

NO3

Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture

Celebrating the Achievements, Innovations, and Unforgettable Moments of FADA in 2024.

fad creative milestones



UNIVERSITY
OF
JOHANNESBURG



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Achievements,
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Unforgettable Moments
of FADA in 2024.

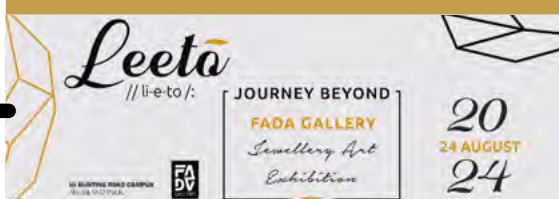
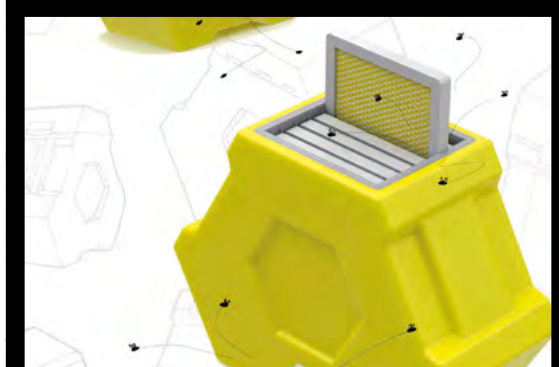
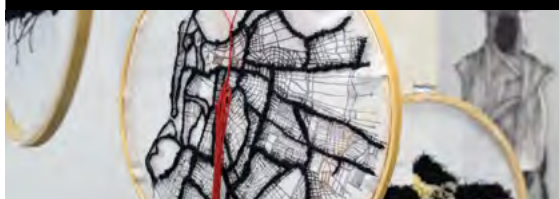
3 Fashion

9 Graphic Design

26 Industrial Design

content

54 SARChI



2 Design Studies

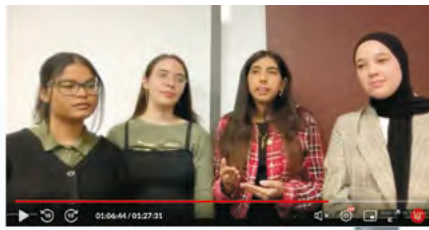
15 GSA

37 Interior Design

46 Jewellery

50 Multimedia

56 UJ Arts&Culture



Americo Guambe. 2001. *The Newtown Heads*.
Old railway sleepers on concrete plinths. 23 x 11 x 126 cm.
Johannesburg (Photograph by Janelle Billet).

FADA students presenting
at the symposium on 19
April 2024: Janelle Billet,
Jessica da Silva, Tasmia
Mohammed, Yasmeen Naumova.

design studies

Art as a Catalyst for Global Understanding

In April this year students took part in the third annual student symposium as part of the COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) project titled *Art as a Catalyst for Global Understanding*. Students in the third-year Multimedia Design class enrolled for Digital Media Studies participated in the event, which focused on belonging in urban contexts and how public art relates to communities who interact with it. This year the University of Cincinnati hosted the symposium, and TU Dortmund University also participated.

This project is a unique opportunity for undergraduate students to engage with a community of international peers, in an academic research context. The following UJ students were selected to represent the University at the symposium: Janelle Billet, Jessica da Silva, Tasmia Mohammed, Yasmeen Naumova. Their presentation was entitled: *The Newtown Heads in downtown Johannesburg*.

The following presentations were also part of the programme:

Ajenda (*The Stranger*): Investigating the impact of forced migration on Afghan refugee women in Iranian society

Fatemeh Rezaei, representing University Alliance Ruhr, TU Dortmund and Academy in Exile

TU Dortmund University

Prof Dr Vanessa Agnew

My Black Is....public mural by Ciara LeRoy

Jessica Frazier, MLA Landscape Architecture; Public Art and Public Space Certificate

University of Cincinnati

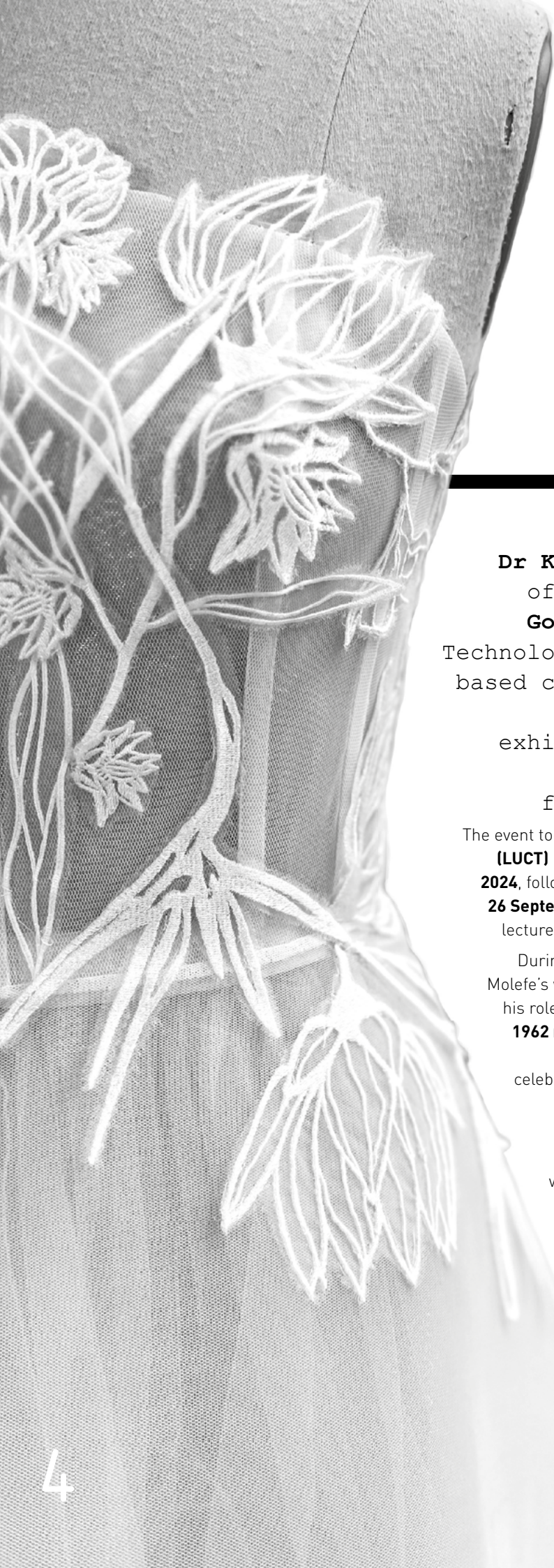
Prof Kate Bonansinga

A recording of the symposium, including the Newtown Heads presentation can be viewed on the following link: https://daap.mediaspace.kaltura.com/media/2024-0419+Art+as+a+Catalyst+for+Global+Understanding/1_wqo7c0h6



The Martin Molefe Memory Project

fashion



The Martin Molefe Memory Project: Celebrating Lesotho's 1962 Royal Wedding Through the Work of Martin Molefe

In a remarkable collaboration, **Dr Khaya Mchunu** from the University of Johannesburg (UJ) and **Ms Kiara Gounder** from Durban University of Technology (DUT), alongside the Maseru-based consultancy **Sehaeso Consultancy**, organised a public lecture and exhibition honouring the significant contributions of South African fashion designer, **Martin Molefe**.

The event took place at **Limkokwing University of Creative Technology (LUCT)** in Maseru, Lesotho, with the lecture held on **25 September 2024**, followed by an exhibition at the **Maseru Mall** that concluded on **26 September 2024**. The lecture was well-attended by students and lecturers from both LUCT and the **National University of Lesotho**.

During the lecture, attendees were given a historical overview of Molefe's work and his relevance to Lesotho, particularly highlighting his role in designing the bridesmaids' dresses for Lesotho's iconic **1962 royal wedding**. The discussion emphasised the importance of intertwining design with history and heritage, while also celebrating the untold stories of great African fashion designers.

The accompanying exhibition creatively showcased Martin Molefe as a wedding designer, featuring a contemporary re-interpretation of the ensembles he crafted for the royal wedding. Notably, one of the highlights was a strapless tulle gown adorned with hand-drawn, machine-embroidered floral lace motifs. These intricate floral patterns draw inspiration from the indigenous flowers of Southern Africa, reflecting the critical cultural significance of Molefe's work in both Lesotho and South Africa.

This project not only pays homage to Martin Molefe's legacy but also reinforces the narrative of African fashion as a rich tapestry of history and artistry.

30 Years of Democracy: Teacher Training Workshop

Hosted in the Department of Fashion, the workshops were structured as follows:

Day 1: Introduction to Critical Design Approaches

Day 2: Practical Sessions on Upcycling Techniques and French Knitting

These workshops aligned with the celebration of 30 years of democracy, aiming to explore action-oriented and pragmatic democratisation.

By facilitating training in fashion skills, the Department sought to foster knowledge sharing as a form of practising democracy.

Recognising teachers as vital contributors to society, the training emphasised their role as knowledge sharers who shape future generations. The goal was to equip these educators with fashion skills that they could pass on to their learners, creating a ripple effect of knowledge and creativity.

The workshops saw active participation from all academic staff members in the Department, along with students from both the **Fashion** and **Fashion Production** programmes, who collaborated in delivering engaging and informative sessions.

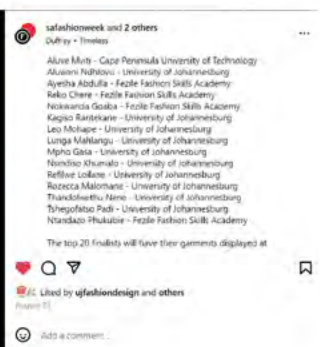
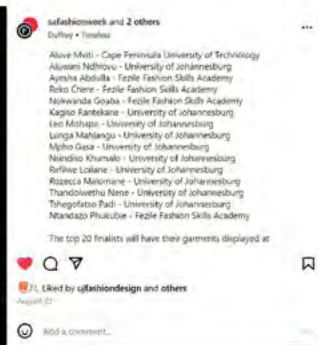
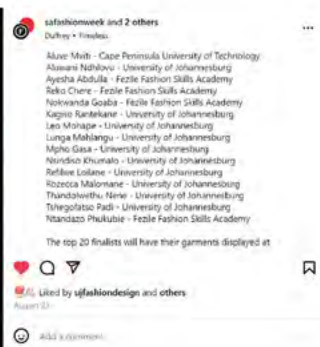
The **30 Years of Democracy Teacher Training Workshop** was held over two consecutive Saturdays, on **28 September** and **5 October 2024**. This initiative was a collaborative effort between the **Department of Fashion** and the **Gauteng Department of Education's DCES FET of Design and Visual Arts**. The workshops targeted secondary school teachers specialising in design and art subjects, offering them valuable insights and skills to enhance their teaching.



Celebrating Creativity:

UJ Students Shine in the South Africa Fashion Week Student Competition

The third-year students of the Bachelor's Degree in Fashion programme at the University of Johannesburg recently participated in the **South Africa Fashion Week Student Competition**, tasked with designing a luxury, white, 100% cotton blouse or shirt under the theme "**Personalise It.**" Notably, ten UJ students advanced to the Top 20, the highest representation from any fashion school in the competition for 2024. The winner will be announced later this year.



UJ students embraced a variety of themes, showcasing their unique design statements through their creations. Here are a few standout interpretations:

Thandolwethu Nene drew inspiration from African women's medicinal knowledge, particularly focusing on indigenous plants like wild hibiscus. Their design, which resembles traditional pinafores, features wide ribbons for versatility and shoulder ruffles that evoke flower petals. This blouse embodies the sustainable aspect of clothing, allowing for multiple styling options. Long sleeves showcase fabric quilted in petal-like patterns with beading that mimics water droplets. Thandolwethu's work highlights the significance of flowers in African culture, where they are valued for their societal benefits rather than mere aesthetics. This shirt design honours women who preserve indigenous medicinal practices and share this invaluable knowledge with future generations.

Kagiso Rantekane designed a reversible 2-in-1 shirt as a tribute to his late father, Charles Mashale. The design reflects his father's influence, featuring triangular pieces inspired by geometry problems he encouraged Kagiso to solve. The black tie-dyed outer layer symbolizes an unconventional approach to life, while the inner collar bears the name "Mashale" painted in red, reminiscent of his father's beloved red BMW 318i. Triangular patterns on the collar, cuffs, and pockets represent the strength and stability his father instilled in him. With sleeves that can be styled long or short through a zip system, this shirt exemplifies versatility for various occasions, serving as a heartfelt tribute to a man whose legacy continues to inspire.

Refilwe Loilane shared a deeply personal narrative through her design, **Lesedi**, meaning "light." Drawing from her experiences of pain, she transformed challenges into a creative expression. The asymmetrical silhouette features puff-gathered panels symbolising her inner strength during tumultuous times. The straps represent the facades developed to conceal her struggles, while the asymmetrical top layer serves as a protective shield. Refilwe's design incorporates a gold metal teeth zip and detachable sleeves, allowing for multiple styling options that emphasise freedom from her past. By using fabric burning as a textural element, she signifies her journey of overcoming shame and pain, ultimately showcasing her resilience.

These inspiring designs not only reflect the students' creativity but also highlight the powerful narratives behind their work. The University of Johannesburg's Fashion programme continues to nurture and showcase the immense talent of its students, paving the way for future designers to make their mark in the industry.



