

EVERARD READ

FRANSCHHOEK

BIOGRAPHY

PAULA LOUW

Paula Louw is a full time artist, also teaching from her studio. She works in both two and three dimensions. She exhibits regularly and has been making art since she was a small child. Since 2006, Louw has been involved in making art that is conceptual, much of which has to do the disassembling of machines, typewriters, guns, pianos and sewing machines. She also paints and draws. Her conceptual emphasis is on communication and peace.

Louw has works in a number of private collections in South Africa as well as the UK, France, Australia and the USA.

Her work has recently moved in a new direction, which can be seen in the 2016 exhibition *Gently does it*. Here she has made 'soft' guns, sewn and created from fabric. Regarding these, she states:

"The antithesis of all that one would normally consider a gun to be, the R5, revolver and R1 have been de-natured, are redemptive.

Having been stitched together, they contradict any ideas we might have concerning these weapons in a traditional sense. Colour, texture, shape, lines and curves, they could be the same deadly objects, but they present a very different aspect. They're loaded with hurt... wounds and tears have been stitched and mended, healing has been sought and rendered.

Sewing, normally considered the proclivity of women, is the means of creation, causing these objects to take on a curiously feminine energy. They have been rendered completely harmless and present to us soft, even rather cuddly objects, like a soft toy or teddy bear.

They can no longer be loaded, cocked, nor the trigger pulled. They have been silenced.

Paradoxically, we sense the deadly layers of meaning whose legacy history has conferred, whose dark weight drags these objects deeply into the softness of the pillow."

EDUCATION:

- 2007 - MAFA (with distinction), University of the Witwatersrand
- 2002 - BAFA (practical with distinction), UNISA
- 1977 - Pretoria Technikon, Fine Art Diploma

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS:

2017

Summer Exhibition, Everard Read London, UK

2016

Gently does it, Solo exhibition, Knysna Fine Art Gallery, Knysna

Summer Exhibition, Circa Gallery, London

Jo'burg Art Fair, Everard Read exhibition stand, Johannesburg

2015

Jo'burg Art Fair, Everard Read exhibition stand, Johannesburg

2014

Anthology, Solo exhibition, Everard Read, Rosebank

Anthology, Solo exhibition, Everard Read, Rosebank

2011

Redeconstructivist, Solo exhibition, Circa Gallery, Rosebank

Jo'burg Art Fair, Everard Read exhibition stand, Johannesburg

2010

'In Part' solo exhibition, Fried Gallery, Pretoria

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Group show, iArt Gallery, Cape Town

'Current matters – Different opinions' group art exhibition, Franschoek

Jo'burg Art Fair, Everard Read exhibition stand, Johannesburg

Absa Group Exhibition, Klein Karoo Nationale Kunsfees, Oudtshoorn

2009

Paula Louw, 'New works' exhibition, Everard Read Gallery, Rosebank

Blue Door Studio Etching Exhibition, David Brown Fine Art, Rosebank

Jo'burg Art Fair, Everard Read exhibition stand, Johannesburg

2008

Group Exhibition at Knysna Fine Art

Celebration: Group Exhibition at Cool Art, Parkhurst

Intervention : Group Exhibition at UNISA Art Gallery, Pretoria

Gordart Group Exhibition, Johannesburg

Jo'burg Art Fair, Everard Read exhibition stand, Johannesburg

2007/08 - present

Adler Medical School Museum, Johannesburg - Installation.

2006

Everard Read Gallery, Rosebank - MA Solo show, "Soft Return"

2005

Everard Read Gallery, Rosebank - Group Exhibition

2003

Plug-Ins Art Exhibition - Aardklop Art Festival

2002

UNISA Art Gallery - Retrospective Student Exhibition

Sasol Wax Art Competition - Exhibition

New Signatures Competition - Pretoria Art Museum

2001 - 2002

UNISA Art Gallery - Final Year Exhibition

2001

New Signatures Competition - Pretoria Art Museum

Interart Exhibition of Contemporary Art - Spark! Gallery

2000

New Signatures Competition - Pretoria Art Museum

UNISA Student Exhibition, Cape Town

Art and the Body Exhibition, UNISA Art Gallery Pretoria

1999

UNISA Student Exhibition - African Window Museum Pretoria

1997

Group Exhibition, Johannesburg

1994

Group Exhibition, Johannesburg

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1981

Group Exhibition. Brakpan City Hall

1978

Traveling Student Exhibition to Australia

1976

Johannesburg College of Art Student Exhibition - Carlton Centre, Johannesburg