



# Gallery guide

COMPILED BY NATALIE BOSMAN

■ **GOETHE INSTITUTE** – 119 Jan Smuts Ave, Parkwood, Joburg. Tel: 011-442-3232. Website: [www.goethe.de/johannesburg](http://www.goethe.de/johannesburg). Until August 26. The photographic project *N1* by Dave Southwood originated in 2007 and uses the National Road One as an alibi for photographing a series of events, personalities and traces of habitation encountered while traveling between Cape Town and Beitbridge on the border of Zimbabwe in the North. Although the *N1* is fraught with political, social and historical associations, "The Road" is delivered in a very spare and controlled fashion which tends to avoid the spectacular or obvious.



GOETHE

The effect of the works is cumulative and the pervasive atmosphere is disconcerting because the photographs present this essentially mute piece of civil engineering as an awkward, often empty, public stage.

■ **UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG ART GALLERY** – Corner Kingsway and University Road, Auckland Park, Joburg. Tel: 011-559-2099. Until July 27. Well known South African sculptor, Angus Taylor and painter, Rina Stutzer, primarily deconstruct post-modern concerns and delve into aspects of this philosophy in their quest for answers to complex questions. The title of their most recent collaborative exhibition *Dislodge (Loswickel)* refers to a purposeful shifting from the safe haven of that which is known and the need to escape from the stagnant to the uncomfortable head space where revitalisation can occur.

■ **STEVENSON JHB** – 62 Juta Street, Braamfontein, Joburg. Tel: 011-326-0034. E-mail: [jhb@stevenson.info](mailto:jhb@stevenson.info). Website: [www.stevenson.info](http://www.stevenson.info). Until August 5. *Inkanyiso* brings



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together three new bodies of photographic work: new portraits in the ongoing series *Faces and Phases* (2010-11); *Beulahs* (2007-10) and *Transfigured* (2010-11), and the documentary *Difficult Love* (2010).

As always, artist Zanele Muholi is up-front about her agenda as an activist, seeking to educate the viewer on "the complexities and fluidity of gender". The title of the show, *Inkanyiso*, means "illumination" or "light" in Zulu, and it is Muholi's aim to "shine a light onto viewers's understanding of gender and sexuality".

■ **THE THOMPSON GALLERY** – 78 Third Avenue, Melville, Joburg. Tel: 011-482-9719. Website: [www.thompsongallery.co.za](http://www.thompsongallery.co.za). Until August 7. *Altered Pieces* is a spectacular exhibition curated by Gordon Froud in which 50 artists have created works using Leonard Cohen's lyrics as a starting point. Each artist has been given a custom-made supawood altarpiece with two doors on which to work using their chosen lyric from a Leonard Cohen song. An MP3 player features their song

and an alternative version by another performer. Thus the experience is a visual and audio one with very rich imagery.

■ **ASSOCIATION OF ARTS PRETORIA** – 173 Mackie Street, Nieuw Muckleneuk, Pretoria. Tel: 012-346-3100. E-mail: [artspta@mweb.co.za](mailto:artspta@mweb.co.za). Website: [www.arts-associationpta.co.za](http://www.arts-associationpta.co.za). Until July 27. Georgia Papageorge is an internationally acclaimed environmental artist. Her multimedia works are inspired by a passionate exploration of ancient geological rifts. As the exhibition *Bridgeworks* illustrates, her works are dramatic and ominous. To her, geological rifts are metaphors of the contemporary political and social schisms that beset the world and also, more intimately, the breaches that occur in human relations. Seen in this light, her work becomes eminently understandable and close to our own experiences.

■ **THE GOODMAN GALLERY** – 163 Jan Smuts Avenue, Parkwood, Joburg. Tel: 011-788-1113. E-mail: [goodman@iafrica.co.za](mailto:goodman@iafrica.co.za). Website: [www.goodman-gallery.com](http://www.goodman-gallery.com). Until August 6. In a curated selection of Walter Battiss's oeuvre, Goodman Gallery Johannesburg presents well known, as well as rarely and never before exhibited

work by the late artist, widely considered one of South Africa's first and most significant modernists. Titled *Battiss & Company*, the show will also include a section of the gallery dedicated to work by artists and people close to him both personally and professionally.

■ **STEVENSON CT** – Buchanan Building, 160 Sir Lowry Road, Woodstock, Cape Town. Tel: 021-462-1500. E-mail: [info@michaelstevenson.com](mailto:info@michaelstevenson.com). Until July 23. *Ghost Towns* brings together two bodies of work: Mlangeni's recent photographs of small towns and his *At Home* series which will be shown in Cape Town for the first time.

*At Home* focuses on rural areas where breadwinners have migrated away in search of work, leaving behind the young and the old. *The Ghost Towns* series, on the other hand, is a vastly different approach. It depicts small South African towns that have been abandoned and forgotten, left on the edge of nowhere, while transformation takes place in the country's urban areas.



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