AFI Fastrack Designer Development Programme: Celebrating Kgotsofalo Mohau Monyamate

Kgotsofalo Mohau Monyamate, a Master's student in Design (Fashion stream) and part-time lecturer in the Department of Fashion, recently participated in the AFI Fastrack Designer Development Programme. This esteemed initiative, launched by the African Fashion International (AFI) and founded by Dr Precious Motsepe, serves as a fashion designer incubator and competition aimed at nurturing emerging talent in the fashion industry. The Fastrack Programme provides a platform for budding designers to showcase their creativity to diverse audiences, both within South Africa and internationally. Participants gain invaluable skills and experience, propelling their careers to the next level.

Throughout the programme, designers receive comprehensive training in various aspects of running a sustainable fashion business, including research, presentations, marketing, and sales. They are also presented with design challenges that encourage them to combine their unique skills with the expertise facilitated by the programme. The AFI Fastrack Designer Development Programme culminated in the AFI Fastrack Prize event, where designers showcased their work to industry experts, public figures, fashion enthusiasts, family, and friends. Esteemed judges, including renowned stylist Felipe Mazibuko and *Sunday Times* editor Aspasia Karras, evaluated the designs presented.

Kgotsofalo Mohau Monyamate showcased his new collection under his fashion brand Articles From Mars, titled 'Is'khothane Somhlaba'. This collection featured elements inspired by the South African cultural phenomenon of Ubukhothane. Mr Monyamate's outstanding garment design, construction, rationale presentation skills, and his ability to research and solve problems throughout the programme earned him the Innovation and Creativity Award — a significant achievement, as it is the first of its kind since the programme's inception in 2011.

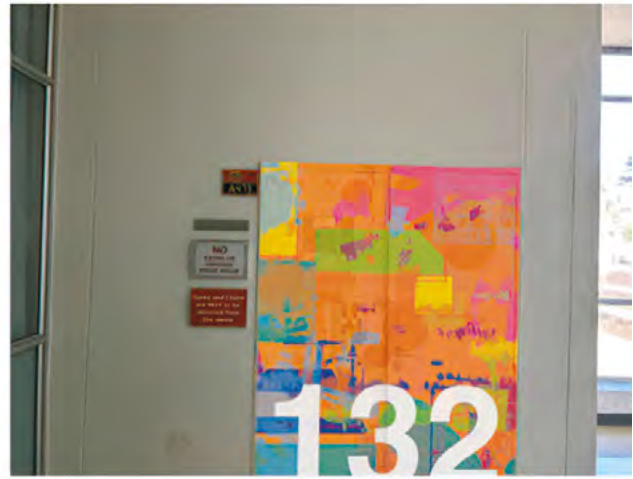




Tiagos is an open Flamed grill fast food restuarant based only in KwaZulu-Natal. They are a well-loved brand in KZN as they are a free range, organic base, who are also Halal. Their original brand identity was outdated and needed a modern rebrand, in doing so I used elements such as illustrated patterns, a fun colour pallette and more of a coastal aesthetic to represent their brand.

graphic design





INDUSTRY LECTURERS

1ST Year Logo Design with Osmond Tshuma: Our first-year students had the privilege of their Logo Design unit being taught by accomplished designer and UJ Graphic Design alumna, Osmond Tshuma. Osmond is an award-winning designer from Zimbabwe, who specialises in typography, art direction, and branding. His work is informed by his heritage, which is incorporated into various aspects of his work and career. Among Osmond's most notable project is the branding he created for the "Leaders: Africa" programme. For this project, the students had to rebrand one of three South African companies: Eskom, Telkom, or SABC. The task was to design a new logo and accompanying visual identity system that represents the company's values and future success, addressing its current challenges and public perception, while centring its identity as an African, and South African business towards decolonising South African graphic design.

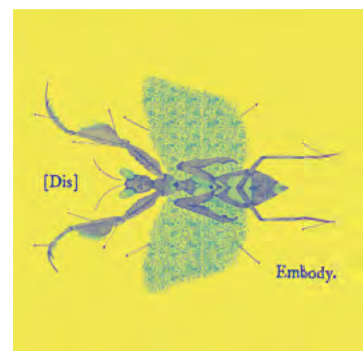
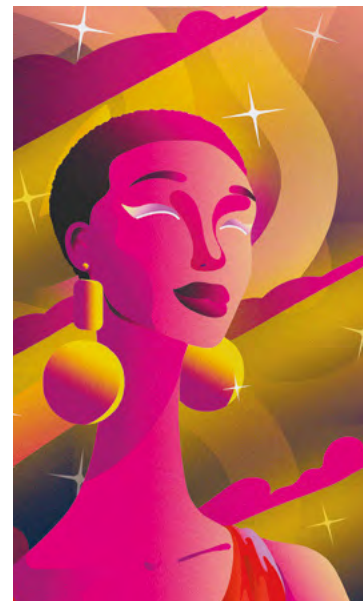
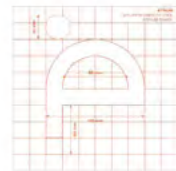
1ST Year Illustration and 2nd Year Branding with Courtney Hodgson: Owner of local brand and business Kiffkak, Courtney Hodgson, spent some time with our students this year transferring her skills in the two areas in which she specialises: illustration and branding. Courtney is an award-winning illustrator and designer and taught first-year illustration and second-year branding this year. The illustration unit focuses largely on visual storytelling in both traditional and digital media, whereas the second-year branding unit teaches students how market research informs a suitable design execution for brand development.

2ND Year Advertising with Kgabo Mametja: Our second-year Advertising unit was presented by successful designer, illustrator and art director, Kgabo Mametja. Kgabo has worked for a variety of local and international clients, including Lego, Nike, Penguin Random House and Puma. Kgabo set a fun brief for our students requiring them to develop a campaign for Birkenstock, delving into print, digital and video.

3RD Year Advertising with Fiona O'Connor and Dr Lize Groenewald: This unit was coordinated by Fiona O'Connor, an executive art director who has worked with Havas and Ogilvy. Fiona has worked projects for clients, such as KFC, Mercedes, Emperors Palace and Jik. The unit was also coordinated and taught by Dr Lize Groenewald, our esteemed former HOD. The students received briefs that were developed by honours students in UJ's Strategic Communications Department. This unit required students to develop clever, innovative campaign concepts and professionally crafted works of design that successfully carry the campaign messages through each deliverable.

MOCK-UPS

ATRILUM
Stage of the Atrium



TYPO



**ANYTHING
BUT ORDINARY**

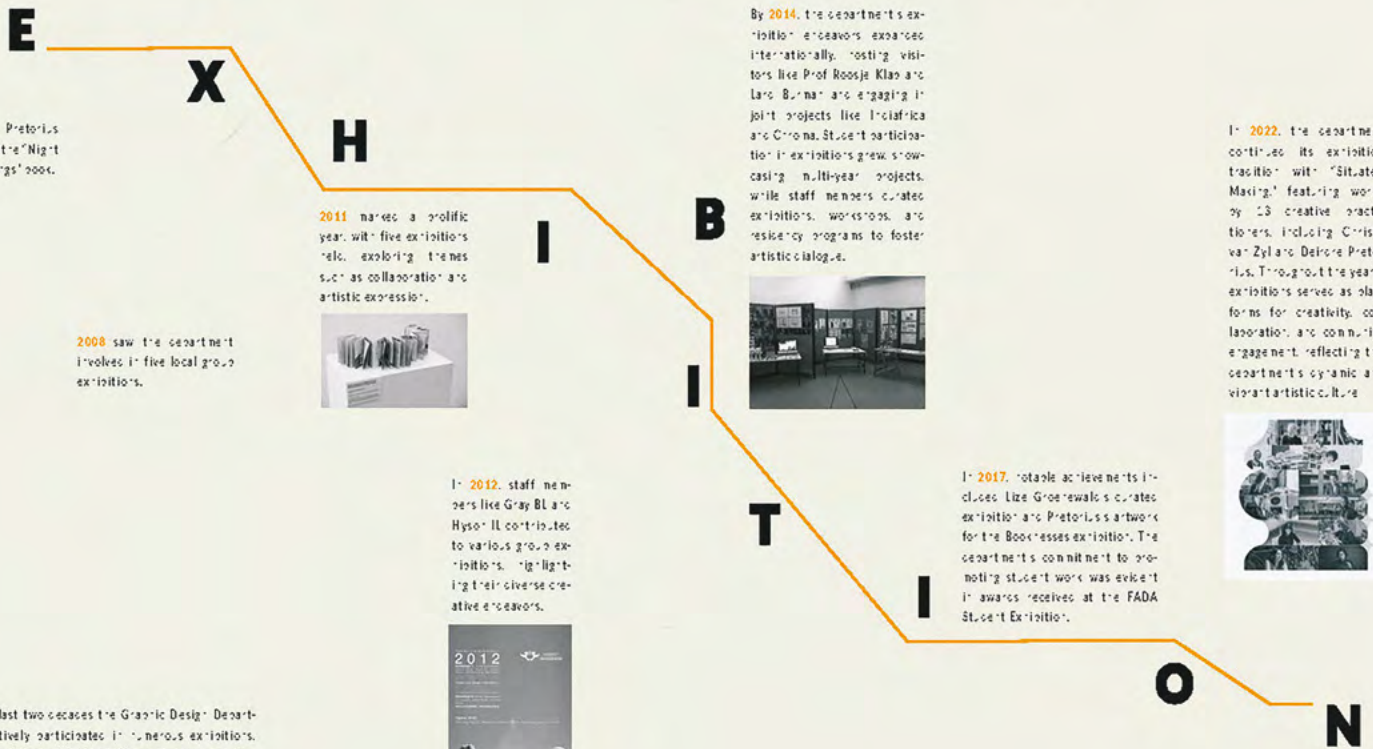


Oh!
and we can't forget the complimentary box of
safety matches. Buy two or more boxes of our
exclusive candles and we'll throw in a free box of
safety matches. Just a little something for
our besties.



GREETINGS FROM

GRAPHIC DESIGN



Over the last two decades the Graphic Design Department actively participated in numerous exhibitions, showcasing the talents of both staff and students and fostering engagement with the broader artistic community.

16

17



3RD Year Packaging with Jamie Calf: Our third years were taught by department alumna and graphic designer, Jamie Calf. She is a graphic designer and illustrator based in Johannesburg, with a fondness for tea, cats, and her plant collection. Jamie is an alumna of the University of Johannesburg, where she studied Communication/Graphic Design. She is known by her students as a “fantastic lecturer who truly cares for her work”. For this project, students were tasked to create packaging as part of their coursework, but it also served as an entry for the annual packaging design competition known as the Gold Pack Awards.

3RD Year Self-Branding and Work-Based Learning with Telita Esterhuizen: Department alumna and freelance illustrator and designer, Telita Esterhuizen, taught self-branding to our third years this year. This unit requires students to professionally brand themselves as designers, ensuring that they are able to enter industry with their own portfolio websites, business cards, CVs and other self-promotional material. The work-based learning unit seeks to teach students professional skills, prepare them for the working environment through internships, and having speakers who work in the various corners of industry speak to the students.

COLLABORATION

3RD Year Zine Project: The third-year zine unit was a collaboration between the students and the zine duo Pangazine (formerly Idiozine). Lecturer Neil Badenhorst, who taught this unit, collaborated with marketing expert, Frederika Fourie, and multimedia designer, Tana Pistorius (who make up Panagzine), and set up a brief where students were required to develop their own concepts and create a 12-page zine in which they seek to spark conversations regarding various projects. As the majority of third-year practical units are set up for commercial viability, ensuring students demonstrate the skills that they will need in industry, the zine unit is an opportunity for students to do research and craft designs about social topics that they themselves are passionate about. The unit promotes design history, the integration of what is learned in theory modules into practice. The students’ topics ranged from issues relating to gender-based violence, queer identities and experience, grappling with identity, the war on Palestine, cultural hybridity and more. Ten of the students’ zines were exhibited at the Jack Ginsberg Book Arts Centre this year in an exhibition curated by Prof David Paton from Visual Arts. There was also a panel discussion between Prof Paton, UJ, Open Window and Wits. Neil Badenhorst and students, Musa Malobola and Ditshegofatso Maoto, were part of the panel.

Pangazine Issue 1, which will consist as a publication consisting of student work will be launched later this year.

Honours Participation Design:

In this particularly ambitious unit, coordinated by HOD Christa van Zyl, students are presented with briefs from real-life clients to which they need to respond with a real, feasible design execution. This unit prioritises human-centred, community-based graphic design. This year, both our students and the Industrial Design honours students participated within this project. Our stakeholders and partners for this project include Girls and Boys Town, Jozi My Jozi, Crystal Springs Mountain Lodge, Water for the Future, Joburg Zoo, and African Reclaimers Organisation.



2ND Year Editorial Design: Lecturer Ilhaam Khan facilitated the editorial design unit for our second-year students. For this assignment our students were tasked with creating an alternative publication based on a typeface. This project required students to research their selected typeface, blend traditional and digital media, and do visual research on how their selected typeface is used in the real world. This required that the students photograph and record how they see these fonts being used on signage, billboards, packaging and menus. Students had to learn how to integrate their creative experiments in traditional media into the digital workspace, prior to printing and binding their publications.

2ND Year Design Thinking: Senior lecturer Reshma Maharajh facilitated the design thinking unit, in which students were presented with a problem and were required to do research and execute a solution. This unit focuses on research as a crucial part of the creative process. Students had to apply their design thinking skills to their own context within the university, thinking about how design can promote mental health and well-being for students on campus.

