

Not A Single Story, Nirox Foundation Sculpture Park, Cradle of Humankind, South Africa

2017

Imibala Gallery, Somerset West, South Africa

2016

South Africa the art of a nation, The British Museum, UK, 27 October 2016

New design - Belvedere(RED), NY, USA

2015

Amref Health Africa Artball: Celebrating Contemporary African Art, New York, USA

Imibala Gallery, Somerset West, South Africa

Sneaker design with Swedish Company Eytys, Paris Fashion Week, France

40 years of BMW Art Cars, BMW Museum, Munchen, Germany

2014

Traditional African Murals, Museum of African Art, Belgrade, Serbia
Look Mickey!, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
Les Magiciens de la Terre, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain
Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, South Africa

2013

1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK
Urban Interpretation, Graffik Gallery, London, UK
FourWalls, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa

2012

Art Drive! Exhibition, Great Eastern Street Car Park in Shoreditch, London, UK
Urban Interpretation, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
Blend, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa

2011

Durban Tourism Indaba, Durban, South Africa
Ensemble, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
ArtMonaco'11, Monaco
Museum of Arts and Design, New York, US

2010

Africa. Objetos y Sujetos, Teatro Fernan Gomez, Centro de Arte, Madrid, Spain
ATASA Trust Southern Africa Handcraft & Ndebele Art Exhibition, Newtown, South Africa
La mostra sulla Regina d'Africa Esther Mahlangu, Napoli, Italy
Museum of Arts and Design, New York City, US
FIFA Official Artist, Italy

2009

Sortileges, Fondation pour L'art Contemporain, Claudine et Jean-Marc Salomon, Alex, France
3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia
Africa? Una nuova storia, Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy

2008

The Speed Art Museum, Louisville, Kentucky, US
Denver Museum of Art, Denver, Colorado, US
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, US

2007

Why Africa?, Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella Agnelli, Turin, Italy
Painted the New Fiat 500 - "Why Africa?", The Pigozzi Collection, Italy
SA Art -- Signs, Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum, Bratislava, Slovakia
Berlin and Beyond Art in Public Places, Florida, US
Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa
Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, US
The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, Maryland, US
Tacoma Museum of Art, Tacoma, Washington, US

2006

100% African; The Jean Pigozzi Contemporary African Art Collection, Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain
Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, Indiana, USA 2006 Memory Innovation
Tradition, 34 LONG, Cape Town, SA 2006 Roppongi Hills Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
Beyond Lilith: The Sacred Feminine, Scuderie Aldobrandini Frascati, Roma, Italy

2005

Arts of Africa, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
Yokohama Triennial, Japan
New Identities Contemporary Art from South Africa, Pretoria Art Museum & Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa
Galleria Spacia, Italy
South Africa-USA Native American Exchange Project, Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, US
Project Row Houses, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, US
African Art Now: Masterpieces from the Jean Pigozzi Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, US
National Museum of African Art, The Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., US

2004

New Identities Contemporary Art from South Africa, Museum Bochum, Germany
New Orleans Jazz Festival, South African Stage, New Orleans, US

2003

Dentro e Fuori le Mura, Fabbrica Eos, Milano, Italy

2002

Passport to South Africa, Centro Culturale Trevi, Bolzano, Italy
The Art of Colour, Knysna Fine Art Gallery, Knysna, South Africa

2001

Arte Africana Contemporanea, Galleria d'arte Spazia, Bologna, Italy
Galleria Cavellini, Brescia, Italy
South Africa Today, The Helsinki Fair Centre, Finland

2000

5th Biennale of Contemporary Art, Lyons, France
Dialogue of Cultures, EXPO 2000, Hannover, Germany

1999

The Three Rivers Art Festival, Pittsburgh, US
<<REWIND>>FAST FORWARD.ZA, Van Reekum Museum, Apeldoorn, Netherlands

1998

Musee des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris, France
Africa Africa: Vibrant New Art from a Dynamic Continent, Tobu Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan

1997

BA Airways Tail wing design, UK
Exhibit Gallery, Philadelphia, US
York College, Los Angeles, California, US
Mural for National Museum of Woman in the Arts, Washington D.C., US
Ndebele Images - Then and Now, National Arts Club, New York, US
Oog op Zuidelijke Afrika, Het Afrika Museum, Berg en Dal, Netherlands
Portal to America, Installation, Spoleto Festival, Charleston, South Carolina, US
African Immigrant Folklife Festival, Washington D.C., US

1996

Parish Gallery, Georgetown, US
Exhibition for the Congressional Black Caucus, Washington D.C., US
Armour J. Blackburn Centre, Howard University, Washington D.C., US
World Bank, Washington D.C., US
Mural - Ministry of Finance Building, Pretoria, South Africa
Mural - Alexandra Township Stadium, Johannesburg, South Africa

