

NOMAD GALLERY BRUSSELS

HELEN TEELE

Artist Statement / Bio / CV

ARTIST STATEMENT:

My paintings are grounded in the idea of “staying with the trouble.”¹ They open up an exploration of abject bodies and monstrous shadows that we have to learn to live with and make kin with in a time characterised by ecological and humanitarian crisis. I am neither searching for polemic truths, nor pretending that the trouble isn’t there, but rather trying to find a visual way of sitting with it and learning how to be with it.

For me painting is an intersectional medium that offers a peculiar, non-binary logic which the rigidities of language and positivism preclude. It doesn’t try to make the world transparent, but rather allows it to exist in the thickness of being that makes the world worldly.² It is the most direct way for me to explore multi-layered meanings, not-knowing and uncertainty, and of translating the ways in which the body – conflicted, gendered, cultural, political, sexual and social as it is – comes to know the world by literally *being* in the world, as a human body in a multi-species environment, and learning how to live with its thickness, its contrariness, its opacity, its mystery and its trouble.

BIO:

Helen Teede is a painter born in 1988 in Zimbabwe.

CV:

EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS

2020

“Body Language”, a two person show at Nomad Gallery, Brussels

2019

- “Bare Limbs”, solo show at First Floor Gallery Harare: Harare, Zimbabwe
- “Home Affairs”, group show at Daor Contemporary: Cape Town, South Africa
- “The Harare Fauves”, three person show at Alon Segev Gallery: Tel Aviv, Israel
- Investec Cape Town Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare: Cape Town, South Africa

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2018

- "Without Breaking Anything", solo show at Matter Gallery: Toronto, Canada
- "Five Bobh", group show at Zeitz Museum of Contemporary African Art: Cape Town, South Africa
- FNB Joburg Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare: Johannesburg, South Africa
- "Next Level", group show at First Floor Gallery Harare: Harare, Zimbabwe
- Cape Town Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare: Cape Town, South Africa

2017

- AKA – Also Known as Africa, First Floor Gallery Harare: Paris, France
- FNB Joburg Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare: Johannesburg, South Africa
- "Another Antipodes: Urban Axis", group show with First Floor Gallery Harare in collaboration with Another Antipodes Inc., at PS Art Space: Perth, Australia
- "Hello Harare! Collaging the City", group show with First Floor Gallery Harare: Harare, Zimbabwe
- "Closer than Ever", group show with Art Meets Camera at Gallery Momo: Cape Town, South Africa
- "Unhomed", solo show at Showcase Gallery: Dubai, U.A.E
- Tomorrows/Today special project at Cape Town Art Fair with First Floor Gallery Harare and Showcase Gallery Dubai: Cape Town, South Africa.
- Cape Town Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare: Cape Town, South Africa

2016

- "Harare: Mwandimbira + Tuazeni + Teede", three person show at Hazard Gallery: Johannesburg, South Africa
- FNB Joburg Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare: Johannesburg, South Africa
- "It is the Without", solo at with First Floor Gallery Harare: Harare, Zimbabwe

2015

- "The Material Presence of the Past", solo show at Showcase Gallery: Dubai, U.A.E.
- "We Grow Accustomed to the Dark", solo show at Amanzi: Harare, Zimbabwe
- "Chimuti, Pepa, Dombo", three person show at Showcase Gallery: Dubai, U.A.E.

2014

- "Modern Painting", group show at Kalk Bay Modern: Cape Town, South Africa
- "Scripts of our Unspoken Words", group Show at Showcase Gallery: Dubai, U.A.E.
- "Industrart", three person show at Nigel Joscelyne: Harare, Zimbabwe

2013

- "Greatest Hits of 2012", group show at AVA Gallery: Cape Town, South Africa

2012

- "Mistakes", group show at 50 Canterbury Street: Cape Town, South Africa

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PUBLICATIONS

- 2019: Teede, Helen. "Between Banality and Terror: Artistic Discourse, Collective Anxiety and Climate Crisis. The Lithuanian Pavilion at the 2019 Venice Biennale." *The Art Section: An Online Journal of Art and Cultural Commentary*, July 2019 [online] <https://www.theartsection.com/lithuanian-pavilion-venice-biennale>
- 2019: Teede, Helen. "Image as Testimony and Working Through Trauma in the paintings of Gresham Tapiwa Nyaude and Wycliffe Mundopa." *Something We Africans Got*, January 2019, Issue no. 7; Paris, France.
- 2017: Teede, Helen. "The Advantages and Pitfalls of Revisiting History: ICAC Zimbabwe." *Art Africa Magazine*, December 2017, Issue no. 10; Cape Town, South Africa.