NOTABLE STUDENT PROJECTS

2ND Year 30 Years of Democracy: For our students' mid-year exam, they were tasked to develop integrated campaigns for the celebration of 30 years of Democracy in South Africa. Students were required to use a minimum of three South African languages in their campaign, with some of the required deliverables being billboard designs, a poster, an Instagram carousel, two social media posts, with students needing to include a deliverable of their own choice. The project was coordinated by lecturers, Ilhaam Khan and Neil Badenhorst.



2ND Year Direct Marketing: The second-year students received a brief from the marketing consultancy WeilCo and company Capfin. They were tasked with conceptualising a campaign for the client responding to the multitude of positive reviews Capfin receives from their clients. The unit required that students execute their campaigns in groups, in various phases; facilitating an agency environment and workflow processes. This unit was taught by lecturers Neil Badenhorst and Ilhaam Khan.

3RD Year FADA Poster: This unit involves the creation of the poster for the annual FADA exhibition. In addition to designing the poster, the brief required students to design signage and approaches to wayfinding, as well as digital invites to the exhibition. The top ten posters have been shortlisted, and the Faculty will soon open voting for selecting the final poster for the year. This unit was taught by senior lecturer Reshma Maharajh.

Honours Women's Month Portraits: Each year during August, our HOD Christa van Zyl facilitates a project in which honours students pay homage to notable South African women by illustrating portraits of them for our departmental Instagram page. This project seeks to honour these women who have made impacts on various corners of society, but also educate our students of notable women and what they have worked towards within our democracy.

3RD Year Wayfinding: Lecturer Ilhaam Khan taught the wayfinding unit, which seeks to equip the students with the skills necessary to work on environmental graphics and execute wayfinding systems. This project required the students to reapproach FADA's wayfinding systems to maximise clarity and spatial awareness of the different locations of departments, administrative offices and other locations in the building, ensuring a student-centred approach.

Honours Publication Design: Prof Deirdre Pretorius teaches the Honours unit, publication design. This year, students were required to design a publication celebrating 20 years of the Graphic Design Department. Students had to delve into an archive of past student work in order to execute their publications and do research on the history and current visions of the department and FADA. In the students' words "there was never a dull moment in class" and that Prof Pretorius is "one of the coolest lecturers I know because of her patience, great advice and jokes".



POSTGRADUATE MATTERS **PhD Graduation:**

The department has had its first PhD student graduate this year. **Maria van Os**, who was supervised by our former colleague, Dr Adrie Haese, and co-supervised by Prof Deirdre Pretorius, has graduated. She made a beautiful picture book as a part of her study. Several of our MA candidates have graduated as well.

STAFF

Internationalisation: Prof Deirdre Pretorius went to Brighton, where she presented several talks to the university's postgraduate students.

Staff Exhibition: All five members of the Graphic Design Department participated in the FADA staff exhibition earlier this year. Christa van Zyl's piece was concerned with the invisible care invested into students as an educator. Prof Deirdre Pretorius made an artists' book of self-portraits exploring the relationship between oil painting and generative AI. Reshma Maharajh made an installation piece that grapples with cultural identity, rites of passage and the role of womanhood. Ilhaam Khan and Neil Badenhorst collaborated on an installation piece that was a sign of solidarity with Gaza and the Palestinian people.

Visual Redress Book: Following their conference paper last year at Visual Redress, Prof Deirdre Pretorius and Ilhaam Khan have written a book chapter regarding university hostel branding in South Africa.

Everything Under the Sun: Lecturer Neil Badenhorst was one of the illustrators who worked on the second volume of *Everything Under the Sun*, a nonfiction children's book for Ladybird UK, in which children's questions from around the world are answered by various experts.

Duo: Lecturer Neil Badenhorst will be exhibiting in a duo exhibition at Gallery 2 at the start of November, alongside UX designer and artist Jané Celliers. The exhibition interrogates queer space, alienation from traditional spaces, and queer rites of passage.

Fundraising Exhibition: Lecturers Ilhaam Khan and Neil Badenhorst (as well as Ruth Sacks from Visual Arts) participated in an exhibition at the Desmond and Leah Tutu foundation, titled *Palestine will soon be Free, from the River to the Sea*. The proceeds from the exhibition will go towards colouring books and stationery for schools in need within South Africa, and towards distribution of the colouring book by Nathi Ngubane, of which 100% of the proceeds go towards the Palestinian cause.



Graduate School of Architecture



GSA 2024 News & Events

Quarter 1-4 ~~Quarter 1~~

GSA + Kingston School of Art Exchange, London

January

An engaging discussion on how we teach history at GSA + KSA with individual presentations by GSA Unit 15X and Unit 21 co-leads, Nomalanga Mahlangu and Azraa Gabru, showing how ideas around history and the past manifest themselves in Unit projects.



Scape Magazine Feature

GSA Unit 7 tutor, Simphiwe Mlambo, and GSA Unit 17 lead, Gregory Katz, were featured in 100th volume | 100 voices

Funambulist Magazine – 52nd Issue

GSA Unit 14 alum Patricia Bandora's master's dissertation was published in the 52nd issue of *The Funambulist Magazine*

Title of article: How A Genocide Spreads: Mapping Anti-Tutsi radios, magazines and speeches in Rwanda

GSA Unit 20 Workshop with Malik Yoba – I Build New York

GSA Unit 20 maintains its interdisciplinary approach to design thinking and education by hosting a film workshop at the GSA led by Malik Yoba, a seasoned actor and filmmaker. The workshop centred around the art of storytelling and filmmaking, exploring how architecture students can leverage the filmmaking process and the impact of storytelling in the creation of architecture.



GAP (Gauteng Accelerator Programme) INNOVATION COMPETITION

Thilogello Sesana, GSA Unit 17 Tutor and Making Tutor, achieved first place in the GAP (Gauteng Accelerator Programme) INNOVATION COMPETITION. The competition called for innovators, researchers, and entrepreneurs working on novel technologies to improve the efficiency of government service delivery, increase the competitiveness of the local economy, and enhance the quality of life of ordinary citizens.

Thilogello entered under the Township Economy category and took first place for her innovation that focused on adaptable modular systems for modular construction.

The competition is held in collaboration with the Innovation Hub, Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), Emory University Business School, Atlanta Georgia, and Tshwane Automotive Special Economic Zone (Tasez).

100 Women: Architects in Practice – Book Launch and Panel Discussion

9 March 2024

An online event hosted by the GSA offering an opportunity to meet some of the remarkable women featured in the book and to engage with a panel discussion moderated by GSA Unit tutors, Veronica Chipwanya, Nomalanga Mahlangu, and Simphiwe Mlambo.





Simphiwe Mlambo 33

Architectural Researcher, University of Johannesburg
Joburg

In 2024, Simphiwe's light is set to burn bright. She is an architectural researcher and lecturer at the University of Johannesburg, as well as a tutor at the USA, and the list is still growing.

'I will be launching a podcast, delving into architecture's nuances, gearing up to present a thought-provoking paper on violent architectures at a conference at the University of Newcastle in March. Concurrently, embarking on a captivating journey into blackness, borders, and belonging through an exhibition, aligning with extensive PhD research.'

Gregory Katz 03

Founder and Principal Architect, Gregory Katz Architecture
Joburg

Known for his out-of-the-ordinary ideas and adventurous design choices, Gregory's name is synonymous with builds like Corner Fox and Gora Primary School House. As a lead for Unit 22 at the University of Johannesburg's Graduate School of Architecture, he brings insight that carries great weight.

'At the heart of it, there is something I am actually quite good at, which is making mistakes... Making architecture is very resource intensive, it's very capital intensive, it's very time intensive. It's so permanent – the stakes are so high. And yet, in order to make breakthroughs, in order to make advancements, architects need to be taking risks and experimenting.'

www.gregorykatz.co.za



Quarter 2

Production Studies International Conference 2024 (PSIC2024)

March 2024

Decolonisation, International Collaboration Beyond Africa

Hosted by Newcastle University

PSIC2024 brings together over 100 researchers from around the globe to debate and advance the critical understanding of relations between architectural design and the production and labour of building.

Simphiwe Mlambo's presentation discussed the archival history of Johannesburg, highlighting the post-apartheid museums as complex networks reflecting mass black death-related landscapes. It explored the parasitic relationship between apartheid urban production and the creation of these museums, where the death of black bodies is capitalised on for economic gain. The presentation delved into Dark tourism and necro politics, examining how colonial power influences who lives and dies to maintain urban production. It also analysed the transformation of spaces that once subjugated black bodies into post-apartheid museums through Cartographies of Cleansing.



Nairobi Visit

15 – 19 April

Pan African

The Department of Landscape Architecture at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Nairobi, one of a few schools on the African continent that offers landscape architecture, invited Dr Saidi to serve as an external examiner for their landscape architecture programmes.

Dr Saidi examined the undergraduate and master's programmes in Landscape Architecture, interviewing staff and students. Dr Saidi noted that the programmes in landscape architecture offered at JKAUT offer fresh insights and understanding for landscape architecture opportunities in African cities.

GSA Architectural History & Theory Lectures

Decolonisation/4IR

Infrastructures

Post Human Sustainability

Writing a First Draft/ Developing A Writing Voice

Key Speakers: Zandi Sherman, Harriet Harris, Tracy Murinik

Making at the GSA Public Lectures

Making Immersion 2024

Key Speakers: Mark and Annelide Sherratt

4IR/SDG



Corobrik 37th Architectural Student Awards

15 – 17 May 2024

Dominican Republic Embassy GSA Visit

Prof Mark Raymond, Director of the Graduate School of Architecture, and Head of the Division for Global Engagement, Prof Ylva Rodny-Gumede, met at the GSA with H.E. Erika Alvarez Rodriguez, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Dominican Republic to South Africa and Minister Counsellor Jose Ortiz Almonte to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

ADR Seminar and Workshop Series

May – August 2024

GSA Advanced Design Research Convenor, Prof Guy Trangoš

Continuous Professional Development

The ADR seminars and workshops are designed to build and strengthen discourse around academic, research, and pedagogical matters. They are an excellent opportunity to expand our knowledge collectively and collegially on various subjects.

ADR Seminar: A round-table discussion of a theme, with reading material shared a week beforehand as a prompt for the discussion. Seminar themes have been drawn from cross-unit themes but can be adjusted.

ADR Workshop: A skills-building discussion where research methods, pedagogy, research resources, and techniques will be presented and discussed.





Quarter 3

Emergent Practice 1

18 – 29 June 2024

Goethe Institut

Emergent Practice (EP1 and EP2) is a two-part exhibition co-hosted by the GSA and the Goethe Institut at the invitation of Dr Asma Diakit . EP1 is a comprehensive prelude to EP2, highlighting the work of Fred Swart with a focus on posters for the GSA. EP2, co-curated by GSA graduate Chinenye Chukwuka (2023), features the work of fellow recent GSA graduates, Patricia Bandora, Simphiwe Mlambo and Titus Shitaatala (2021/22 and 23), whose work reflects the ambition and diversity that characterise the transformative work of the School.

The Goethe-Institut gallery is a place for practitioners to experiment and play, outside of the traditional white cube space without commercial limitations. The gallery aims to create a platform for these practitioners to explore ideas safely; with logistical, financial, and curatorial support. Artists who show work at the gallery go on to do many incredible things, and the work evolves to take on new forms and be shown at other locations. The platform offered by the gallery is intended to springboard ideas and artists to continue making necessary and relevant work beyond the Goethe-Institut.

GSA Learning & Teaching Talk with Prof Francisco J Rodriguez

Prof Francisco J. Rodriguez-Suarez delivered a presentation titled "Praxis, Sintaxis y alg n que otro  xtasis (Much Ado About Nothing)" at the GSA on the 19 June 2024.

Prof Francisco J. Rodriguez-Suarez, FAIA is an architect, educator and urbanist from Puerto Rico. He is currently the Director of the University of Illinois School of Architecture at Urbana-Champaign. He studied at Georgia Tech, the Universit  de Paris and Harvard School of Design, where he earned a Master of Architecture with distinction winning the AIA Medal, the Portfolio Award and a Fulbright Fellowship. Previously, he served as Dean of the UPR School of Architecture and taught and lectured at various universities around the world.

Prof Rodr guez served as the director of (in)forma, an academic journal and has co-edited five books including *Alma Mater*, *Aula Magna*, *Chronologies of an Architectural Pedagogy*, and *Contemporary Architecture in Puerto Rico 1992-2010*, a joint effort with the AIA. He is the principal at rsvp architects and a former president of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), an organisation that recognised him as Distinguished Professor.

Emergent Practice 2

7 – 30 August

Goethe-Institut

Emergent Practice is a two-part exhibition (EP1 and EP2), which the GSA has been hosting at the Goethe-Institut in Johannesburg at the invitation of Dr Asma Diakité. Dr Diakité invited us to use the space to exhibit work that might not ordinarily find a place in the established gallery/exhibition spaces that typify the Johannesburg scene. In EP1 we highlighted the work of Fred Swart, the GSA graphic designer, in promoting the 'Emergent Practices' featuring in the public programme of the School. EP2 features recent GSA graduates, Simphiwe Mlambo, Patricia Bandora, Titus Shitaatala, and is co-curated by another recent graduate, Chinenye Chukwuka, and GSA Unit 7 Lead and Making and Practice Convenor, Ngillan Faal. The work of these graduates reflects the ambition and the diversity that characterise the transformative work of the School in the form of emergent practices.

The platform offered by the gallery is intended to springboard ideas and artists to continue making necessary and relevant work beyond the Goethe-Institut.