1995

BMW Art Cars and Paintings Exhibition, Sydney, Australia
Group Exhibition, Market Theatre, Johannesburg, South Africa
BMW Art Cars Collection, National Museum of Woman in the Arts, Washington D.C., US

1994

Mural - National Museum of Woman in the Arts, Washington D.C., US
Mural - Ndebele College of Education, KwaNdebele, South Africa
Mural - African Festival, Lisbon, Portugal
Mural - European Inventive Business Travel Meetings Exhibition, Geneva, Switzerland
Out of Africa, Musee des Beaux-Arts de Nantes, France

1993

La Grande Verite, Les Astres Africains, Nantes Fine Arts Museum, Nantes, France
European Inventive Business Travel Meetings Exhibition, Lisbon, Portugal
Geneva International Exhibition, Geneva, Switzerland

1992

Comme des Garcons, Tokyo, Japan; New York, USA; and Paris, France
Out of Africa, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
Fire Screen, Civic Theatre, Johannesburg, South Africa
BMW Art Cars, Documenta 9, Kassel, Germany
Africa Hoy, Groninger Museum, Groningen, Netherlands
Africa Hoy, Cultural Centre of Contemporary Art, Mexico City, Mexico

1991

BMW Art Cars, Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town, South Africa
BMW Art Cars Commission, Germany
Painting columns in Building, Tokyo, Japan
Fashion Collection, Tokyo, Japan
Ny Afrikansk Billedkunst, Copenhagen, Denmark
Africa Hoy, Centro Atlantico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas, de Gran Canaria, Spain

1990

Caravan Auto Show, Lavante, France

Bordeaux Festival, Bordeaux, France

Mural Painting, Rosebank Shopping Centre, South Africa

Mural Painting, Johannesburg School, South Africa

Centre de la Villette, Paris, France

Fine Arts Museum, Angouleme, France

Mural Painting, Musee des Beaux Arts, France

Les Magiciens de la Terre, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France

Collections

Larry Warsh

Isaac Shongwe Collection, Johannesburg, South Africa

David Frankel

Paul Berman

William Humphreys

The Dean Collection, US

Sovereign Art Foundation, Switzerland

Meulensteen Art Museum, Bratislava, Slovakia

Oliewenhuis Art Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa

The Pigozzi Collection, Geneva, Switzerland

Johnnic Communications Management Services Collection, Johannesburg, South Africa

Museum Bochum, Bochum, Germany

South African National Gallery, Iziko Museums, Cape Town, South Africa

BROKER Art Collection, Belgium

BOE Bank, Cape Town, South Africa

Musee des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris, France

Botshabelo Museum, Botshabelo, SA BMW Art Cars Collection, Germany World Bank Collection, US

Museum of Modern Art, Equatorial Guinea BHP Billiton Collection, Johannesburg, SA Roppongi Hills

Art Museum, Japan Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Virginia, USA Museum Bochum, Germany Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa

RE:CM Collection, Cape Town, South Africa

National Museum of Woman in the Arts, Washington D.C., South Africa

Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France Musee des Beaux Arts, France

Rupert Art Collection, Stellenbosch, South Africa

University of Cape Town, South Africa

Esther's work is also represented in numerous public and private collections.

Awards

2019

Officier de L'Ordre Arts et Lettres (Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters)

2018

Honorary Doctors Degree, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

Honorary Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in Visual and Performing Arts, Durban

University of Technology, South Africa

2017

Arts and Culture Veteran Award, Ubuntu Awards, Cape Town, South Africa

2016

The Lilizela Awards, Minister's Award, South Africa

CAAMMPPS, South African Women Identity & Heritage Life Lessons,
Discourse Honorary Award, South Africa

2015

Lilizela Tourism Awards, Best Roots and Culture Exhibition, South Africa

The Lilizela Tourism Award, Roots and culture, South Africa

South African Traditional Music Achievement Awards,
Life Time Achievement Award, South Africa

2013

1st Mbokodo Award, South Africa

2012

1st Mbokodo Award, South African Women in the Arts, South Africa

2010

Increasing Access to the Arts Award - 13th annual BASA Awards, South Africa

2007

The Heritage Award for Preservation and Promotion of South African
Heritage and Culture, The Premier of KZN, South Africa

2006

The Order of Ikhamanga (Silver) , Government of South Africa, South Africa
National Arts and Culture Trust, Lifetime Achievement Award, South Africa

2001

Arts and Culture Award, Art Promotion, South Africa

Pan African Broadcasting, Heritage and Achievement Award (PABHA), South Africa
Radio Ndebele Award, South Africa

1999

Mpumalanga Arts and Culture Award, South Africa

1997

Nassau County Commendation, New York, US

Incorporated Village of Hempstead Citation, Hempstead, New York, US

Ministry of Culture and Communication, Centre de la Villette, France

Mpumalanga Sport Premier's Culture Award, South Africa

1988

Radio Ndebele Award, South Africa