CONFERENCES AND PUBLIC TALKS

- 2017: International Conference on African Cultures: Mapping the Future, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe. 11/09/2017-13/09/2017. Panel discussion: "Space and Place: Collaborations, Process and Practice."
- 2017: "Being Unhomed: Questions of Home and Identity in Zimbabwe and Beyond." Presentation given at the Majilis, Alserkal Avenue, Dubai, U.A.E as part of Dubai Art Week.
- 2016: "On the Couch with Helen Teede." Discussion between Helen Teede and Valerie Kabov at First Floor Gallery Harare.
- 2015: "Education through Experimentation and Failure." Presentation given at Showcase Gallery, Dubai.

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INTERVIEWS AND SELECTED PRESS

- "Recanting Old Myths, Embracing New Fantasies", Art Re-View Zim, 24/12/2019 [Online]
<https://medium.com/@ArtReViewZim/recanting-old-myths-fb4b98de41fa>
- " 'A crazy amount of talent': Contemporary art thrives in Harare", The Guardian. 22/09/2019 [Online]
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/sep/22/crazy-amount-of-talent-contemporary-art-thrives-harare>
- "A Layered Way of Working: Interview with Helen Teede", Chimurenga Chronic. 28/11/2017 [Online] <http://chimurengachronic.co.za/a-layered-way-of-working/>
- "Home and Identity: Helen Teede's paintings tell a fragile story", Gulf News, 03/05/2017 [Online]
<http://gulfnews.com/culture/arts/home-and-identity-1.2021431#.WRB7lpzURLk.facebook>
- "Five Great Art Exhibitions to see in Dubai in March", What's On, 02/03/2017 [Online]
<https://whatson.ae/2017/03/five-great-art-exhibitions-see-dubai-march/>
- "African art on show at the Cape Town Art Fair", Financial Mail, 17/02/17 [Online] <https://www.businesslive.co.za/fm/life/art/2017-02-17-african-art-on-show-at-the-cape-town-art-fair/>
- "10 emerging artists ruling Cape Town Art Fair", True Africa, 15/02/2017 [Online] <http://trueafrica.co/lists/10-emerging-artists-ruling-cape-town-art-fair/>
- "Cape Town Art Fair Focuses on New Generation of African Artists", Artnetnews, 14/02/17 [Online]
<https://news.artnet.com/market/cape-town-art-fair-preview-855746>
- "Q&A WITH Cape Town Art Fair curator, Tumelo Mosaka", Condé Nast House & Garden South Africa. February 2017, page 40. [Online], <http://www.houseandgarden.co.za/home/qa-with-26/>
- "Cape Town Art Fair '17: Meet the Artists of 'Tomorrows/Today'", Artthrob, 18/01/17 [Online]
<https://artthrob.co.za/2017/01/18/cape-town-art-fair-17-meet-the-artists-of-tomorrowstoday/>
- "Artists who explore the urban environment feature in Tomorrows/Today 2017 Cape Town Art Fair", 23/12/16 [Online]
<http://www.capetownartfair.co.za/artists-who-explore-the-urban-environment-feature-in-tomorrowstoday-2017/>
- "Hyped: Helen Teede "The Material Presence of the Past", " WTD Magazine: Interactive Architecture & Design, Issue 7 (Winter 2016): Transmigration

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EDUCATION, TRAINING, RESIDENCIES

- 2019/2020: Laurea Magistrale in Arti Visive (Masters in Visual Art), Università IUAV di Venezia, Italia.
- 2018: Africa First Residency, 8 weeks. Tel Aviv, Israel.
- 2013: Bachelor of Arts Honours in English Literature at University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2012: Bachelor of Arts in Fine Art at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2008: Foundation course in Visual Art at Florence University of the Arts, Florence, Italy.
- 2006: International Baccalaureate, St.Johns College, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2004: Cambridge O-Levels, Heritage School, Harare, Zimbabwe.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL WORK

2016

- Curated Elham Moadnia's solo exhibition, Welcome to the Party, at Showcase Gallery in Dubai, U.A.E. as part of Dubai Art Week.
- Founded and directed The Corridor (2016 – 2018), an independent non-profit gallery and project space in Harare, set up to support emerging Zimbabwean artists.

2013

- Tutor for Discourse of Art in the Bachelor of Fine Arts major at University of Cape Town.
- Tutor for Foundation in the Bachelor of Fine Arts major at University of Cape Town

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