Practice Lecture Series 2024

July – August 2024

Online MS Teams

Practice Lecture Series 2024:

A series of lectures by architects and creative practitioners on how they work.

The lecture series took place from July-August 2024.

Chancellor's Medal



Titus Shitaatala, GSA Unit 20 alum, received the prestigious Chancellor's Medal

29 July 2024.

Titus's MArch project, titled "The Archive of Silence(s): Redistributing Archival Power through Phygital Spaces in Pretoria," was supervised by @gsa_unit20 co-leads, Dickson Adu-Adgyei and Veronica Chipwanya.

Titus' project uses Marabastad as a tester site – the Archive of Silence(s) looks to decentralise and redistribute archival power from the biased National Archives of South Africa to South African communities.

Following the state's attempts to rid Pretoria of townships in 2023, the frequent demolitions and the subsequent soil erosion will see Marabastad develop into a dust wasteland stripped of its heritage by the year 2045.

The remaining residents begin to build the Archive of Silence(s) using a robotic arm, cotton canvas, steel and artifact-embedded concrete-methylcellulose panels in a process that subverts the discriminatory archival system practised at the National Archives.

The archive is built to describe chosen community narratives using artefacts of memory and is designed to decay and be rebuilt after every twenty years to grant future generations the opportunity to spatially reconstruct history as a manifesto for their future.



GSA Architecture Week 2024

26-30 August 2024

Architecture Week at the GSA is an annual event that serves as a vibrant platform for showcasing the work of our GSA Unit System students and fostering constructive dialogue between students, architects, creative practitioners, academics, and the broader public. This tradition has its roots in the International Critics Week, first held in 2018, which brought together a distinguished panel of critics from around the world to engage with our students' work.

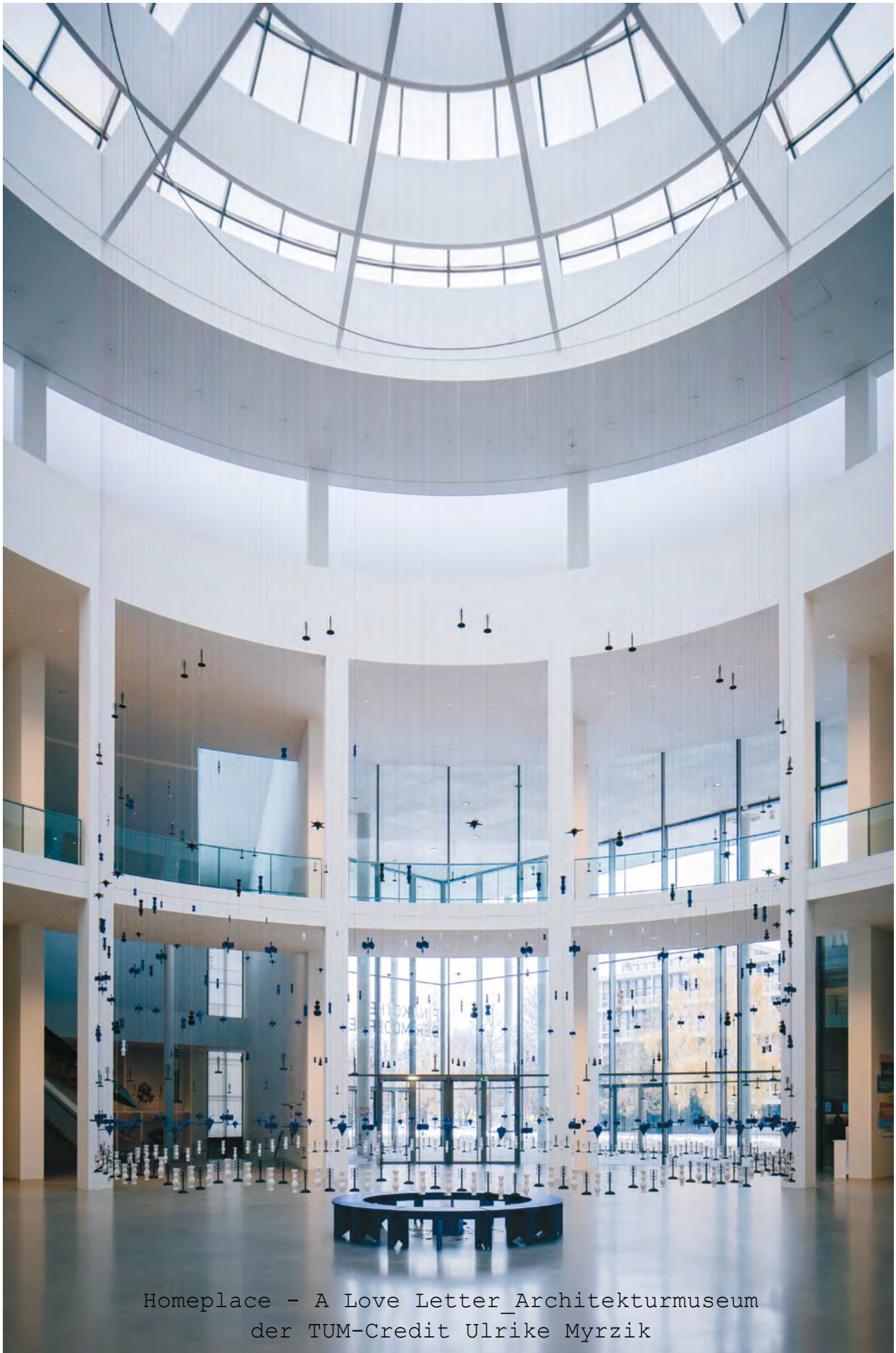
After a brief hiatus, the event was revived and renamed Critics Week in 2022, building on the original vision of critical engagement and dialogue. In 2023, the event evolved into what we now know as Architecture Week, expanding its scope and reach. This year, we are excited to welcome critics from both South African and international architectural and other creative practices, offering a diversity of perspectives and feedback for our community.

The core of Architecture Week is the presentation of student work to the critics, a process that emphasises openness, sharing, and the exchange of ideas. This year's programme also includes a range of events and lectures designed to deepen the engagement with architectural discourse and practice. Our doors are open to the public – we invite friends, peers, and critics to explore the work and research conducted at the GSA.

The intention of Architecture Week is to create an open house atmosphere where reflection and feedback are paramount. It is a time for our students to showcase their hard work and for the entire GSA community to engage in constructive conversations about the architecture. We look forward to the insights and inspiration that this week will bring, as we continue to explore, probe, interrogate and expand the boundaries of architectural education and practice.



Homeplace - The Reader_
Credit Sherida Kuffour



Homeplace - A Love Letter_Architekturmuseum
der TUM-Credit Ulrike Myrzik



GSA Architecture Week Lecture: Opening Lecture by Margarida Waco

27 August 2024

Margarida Waco (b. 1992, Cabinda) is an architect and writer whose practice engages design, research, and pedagogy to interrogate the infrastructures that persistently organise the world through 'double fracture' whilst drawing from Black radical thought to imagine other possible worlds.

Her work has been presented internationally, including at the 18th Venice Architecture Biennale, Architekturmuseum der TUM, Palais de Tokyo, Malmö Art Museum, Nyansapo Afrofeminist Festival, and Arquiteturas Festival Porto, among others. Margarida is the co-author of 'Informal Horizons' (Royal Danish Academy, 2019), co-editor of 'Pan-Africanism' (The Funambulist, 2020), and co-editor of 'Homeplace – A Love Letter' (Architekturmuseum der TUM, 2023). Her writing has been published in *Aprender a Desaprender* (Dafne Editora, 2024), *Afterall*, *Ellipses Journal of Creative Research*, *STOÀ Journal*, and *Archive of Forgetfulness*.

Margarida directs an architectural design studio at the Royal College of Art in London and is an Editorial Advisor to The Funambulist, where she previously held the position of Head of Strategic Outreach. She has practised across offices in Paris, Copenhagen, and Stockholm. She received her MA in Architecture from the Royal Danish Academy and is the 24/25 recipient of the JAE Fellowship.



GSA Architecture Week Lecture: The Crisis of Black Studies by Victoria Collis-Buthelezi

28 August 2024

Victoria J. Collis-Buthelezi is an Associate Professor in English, the Director of the Johannesburg Institute for Advanced Study (JIAS), and the Director for the Centre for the Study of Race, Gender and Class at the University of Johannesburg.

Her research interests include black intellectual history as well as Caribbean, African, and African American literatures. She has published in several international journals such as *Small Axe*, *Callaloo*, and *The Black Scholar*, in which she co-edited a special issue on "Black Studies in South Africa." She is series editor of *Critical South* and sits on the editorial board of *Small Axe*. She is a member of the Other Universals Collective, a consortium of scholars in South Africa, Ghana, Ethiopia, Barbados and Lebanon, committed to exploring intellectual histories of exchange across Africa, the Caribbean, the Middle East and South Asia.

Her book, *Ends of Empire, Black Liberation*, is under contract with Columbia University Press and Wits Press and will appear in 2025. The book excavates the print cultures of black migrants to Cape Town from the Caribbean, the US, West Africa and other parts of South Africa before the rise of anti-colonial nationalism.

She is a research associate of the Institute of Research in African American Studies (IRAAS) at Columbia University (New York) and a senior research fellow at JIAS. She is on the Global Advisory Board of the Center of Global Black Studies at the University of Miami and Association of Global Political Thought (Harvard University). Victoria has held posts in English at the University of Cape Town and as a Senior Researcher at the Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research (WiSER) at the University of the Witwatersrand.



GSA Architecture Week Lecture: Productive Synthesis: An Approach to Designing Contemporary African Architecture by Studio Contra/Olayinka Dosekun-Adjei

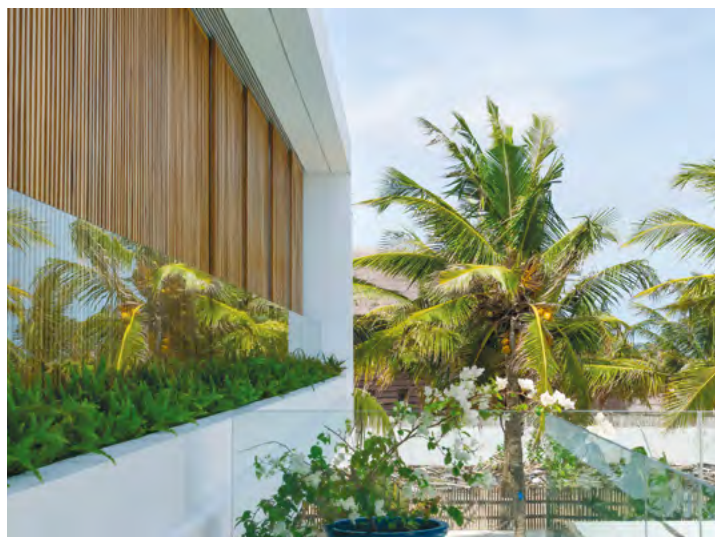
29 August 2024

Studio Contra is an architectural, urban and interior design practice based in Lagos, Nigeria, with ongoing projects in Nigeria and Ghana and was founded in 2017 by Jeffrey Adjei (BArch, MArch, Canterbury) and Olayinka Dosekun-Adjei (BA Oxon, MArch Harvard).

The studio is committed to the delivery of innovative and thoughtful architecture and spaces within a West African context, interested in prompting design explorations that make intelligent and imaginative leaps between architectural past, present and future. Our process is inquisitive and concept-driven; in search of solutions that uniquely and directly confront the challenges of each brief we seek to unlocking hidden value for clients and wider communities. Our projects rest on three values which CONCEPT, CULTURE and CRAFT. All three link to a human-centred approach to design and the desire to create surprise, design and engagement in the built environment.

Alongside architectural practice, Olayinka and Jeffrey have taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design (2023) and LT Ranch Summer School in Lithuania (2015-2024) respectively, bringing a contemporary African interpretation to their approach to educational projects with students.

Studio Contra has been featured in publications such as *Architecture Record* (Design Vanguard 2023), *Wallpaper magazine* and *RIBA 100 Women Architects*, and is considered a leading design firm in West African. Studio Contra is registered with RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) and ARCON (Architects Registration Council of Nigeria).





Quarter 4

GSA Lecture: MADEYOULOOK

3 October 2024

MADEYOULOOK is a Johannesburg based interdisciplinary artist duo between Molemo Moilola and Nare Mokgotho, operating since 2009. MADEYOULOOK have exhibited, published, and hosted programmes in various forms, including with Njelele Art Station, Harare; Frac des Pays de la Loire, Carquefou; Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort; Primary, Nottingham; and various initiatives in South Africa. They were nominated for the Vera List Center Prize for Art and Politics at the New School, New York, in 2017, and the MTN New Contemporaries Award in 2012. They were Fellows of the DAAD Berlin artist program 2022 and Documenta Fifteen Lumbung Artists. They are the sole featured artists on the South African pavilion at the 60th Venice Biennale.

The works of MADEYOULOOK take as their point of departure everyday black practices that have been historically overlooked, deemed inconsequential or simply had limited rigorous engagement, particularly within the formal houses of knowledge production. These works encourage a re-observation of and de-familiarisation with the everyday and the spacing of black imaginaries. In reworking and interrupting how we view ordinary black lived experiences and the everyday, we are 'made to re-look' and question societal relations. MADEYOULOOK then makes a claim for everyday black lifehood and relationality as constituting knowledge and having the ability to model ways of practising and being. These everyday practices have the potential to bring about different perspectives to enable epistemic shifts and create new possibilities.

