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Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum  
1 Park Drive  
Port Elizabeth 6001  
Republic of South Africa  
Tel: +27 (0)41 5062000  
Fax: +27 (0)41 586 3234

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## PRESS RELEASE

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ARTWORKS PURCHASED FOR THE COLLECTION

On 21 September 2021, the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum and Red Location Art Gallery hosted a special exhibition event to celebrate the 28 artists who were finalists in the 2020 call for top Eastern Cape art.

In 2020 the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality through the Red Location Art Gallery and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum called Eastern Cape artists who work and live (or have worked and lived) in the Eastern Cape and have made a significant contribution to the art of the region to submit work for consideration to the Art Collection of the City.

The 28 artists were selected from over 60 submissions for the exhibition of finalists titled, *Celebrating Eastern Cape Art*. The finalists are: Angie Frankie Weisswange, Bretten - Anne Moolman, Bev De Lange, Billie McNaughton, Christine Dixie, Dolla Sapeta, Dorothy Barnes, Greg Kerr, Steven Carter (Joff), Jonathan van der Walt, Kader Abdulla, Khaya Ngcangca, Lez Dor, Lookout Sibanda, Lukho Dyongo, Marc Pradervand, Michael Barry, Mtha Poni, Natasha Bezuidenhout, Sakumzi Nyendwana, Shamin Chibba, Sibusiso Magilindane, Siyavuya Ralo, Sonwabiso Ngcai, Tim Hopwood, Trevor Melville, Wezile Mgibe and Zolani Siphungela.

The Art Collection of the Bay tells the story of art in the region and it is important that new and contemporary voices are added to the unique story of art of the Eastern Cape. In 2020 the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality identified funding for the purchase of works of art as part of the City's initiative to support local art. At the event the artists whose artworks were purchased for the City's Collection was announced.

The list of selected Artists and artworks purchased for the Collection are (Artist – Title of artwork):

Billie McNaughton – Bounty of the Bay  
Bretten - Anne Moolman – Earth Circuitry in Flight  
Christine Dixie – The Interior (with fish)  
Jonathan van der Walt – In the Pipeline  
Kader Abdulla – Turning Circles

Khaya Ngcangca – uKamvalethu / Our future  
Michael Barry – Fragments of the Rainbow Nation  
Mxolisi Dolla Sapeta – Bhabha black sheep  
Natasha Bezuidenhout – Om brood te breek met 293 kms  
Sakumzi Nyendwana – Cradock four  
Shamin Chibba – Limbo  
Sonwabiso Ngcai – Liyahamba Isiko?  
Tim Hopwood - Three Men Descending from an Aircraft  
Wezile Mgibe – The Interrogator  
Wezile Mgibe - Wamkelekile  
Zolani Siphungela – Untitled 1

A virtual tour of the exhibition will be available on our website [www.artmuseum.co.za](http://www.artmuseum.co.za).

### **SUPPORT FROM OUR FRIENDS AND THE MUSEUM GALA**

In 2018, the Friends of the Art Museum launched the Museum Gala to raise much needed funds for the NMM Art Museum to purchase local art for the collection. Art lovers around the city showed their commitment to support local creative talent in the Eastern Cape by buying tickets to this glamorous fashion event. The sponsorship from the Mantis Collection, has been crucial to the success of this initiative. Adrian Gardiner's contribution to this event echoes his continued support of local art.

This incredible fundraising effort allowed the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum to revive the selection committee and start collecting new works of art. The money raised in 2018 and 2019 will be used in the following year to purchase additional local art for the Collection.

### **CONTACT DETAILS:**

Uthando Baduza, Chief Curator of the RED LOCATION ART GALLERY

Contact: 060 976 2779

Email: [ubaduza@mandelametro.gov.za](mailto:ubaduza@mandelametro.gov.za)

Emma O'Brien, Assistant Director, NELSON MANDELA METROPOLITAN ART MUSEUM

Contact: 079 490 0690

Email: [eobrien@mandelametro.gov.za](mailto:eobrien@mandelametro.gov.za)

**ENDS**