GSA Unit 8 lead, Jaco Jonker presented an online lecture at [South African Institute of Architects](#), 4 October 2024 @14:30, sharing his interests and teaching at the GSA.

Advanced Design Research Seminar

10 October 2024

Advanced Design Research Convenor, Prof Guy Trangoš, hosted a session that focused on grant application writing and collaborative research, exploring the importance of multidisciplinary partnerships and funding in developing impactful projects.

Soundscape: Workshop by MADEYOULOOK

12 October 2024

An engaging workshop with MADEYOULOOK at the GSA on Saturday, 12 October 2024. The workshop explored themes from their Quiet Ground project through collective reading, immersive sound, and shared discussion.

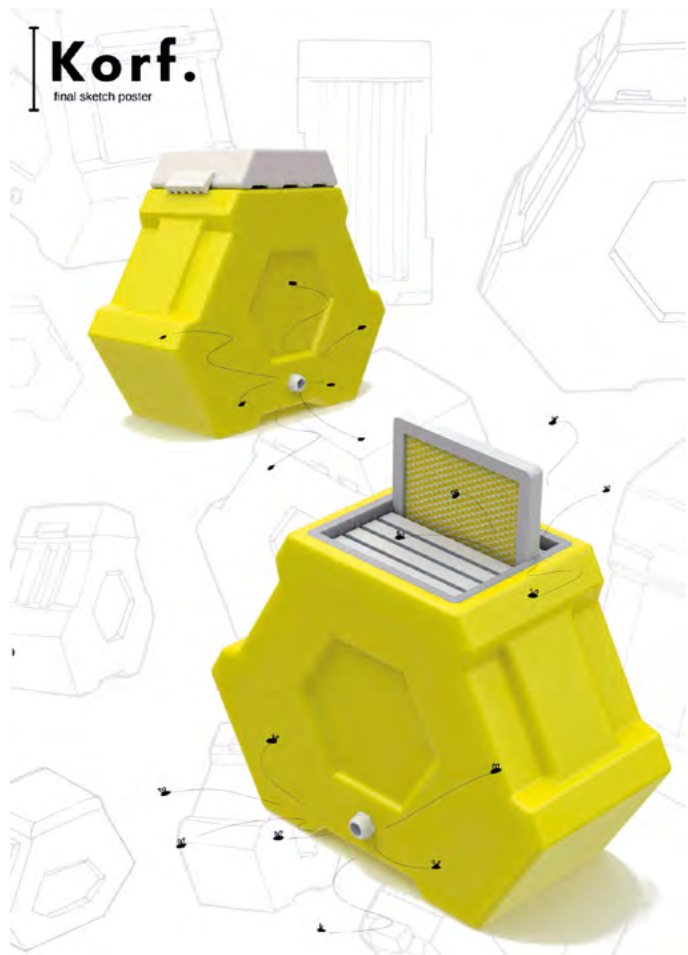
Highlights included a reading and discussion of MADEYOULOOK's Quiet Ground text, an immersive listening session of the Dinokana sound piece, and a potluck-style meal.

Korf.

a sustainable twist on modern beekeeping



industrial
design



ARMSA ROTATION MOULDING STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

The Association of Rotation Moulders of Southern Africa (ARMSA) was founded in 1992 and officially formed in 1994 by a group of enthusiastic Rotational Moulders and suppliers who saw the need to grow the industry by increasing the demand and consumption of high quality rotationally moulded products in South Africa. ARMA has been running an annual rotation moulding student design competition in collaboration with South African Industrial Design departments for over 10 years, covering a variety of themes. This year's competition revolved around identifying a problem within the area of agriculture and gardening that could be addressed through the design of a rotation moulded product. We are excited to announce that two of UJ's Industrial Design students were selected as finalists.

Morgan Potgieter won first prize for her design, "**Korf**", a rotation moulded plastic beehive. The product is a sustainable and functional alternative to traditional wooden beehives. It is designed with good ventilation to assist with temperature regulation and enhance bee productivity. It is designed to make harvesting honey easy and addresses the issue of hives being knocked over and endangering bee colonies.



Daniel May was commended for his design, "**Chicabox**," a rotationally moulded nesting box for chicken farmers. Developed in response to the egg shortage and the spread of chicken viruses, his design addresses the opportunity for households to produce their own eggs. The "Chicabox" is easy to install, modular, and stackable, making it adaptable for both farming and individual household needs.



FADA Cat Commune

Designing With and for Non-Human Participants

Department: Industrial Design

Staff Members: Ashton Moseley & Dr Ruth Lipschitz



South Africa is home to an estimated 2.9 million cats, and around 26 of them have made the University of Johannesburg's (UJ) Auckland Park Bunting Road (APB) campus their home. This small feline community began in 2018 when a stray mother cat gave birth to a litter in a storm drain outside the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture (FADA) workshop. Since then, a group of dedicated individuals, now known as the "Cat Custodians", has taken responsibility for providing housing and food for the cats in what has been informally named "The Cat Commune".

The presence of these stray cats plays an important role in maintaining the ecological balance on campus. The cats help control the campus rodent population, which creates a mutually beneficial relationship. The Cat Commune shelter is situated outside the Industrial Design Workshop. Initially, the Cat Commune consisted of modified kennels, makeshift pigeon-hole structures, polystyrene cooler boxes to store cat food (to keep it safe from hadedas), and cabinet-style sleeping spaces. However, these solutions were short-term, and as time passed, maintaining the area became increasingly difficult.

To sustain this symbiosis and support the cats' well-being, there is a need for more long-lasting, efficient solutions that can better serve both the cats and the campus community.

Phase 01 – Student Project

In early 2024, 13 BA Honours Industrial Design students were given the challenge of designing, constructing, and implementing scalable, modular solutions for the "Cat Commune" at UJ APB. The students focused on three key areas: housing (Sleep), feeding (Eat), and leisure (Play). The project emphasised four main considerations: cost-effectiveness (materials and manufacturing), durability and maintenance, usability and functionality, and marketability (for potential sponsorships or donations).

Students were required to identify the key stakeholders and their roles within the ecosystem. Divided into three groups (Eat, Sleep, Play), they interviewed stakeholders, observed the space, and conducted precedent analyses to define their design briefs and requirements.

Following this, the students engaged in an in-depth design process, which included sketching, creating mock-ups, and developing CAD models. Each student was required to build a full-scale (1:1) working prototype. After a group clean-up of the Cat Commune space, these prototypes were installed and monitored over six weeks to document their performance and how well the cats adopted them.

Phase 02 – Corporate Sponsorship

Nestlé Purina Petcare, whose mission is to enhance the lives of pets and their owners, approached the department with an offer to support the scaling of the Cat Commune shelters to be placed on other UJ campuses. Purina donated over R30 000, along with food, time, and volunteers, to help develop and expand the student designs. Six student designs were selected for further refinement in a second iteration, focusing on making the shelters easier to manufacture and assemble by using a DIY approach.

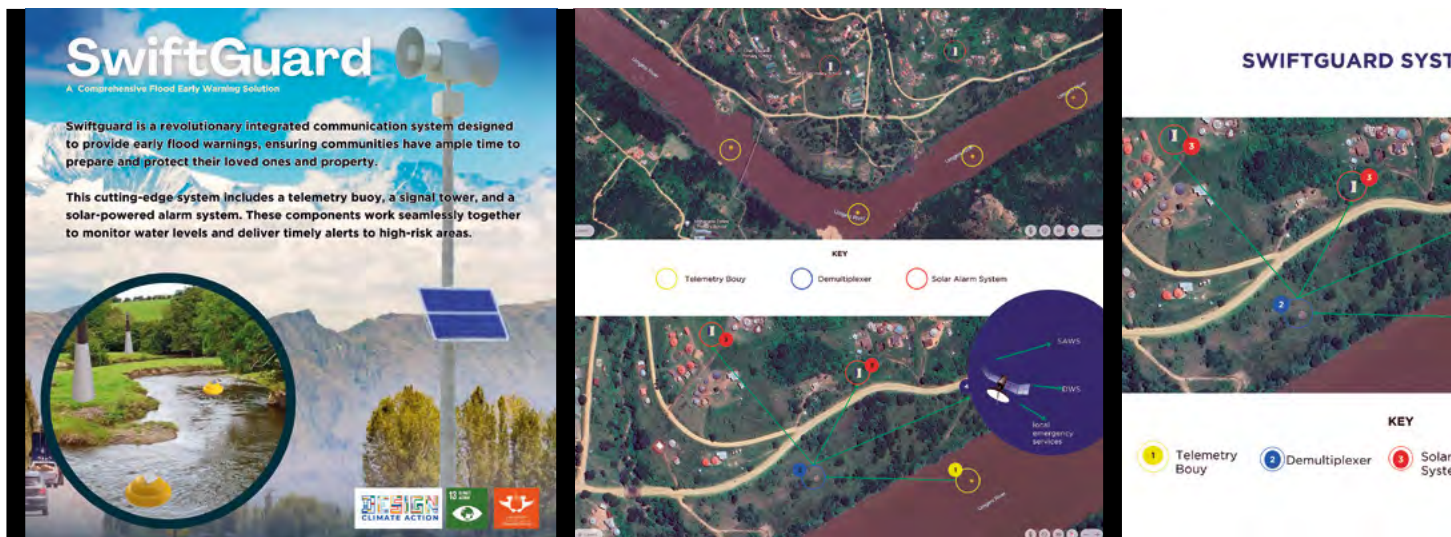
On Saturday, 28 September 2024, around 70 volunteers of all ages gathered at FADA to build 10 cat shelters, play equipment, scratching posts, and toys, and to paint two murals in the Cat Commune space. The event was a great success, and the new shelters will soon be installed at various locations across APB and other UJ campuses.





DESIGN CLIMATE ACTION – International Design Competition

Design Climate Action is an **international design competition** that aims to encourage the creation of innovative solutions by younger creatives, for a more prosperous and sustainable future. Its objective is to raise awareness about SDG#13 (*climate action: take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*) and the necessity of urgent action among the young and upcoming professionals of creative disciplines and contribute to its implementation through identifying, showcasing and promoting creative ideas that support global shift to sustainable and efficient future.



Inspired by the competition brief, UJ BA Honours Industrial Design students (Groups of 3) were tasked to reflect on “what can be done to combat climate change and its effects on all the levels of our lives?” In line with the tasks and targets set by SDG#13, projects for the competition had to relate to one of the following categories:

Raising Resilience and Adaptation – develop technologies to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters.

Energy of Change – offer solutions able to mitigate and reverse climate change caused by burning fossil fuels and promote ways of generating power that emit little to no greenhouse gases or pollutants.

Solutions Offered by Nature – offer projects that involve conserving, restoring, or better-managing ecosystems to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

Swift Guard

The Public Vote prize of €2000 was awarded to UJ Industrial Design BA Honours students: Tshepiso Motau, Tsebo Mokwena and Bongeka Buthelezi, for their ***Swiftguard Early Flood Warning System*** project.

In response to the pressing need for climate action and sustainable development, particularly in regions vulnerable to climate-related hazards like floods, SwiftGuard is an early flood alarm warning system concept for the eThekweni District in KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) focusing on the area closer to the Umgeni River.

The SwiftGuard concept integrates advanced sensor technologies with real-time data collection, data analysis and communication capabilities to provide timely and accurate flood warnings to residents and authorities in the eThekweni District. The system comprises a telemetry buoy, which

is an automatic measurement and wireless transmission of data from remote sources, a demultiplexer, which is a circuit that converts a single input signal into multiple signals and a solar-powered alarm. This system would be strategically placed having telemetry buoys along the Umgeni River, continuously monitoring water levels and weather conditions. When a potential flood risk is detected, the data collected is passed through to the South African Weather Service (SAWS), Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and emergency services. The system simultaneously triggers automated alerts via sirens ensuring widespread awareness of incoming floods and downpours during seasons of heavy rainfall. SwiftGuard not only provides crucial time for evacuation or preparation but also minimises the potential for loss of life and insurmountable damage to private property. Another innovation for this project is the usage of solar energy to power



the alarm system. By using solar energy, the system operates mostly off-grid, guaranteeing continuous operation and timely alerts to impending flood events. Additionally, the use of solar power aligns with sustainable energy practices, thus reducing carbon emissions and promoting environmental stewardship. By leveraging renewable energy and advanced sensor technologies, the system serves as a beacon of hope for vulnerable communities, offering a tangible solution to mitigate the impacts of climate change and foster a more resilient future.

**Submitted to Design Climate Action Competition
2024 [Winners of Public Vote]**

<https://my.designclimateaction.com/projects/raising-resilience-and-adaptation-through-early-flood-warning-systems-2/>

Project Portfolio: <https://www.behance.net/gallery/192965891/Project-1-Design-Climate-Change>

STUDENT GOLD PACK COMPETITION



Category: Industrial Design

The Student Gold Pack Competition is a key aspect of IPSA's Education objective. Through participation, students tackle projects to illustrate the skills required and the challenges that the discipline offers. Project briefs are created to give students the opportunity to demonstrate the role packaging can play in the supply chain and marketing of a product as well as the benefits and functionality of packaging. The competition is split into three main entry categories: Graphic Design, Packaging Technology, and Industrial Design. According to market research, the most popular products purchased online in South Africa are clothing and shoes. The competition challenge was to design a packaging solution for either of these items or both, purchased online while considering sustainability and the unboxing experience. We are excited to announce that seven of UJ's third-year Industrial Design students were selected as finalists in their category, with the top two awards also going to our students. The finalists included **Sihle Sibiya, Morgan Potgieter, Leandro da Silva, Minette Ackermann, and Travis Krumples.**

Johannes Janse van Vuuren won first place for his design of e-commerce packaging for the brand Jonsson Workwear. His packaging is made from reused billboard material that is rebranded with the company graphics. After it has been opened, the packaging transforms into a workwear carrier bag, making it suitable

NANDO'S HYD 2024_DREAM SCREEN

Pia (Industrial Design lecturer) and Joshua (Industrial Design alumnus) McFindlay were selected as part of the top 10 entrants of this year's Nando's HYD competition where the objective was to create a screen that is not only relevant and functional but also decorative and distinct, adding to the overall ambiance of a Nando's restaurant. This is what they have to say about it:

About us

We are an Industrial Design duo running a furniture design and manufacturing company, Tandem Design House, based in Johannesburg within the urban artisan complex, Victoria Yards. We work with a small team, designing and making custom furniture for private home interiors, restaurants and lodges. We manufacture predominantly in-house and are set up for wood and steel production. Alongside this, we are also continuously developing our own furniture design ranges. As our name suggests, we value collaboration in the coming together of ideas, materials, and people. Our South African context, particularly Joburg, is a central guide in our design decisions. Our furniture strives to be open and honest in mediums and manufacturing methods with an emphasis on quality and detail, while contributing to South African design identity.



for its target audience. Using the unboxing experience of a pull-string charcoal bag as a precedent, his design further aligns with the local context. His design was selected for its holistic approach, brand consideration and alignment with sustainability.

Rethabile Mosia won second place for her packaging design for the Boyde brand, created specifically for shipping. Her design was recognised for its innovation, offering a positive unboxing experience while prioritising sustainability. The packaging features a perforated tie or scarf hanger, giving the box a second life.



IN TANDEM WITH



KELVIN DUBE

LAE



Our Design

Our screen design is an extension of our design range, MeshMash, which challenges the concept of furniture and how standard materials are used. The range is made up of steel mesh and solid wood in playful shapes and forms, creating a playground of furniture. Alongside this, we wanted our design to embody a feeling of connectivity. By designing the panels to be made up of various interlocking shapes, the design represents the collective nature that exists within our diverse context. By using recycled electrical cable, the design also comments on how Clout/SA (a design collective) or Nando's (a place people go to share a meal) can create networks between people. Making use of recycled electrical cable also contributes to sustainability and finds value in materials that have been categorised as 'waste'.



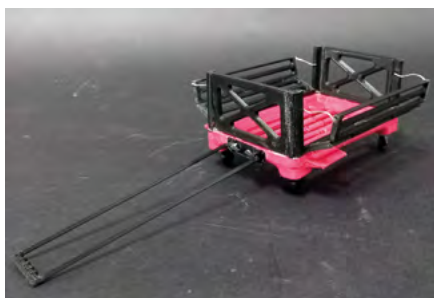
As in our name, Tandem, we appreciate the coming together of ideas, materials, and people. Our entry is run in Tandem with Kelvin Dube, an artist at LAE with a unique vision who discovers his creative sanctuary in the most unexpected of places – amidst discarded materials. Soft wire and the colourful remnants of electrical outer rubber coatings, often overlooked and dismissed, have become the foundation of his artistic playground. While the design was generated and is submitted by Tandem Design House, the execution of it will benefit from Kelvin's skillset of working with one of the key materials. This collaboration was created in support of appropriate and sustainable inner-city renewal, and the execution of this design would take place between residents of Victoria Yards and Living Artist Emporium.



SAPRO AWARDS

Category: **Creative and Artisanal Solutions**

The South African Plastics Recycling Organisation (SAPRO) represents the plastics re-processors in South Africa. Its members procure sorted, baled end-of-life plastics and re-process it into raw material. The recycled material can be used to manufacture new plastics products. South Africa is among the top recycling countries in the world. The prestigious **SAPRO awards** give recognition and exposure to products and companies that are doing more to drive up recycling and give recycled plastics a new life. This year the awards had a new category: creative and artisanal solutions, which was fit for projects that had not been released into market and suitable for students to enter. We are excited to share that the top 3 awards in this category went to UJ Industrial Design students!



Luc Salzwedel won bronze for a trolley intended to be used by waste reclaimers who collect large amounts of recyclable waste from the streets and bins. This product is manufactured from plastic bottle caps, a common material waste reclaimers collect. This product is sturdy and durable yet lightweight, allowing for ease of use and making it ideal for waste reclaimers to collect their materials. The size, handle and wheels of the trolley make it easy for the waste reclaimers to pull along the streets.



Nico van Blek won silver for a sustainable surfboard fin made from recycled HDPE waste plastic collected from beaches. This eco-friendly product supports a circular economy, offering both functionality and environmental impact. The vibrant blue hues of the fin not only reflect its intended use in the ocean but also raise awareness about the issue of ocean waste and marine life.



Lethabo Maganyele won gold for a collection of vibrant keychains made from recycled plastic shopping bags. This product was designed to be both functional and stylish, offering a practical way to carry your groceries while also promoting environmental sustainability and a circular economy. It is practical as it can simply attach to your car keys without getting in one's way. This product is made from used plastic shopping bags. The colours of the keychains vary depending on the shopping bags used to create the product, giving each one a unique appearance.

DESIGNERS



HUSNAA
KATHRADA



JESSICA
PINKER



CHE-YI LEE
(MEGAN)

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

Integration D
We envision techn
designers to push
seamlessly blend
innovation amplifi
to create immersi
and behaviors.

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



COLOUR PALETTES
DIGITAL MOOD/ CONCEPT
BOARDS
HAND SKETCHING

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



COMPUTER AIDED DESIGN 3- DIMENSIONAL

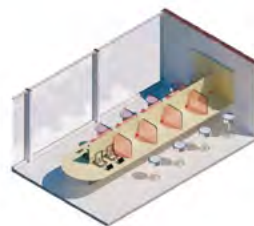
TRANSFER TO REVIT
PLAN-BASED 3D MODELING
REAL-TIME 3D VIEWS



SECTION A-A
Scale 1:20 on A1



ELEVATION
Scale 1:20 on A2



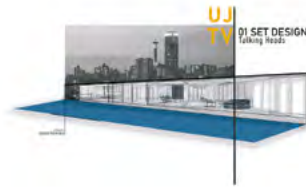
RENDERING



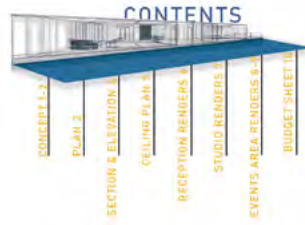
PRESENTATION

Design Technologies in Three Interior Design Projects

Technology as a transformative force in interior design, empowering creative boundaries, optimise processes, and craft spaces that aesthetics with functionality. We believe that embracing digital enables our creative potential, facilitates collaboration, and enables us to create responsive environments that adapt to evolving human needs.



COVER PAGE DESIGN



CONTENTS PAGE DESIGN



DIGITAL SAMPLE BOARD

PRESENTATION



COLOUR PALETTES
DIGITAL MOOD/ CONCEPT
BOARDS
MANUAL SKETCHING



FINAL END MODEL



A4 REPORT - DIGITAL PROTOTYPES

FIRST EDITION

SECOND EDITION

THIRD EDITION



PHOTO EDITING
SOFTWARE



PHOTO EDITING
SOFTWARE



3D RENDERING
SOFTWARE

interior design

Interior Design Contributing to the UJ Undergraduate Research Conference

Three third-year Interior Design students, Husnaa Kathrada, Jessica Pinker, and Che-Yi Lee represented the Faculty at the annual UJ Undergraduate Conference. The annual conference aims to assist in preparing undergraduate students for possible postgraduate studies. In 2024, the Interior Design students discussed how design problems could be resolved by integrating various technologies into executing a third-year design project. These students' approach to technology in design is expressed in their presentation as "a transformative force in interior design, empowering designers to push creative boundaries, optimise processes, and craft spaces that seamlessly blend aesthetics with functionality".

The presentation aims to explain how technology assists a designer throughout the design process in resolving a design problem and communicating the design solution. The students compare the development of their third-year project by following the various design stages employed in each project. The technologies incorporated in each design stage are discussed, from the brief, the investigation and exploration of the design solutions to converting the sketch plans into detailed building drawings and rendered three-dimensional interior spaces. The presentation further explains the application of appropriate software programs with the associated specifications of technologies. The time frame of each design stage and the project execution costs are included to outline each project's design planning and costing dimensions. In the conclusion, the students consolidated the challenges and successes they encountered in integrating identified technologies in each project. They believe that digital technologies can enable them to amplify their creative potential, assist them in collaborating with fellow students and create responsive environments that meet the users' needs.



Celebrating Women in the Built Environment

In honour of Women's Month 2024, the Interior Design Department at the University of Johannesburg proudly hosted the Women in the Built Environment Initiative – a month-long celebration of the achievements, leadership, and contributions of women within the fields of design, architecture, and the built environment. This initiative, coordinated and facilitated by Interior Design lecturer, Sadiyah Geyer, was designed to inspire, educate, and empower students, alumni, and professionals by highlighting the experiences and accomplishments of women who are reshaping these industries.

The initiative consisted of a dynamic series of events, including three guest speaker sessions, a hands-on workshop, an engaging panel discussion, and five spotlights on exceptional women in the built environment. Each component of the series reflected our department's commitment to fostering inclusivity and leadership in design education.

Guest Speaker Series

We had the privilege of hosting prominent female professionals who shared their personal and professional journeys, offering invaluable insights into the challenges and triumphs they had encountered in their careers. The guest speakers hailed from diverse areas within the built environment, and their experiences offered students and attendees practical advice on navigating gender-related challenges, breaking barriers, and pursuing excellence in design.

The sessions were highly interactive, providing attendees with the opportunity to engage directly with these thought leaders and gain inspiration from their journeys.

Workshop on Gender-Inclusive Design

In addition to the speaker series, we hosted a workshop on gender-inclusive design. This session explored the critical role that design plays in addressing the needs of all genders, emphasising ergonomics, accessibility, and cultural sensitivity. Attendees were challenged to rethink traditional design paradigms, considering how spaces can be more equitable and inclusive for diverse populations. The workshop encouraged students to integrate these principles into their future projects, contributing to more empathetic and user-centred design solutions.



Panel Discussion

The month culminated in a powerful panel discussion, featuring women from both academia and industry who spoke about gender equality in design, the unique challenges of balancing personal and professional life, and navigating career advancement in the built environment. This session provided a platform for students and professionals alike to exchange ideas, learn from one another's experiences, and reflect on the collective efforts required to create a more inclusive and equitable industry. The panellists' diverse backgrounds enriched the discussion, offering practical insights into how women can lead with confidence and purpose in their respective fields.

Spotlights on Women in Design

Throughout the month, we also ran a social media campaign that featured five inspiring spotlights on female designers in the built environment. Each spotlight highlighted a remarkable woman whose contributions have made a significant impact in the field, from innovative project designs to leadership in sustainability and education. These spotlights served to amplify the visibility of women's accomplishments, providing role models for our students and the broader community.

Looking Ahead

The Women in the Built Environment Initiative was an overwhelming success, thanks to the support and participation of our students, faculty, and industry partners. It not only celebrated the achievements of women but also sparked meaningful conversations about how we can continue to push for greater inclusion and gender equality in the design industry.

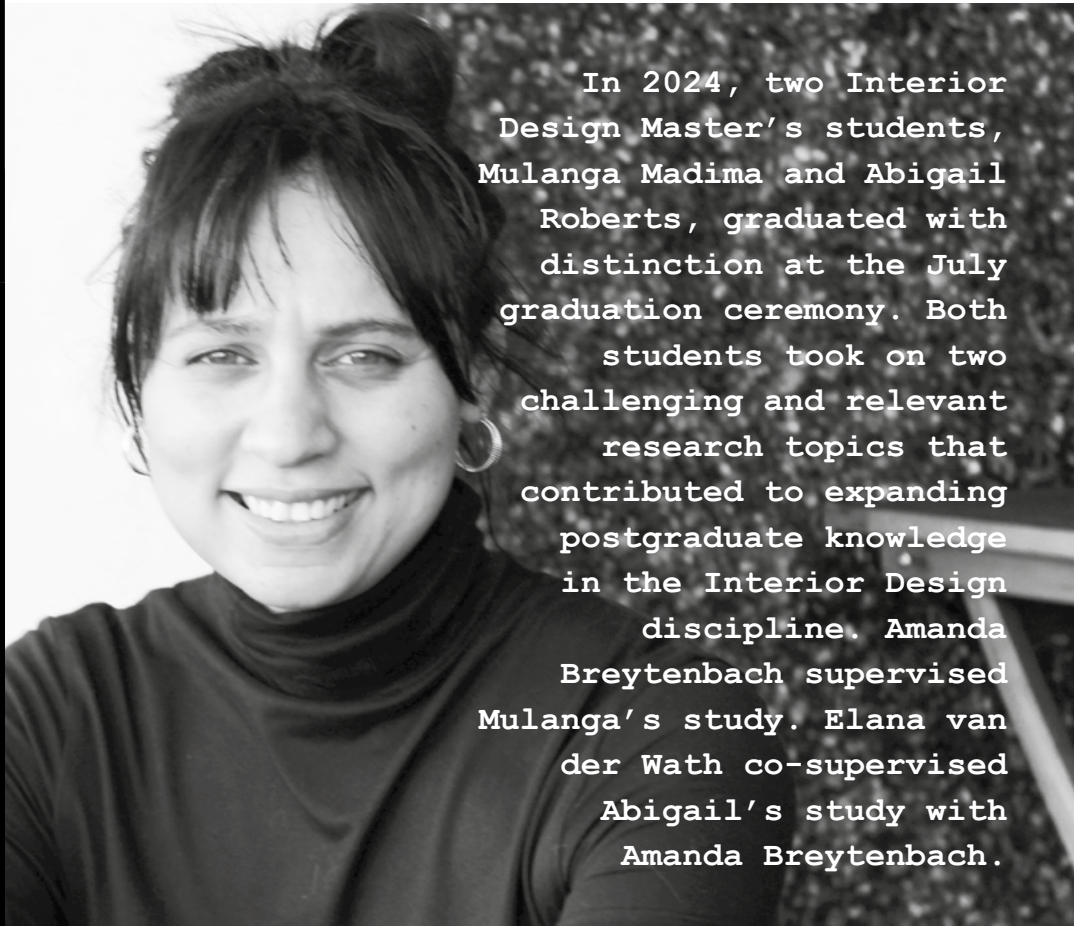
We are grateful to our guest speakers, panellists, and workshop facilitators for their dedication to sharing their knowledge and experiences. Their contributions have left a lasting impact on our students, inspiring the next generation of female leaders in design.

2024 Interior Design master's students complete studies with distinctions



Mulanga Madima's study, *In Search of a Contemporary African Identity: The Case of South African Interior Design*, investigated contemporary African expression in present-day interior design in South Africa. The study was conducted from the viewpoint that within South Africa's post-apartheid post-colonial systems, a new way of thinking emerged with a desire to renew the African culture and showcase Africans and their culture in design and architecture. In South Africa, interior design spaces show that interior designers have explored various interpretations of an African aesthetic to include a sense of African identity and belonging in the design. The study examined what approaches interior designers take to implement their projects and how they manage to do so in the contemporary world of economic demands, globalisation, and fast-disappearing trends.

This research aimed to establish the methods that interior design professionals use to present a space with African identity. Furthermore, it investigated the significance of this design approach in the global design community, the South African design community, and the African cultural diaspora. Mulanga introduced a multiple case study approach to explore real-life contemporary South African projects through discussion with interior design and architects. In the data analysis, a visual analysis of the projects was included to understand the design discussed



In 2024, two Interior Design Master's students, Mulanga Madima and Abigail Roberts, graduated with distinction at the July graduation ceremony. Both students took on two challenging and relevant research topics that contributed to expanding postgraduate knowledge in the Interior Design discipline. Amanda Breytenbach supervised Mulanga's study. Elana van der Wath co-supervised Abigail's study with Amanda Breytenbach.

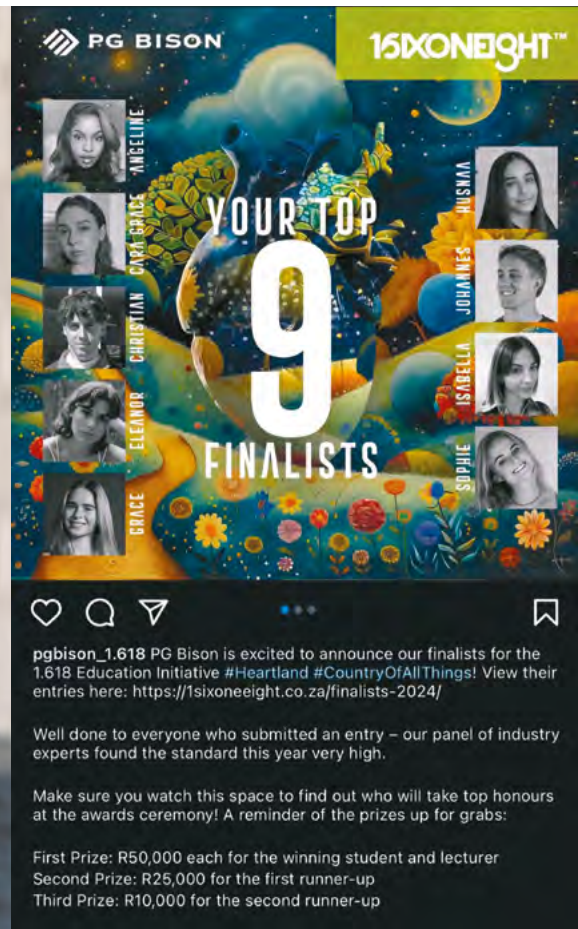
in the interviews and assist in understanding the elements that potentially pertain to an African aesthetic in interior design. The research concluded with a discussion in which she reflected on the position of the interior design profession in expressing African identity in design projects, how this has progressed, and how it participates in global discourse.

Abigail Roberts' study was titled *Addressing the Industry Skills Gap – An Extended Curriculum Improvement Plan for Interior Design Students*. This study focused on identifying and addressing the skills gap between higher education (HE) and the labour market in the Architecture and Interior Design industry. The study was conducted against increasing global and national concerns regarding unemployment, particularly among the youth and the rising rates of graduate unemployment. The literature review investigated the contributing factors of international and national unemployment and graduate unemployment. The review included the quality of South Africa's (SA) HE, the misalignment of acquired skills with labour demands, deficiencies in core skills, the absence of soft skills and the influence of SA's educational system in preparing students for the labour market. Furthermore, the literature review explored the establishment and purpose of Extended Curriculum Programmes (ECPs) in SA and how they play a crucial role in addressing the educational gap for underprivileged students who may not initially meet traditional university admission criteria. These programmes achieve this through smaller class sizes, reduced workloads, and increased contact time with academic staff.

The primary aim was to propose improvements for the Extended Curriculum Programmes (ECPs) designed for Interior Design and Architectural Technology (ATID) students, which could address essential skills required in industry and reduce the gap in transitioning to the workplace. Key findings of the study included shortcomings in language and communication competencies, software proficiency, time management, adaptability to workplace pressures, and the balance between higher education and the labour market. The ultimate objective for improving the industry gap in HE is to better align with industry demands and equip graduates with the expertise required to thrive in competitive fields such as architecture and design.

Husnaa Kathrada

PG Bison 1.618 Education Initiative Finalist



We are proud to announce that Husnaa Kathrada, a third-year student in the Interior Design Department at the University of Johannesburg, has been selected as one of the top 9 finalists in the esteemed PG Bison 1.618 Education Initiative competition. This national competition is highly regarded within the design industry, recognising emerging talent and promoting excellence in design education.

Husnaa's selection as a finalist speaks volumes about her exceptional design capabilities, creativity, and commitment to innovative problem-solving. Her project, which stood out among hundreds of submissions from across the country, showcases her ability to integrate functional design with aesthetic appeal, all while considering sustainability and user-centric solutions—an important focus in today's design landscape.

Husnaa's journey is a testament not only to her personal dedication but also to the high standards of the Interior Design Department's teaching and mentorship. We look forward to supporting her through the final stages of the competition and are confident that she will continue to excel, both in this prestigious platform and in her future professional endeavours.

Congratulations once again to Husnaa Kathrada on this remarkable achievement!



IID Design Conversations 2024

The African Institute of Interior Design Professions (IID) partnered with the University of Johannesburg's Interior Design Department to host a series of guest talks and panel discussions at the UJ FADA auditorium on Friday 30 May 2024. The event was curated by Trevor Sibanda, an assistant lecturer in the Department of Interior Design, who brought together interior design students from both public and private institutions, including Tshwane University of Technology, Potchefstroom Academy, Greenside Design College, Vega School, and Inscape Pretoria. The event aimed to play a significant role in mentoring and supporting the ongoing development of students by exposing them to various opportunities available as they pursue their design careers.

The event successfully established a platform for direct interaction between industry experts and interior design students. The talks presented by Marisca Deminey and Amanda Breytenbach (Department of Interior Design, UJ), Christopher Browne (Fox Brown Creative), Pia and Josh Findlay (Tandem Design Studio), and Neo Phage (Strawberry Jam Design) guided students on essential industry matters and innovations. Design talks on recent innovations in Building Information Modelling, hospitality design, design thinking in the built environment, and business operations in interior design were all discussed by industry experts on the day. Pop-up exhibitions by interior design suppliers, such as Sonae Arauco, Steibel Eltron, Trellidor, NMC, and Smartstone, were available, allowing students to engage with current technologies and industry professionals.



Alizay Imran – Featured in the 2024 ISET Careers Publication

We are immensely proud to celebrate the accomplishments of Alizay Imran, a postgraduate master's student in Interior Design at the University of Johannesburg, who has been recognised in the prestigious *2024 ISET Careers Publication*. This publication shines a spotlight on outstanding students and emerging talents across various disciplines, and Alizay's feature is a testament to her remarkable achievements during her academic journey.

Alizay's inclusion in the *ISET Careers Publication* comes after an exceptional performance during her honours degree, where her innovative approach to interior design was consistently met with high praise. Her work during this period demonstrated not only advanced technical skills but also an ability to think critically and creatively in solving complex design challenges. Alizay's projects reflect a thoughtful balance of aesthetic sensibility, functionality, and sustainability — key elements in the contemporary design landscape.

The recognition in the *ISET Careers Publication* underscores her determination, passion for design, and the quality of her academic contributions. It also highlights her potential to influence the future of interior design with fresh perspectives and a commitment to addressing real-world problems through creative and sustainable design solutions.

We are excited to see where Alizay's journey takes her next and have no doubt that her future contributions to the field will continue to inspire and influence others.

Link to the full publication: <https://online.fliphtml5.com/chhem/mdhn/#p=20>



Mawande Mdluli – Featured on UJTV

We are proud to celebrate Mawande Mdluli, an exceptional master's student in Interior Design at the University of Johannesburg, who was recently featured on UJTV. Mawande is not only a dedicated and creative interior design student but also serves as the Senior Student Coordinator for UJ FADA and Senior Tutor in the Interior Design Department. His passion for both academic excellence and student mentorship makes him a standout figure in our department.

Mawande's feature on UJTV highlights his multifaceted role within the university and the interior design community. As a senior student coordinator, Mawande plays a crucial part in organising student-driven initiatives that foster collaboration, leadership, and professional growth within UJ FADA. His leadership is marked by a commitment to inclusivity and the empowerment of his peers, contributing significantly to the positive learning environment within our department.

His appearance on UJTV provided Mawande the opportunity to share his journey, discussing his experiences as a postgraduate student and as a leader within the UJ community. He continues to be an inspiring example for both current and future students, demonstrating how to balance academic pursuits with meaningful contributions to the academic community.



FADA Campus Clean-up,
TD Marowa and SO Tshitshi
(first-year interior design
students), 2024.

FADA Campus Clean-up

The Interior Design Department (coordinated by Marisca Deminey), in collaboration with the FADA Mentorship Programme (coordinated by Tamara Francis), came together to host a FADA campus clean-up to enhance the power of the community and highlight the importance of caring for our environment. The event was launched in response to Earth Overshoot Day, which fell on 1 August 2024. This date indicates that we now need 1.75 planet Earths to keep up with us. This event highlights the issue with consumption patterns and the production of waste. Therefore, we came together to contribute to building a sustainable future, one small action at a time! More than 100 students attended this initiative.



FADA Africa-by-Bus 2024

During the mid-year recess, a staff member and three students from Interior Design joined the FADA Africa-by-Bus trip to Zimbabwe. During the five-day trip, the group visited the Mapungubwe National Park, the Great Zimbabwe National Monument, and the University of Harare. This was a wonderful opportunity to see sites like the Mapungubwe Interpretation Centre by Peter Rich in person and to experience the unique spaces created by Southern African civilisations of the region. Students will present their findings to the second-year Interior Design group in the History and Theory module later in the year to share their experience of these cultural heritage sites with their peers.



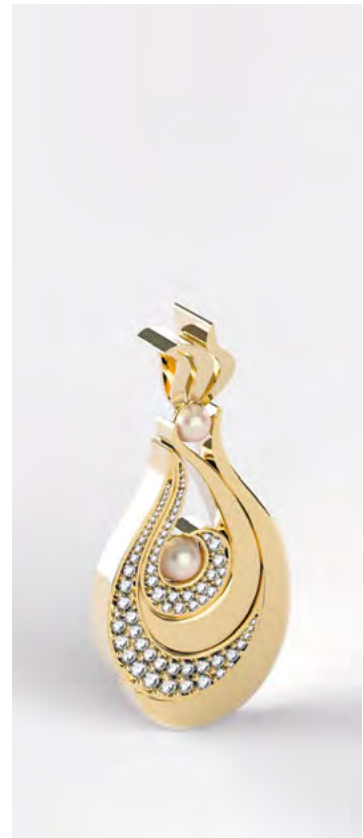
There is music in the air...

For their final Semester 1 project, second-year Interior Design students designed pavilions that could be installed in and around FADA to house small jazz performances by leading South African artists. The selected artists included Tumi Mogorosi, Sisonke Xonti, Thandi Ntuli, Gabi Motuba, and Kujenga. The students completed the work in groups and produced scaled models of the final proposals. Dr Nico Botes from the Department of Architecture at the University of Pretoria presented a public lecture titled 'Road maps for Design Journeys' to the group to aid conceptual development. The work highlighted the importance of understanding artistic intentions to create experiential spaces and conceptual designs. **At the end of August, UJ Arts & Culture hosted the Weekend of Jazz, where, to the delight of both, one of our students met Gabi Motuba in person!



UJ Jewellery 2nd Year Student, Siyabonga Mkhonza – Digital Jewellery Week Finalist

One of our 2nd year students, Siyabonga Mkhonza, participated in the “Digital Jewellery Week” competition. This event provides students and designers the opportunity to showcase their innovative designs in immersive environments, leveraging the latest 3D technologies. Digital Jewellery Week is committed to breaking economic barriers and enabling designers to enter the jewellery industry. The competition is dedicated exclusively to students, allowing them to present one jewel each and take part in the first-ever online jewellery competition.



Leeto Journey Beyond Jewellery Exhibition

Leeto /li-e-to/: Journey Beyond illustrates how ten UJ Jewellery Alumni have navigated the complexities of our competitive industry over the last decade.

Thirty years on, our struggling democracy is no longer regarded as the Rainbow Nation. Amidst the ongoing recessions following the global COVID-19 pandemic, many jewellery businesses in Johannesburg and nationally have struggled. Despite this challenging context, this group of designers has flourished and succeeded at all costs, thriving in the heart of the City of Gold.

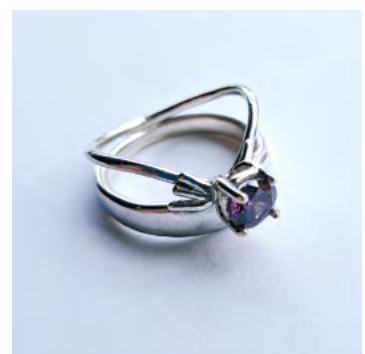
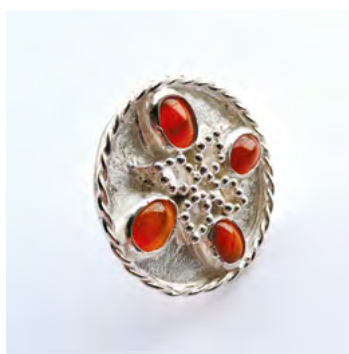
“Leeto” tells a story of talent, sacrifice, and resilience, showcasing how these artists have dared to dream big and journey beyond their circumstances.

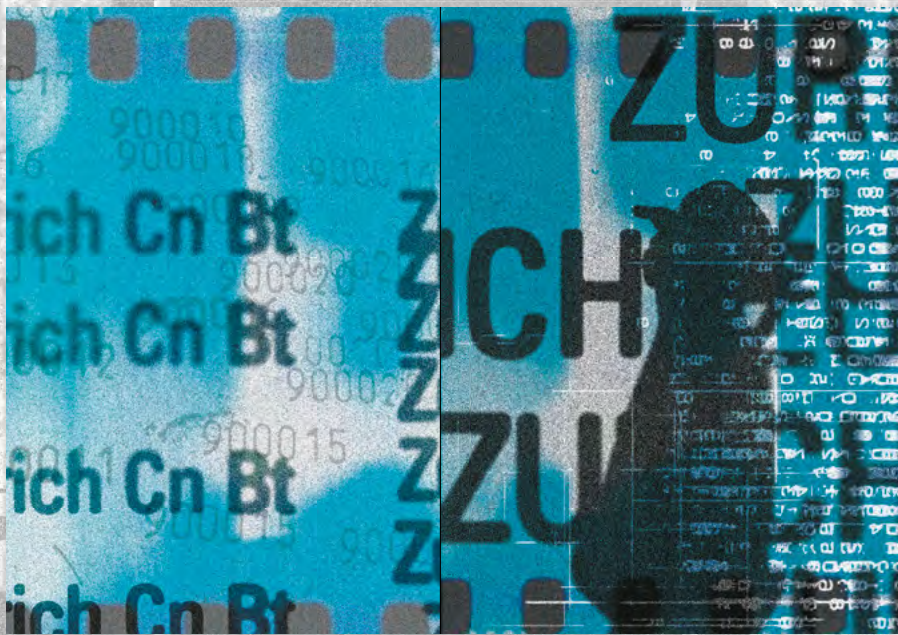
jewellery

A celebration of womxn in leadership at the University of Johannesburg

To reflect and celebrate 30 years of democracy, FADA Jewellery Design students have created a series of bespoke jewellery pieces that honour the strength, tenacity, and sacrifices required to rise to the top within an increasingly complex academic landscape. Using narrative jewellery as a form of expression, we aim to highlight the qualities of our womxn leaders, inspiring students and emerging leaders to reach greater heights.

Our 3rd-year students presented their finished pieces to the esteemed woman in leadership at the University of Johannesburg.

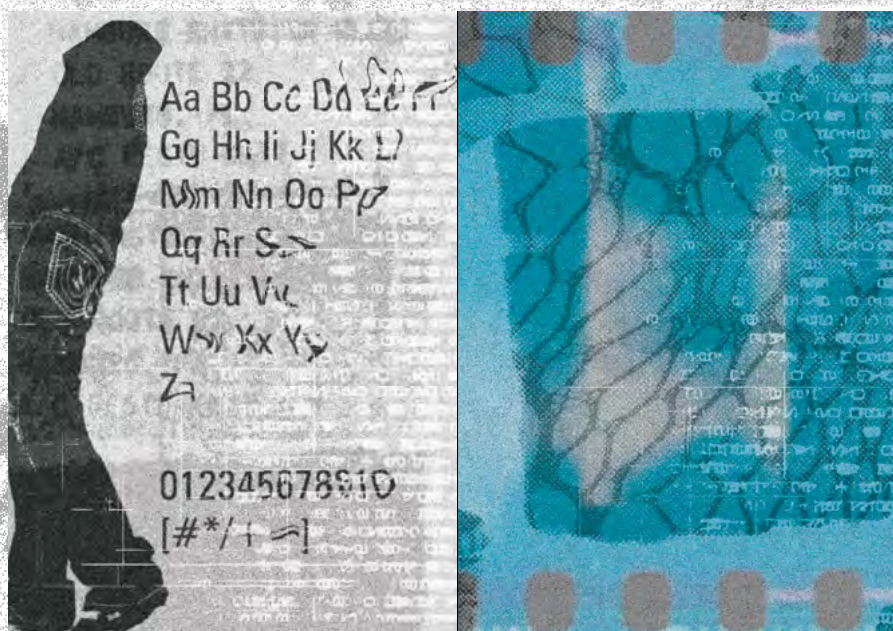


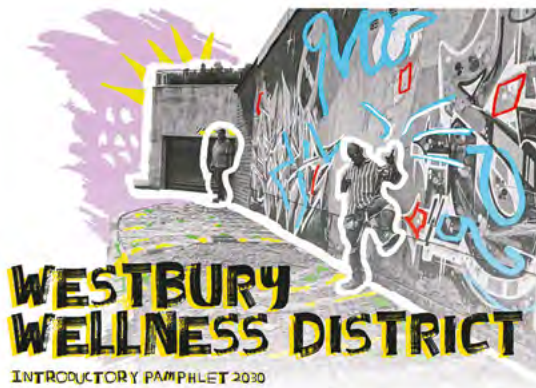


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The Westbury Health and Wellness Coalition, or **WHWC**, is a group of people and organizations in Westbury, Johannesburg who want to make our community a better place to live. We're all about making sure everyone in Westbury is healthy and happy.

In 2024, we started as a small group of volunteers running an unofficial harm reduction programme out of a broom closet in the Westbury Youth Centre. Today, we're a strong team with five years of experience under our belts. Our staff consists of community pillars and spokespeople, civic activists, trained health professionals and counsellors, and many more. Over and above working to minimise drug abuse in Westbury, we're expanding our network and infrastructure to address the underlying issues with many exciting plans for the future.

Our goal is to work together to transform Westbury into a beacon of progress and well-being for all.

OUR PROMISE

As an organization dedicated to the well-being of the Westbury community, we pledge our unwavering commitment to serving its diverse interests. Rooted in principles of harm reduction, restorative justice, community upliftment, and holistic healing, we embrace collaboration as the cornerstone of our approach. Our mission extends beyond mere service; we aim to illuminate the strength and beauty inherent in Westbury's people. We value every voice and perspective, actively seeking input from all corners both in and out of our community.



1967



Addressing growing issues of substance abuse in the area.

The Westbury Renewal Initiative (WRI), Harm Reduction Advocates (HRA), and Westbury People Against Drugs (WPAD)

2024

2026



The first emergency vending machine with sterile needles and naloxone on Florida St.

2030



Individuals can safely use drugs in the presence of medical professionals.

WE ARE HERE

2032

Establish specialized research departments within the Helen Joseph and Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospitals.

Focusing on holistic community care.

2038

OUR FUTURE

Network of satellite clinics dedicated to supervised use and wellness in surrounding neighborhoods.

2040



Twenty years into our journey, we have set our sights on becoming a leading model for community organization and wellness throughout the nation. Our vision extends beyond local impact as we aspire to collaborate with the national government to adopt and implement the innovative methods we've developed. Our goal is to see these practices embraced and integrated across South Africa, setting a standard for excellence in community engagement and holistic well-being.

INITIATIVES & PROJECTS



upliftment

infrastructure



At the heart of our mission is a commitment to reinvest in Westbury and fuel economic growth that uplifts everyone. With a majority of our staff hailing from Westbury, we're deeply rooted in the community we serve. We create new jobs and opportunities, fostering prosperity for all. We champion collaboration with local businesses and support budding entrepreneurs. Additionally, through community scholarships and grants, we're investing in the next generation of leaders, ensuring a brighter future for Westbury.

At the WHWC, we're committed to tackling addiction and its impacts on both personal and public health with a holistic approach. Our comprehensive treatment and research programs encompass arts and behavioral therapies.



reinvestment



reintegration holistic healing



At the WHWC, we're passionate about uplifting and empowering our community.

You can find strategically placed vending machines stocked with essential supplies like sterile needles, overdose reversal kits, and drug quality testing strips, providing critical resources for harm reduction. Nestled beside the Westbury Youth Centre, our offices serve as a welcoming hub where individuals can seek support or volunteer to make a difference. Additionally, we provide comprehensive emergency responder training workshops, both online and in-person, empowering community members with life-saving skills.

At the heart of our approach lies a commitment to restorative justice, prioritizing understanding over punishment. We recognize the multifaceted reasons behind drug use and aim to address these complexities through internal resolutions whenever possible. Yet, we also advocate for seamless reintegration into the community for those who have faced incarceration, offering robust support systems. Weekly group sessions at the community library provide a safe space for dialogue and growth, complemented by sponsorships connecting individuals in recovery with experienced mentors. Additionally, local businesses extend a helping hand through trade internships.

GET INVOLVED!!!

VOLUNTEERS

Are you passionate about creating a healthier and happier community? The Westbury Health and Wellness Coalition is calling for volunteers to join our mission of making Westbury a better place to live for all its residents.

INVESTORS

The Westbury Health and Wellness Coalition invites you to join us in making a lasting impact on the health and happiness of Westbury residents.



The Westbury Wellness District Projective Research Scenario. Designed by Leah Jardine & Yasmin Nhandane.

multimedia



Anticipating the smart futures of Westbury

Honours group with Ashley Bailey during the site visit to Westbury

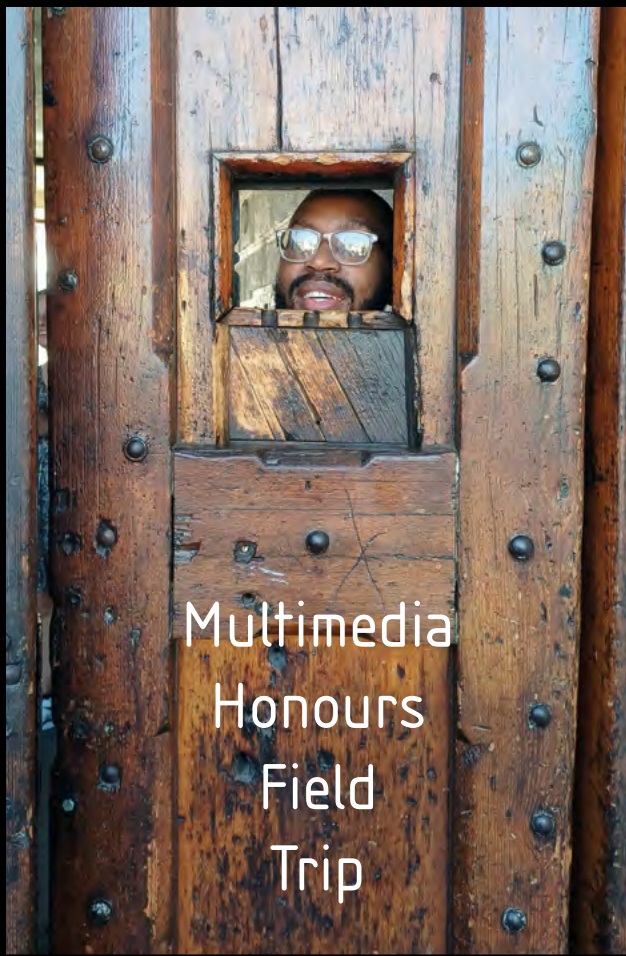
The notion of the smart city refers to the integration of digital technologies with, and within urban spaces and environments. While these smart urban technologies have the capacity to improve service delivery and urban living, if deployed in an unconsidered manner, they also have the potential to detrimentally affect urban communities.

Responding to this tension, interaction design honours students from the Department of Multimedia embarked on a seven-week project in which they applied a projective research method to develop a series of design fiction scenarios suggesting how smart urban technologies could meet the needs of community of Westbury. Westbury is a densely populated, resource-scarce neighbourhood situated approximately 4 km west of the Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture. While Westbury has a broad variety of residents, it is characterised by problematic social conditions such as high youth unemployment, gang-related activities, and urban neglect.

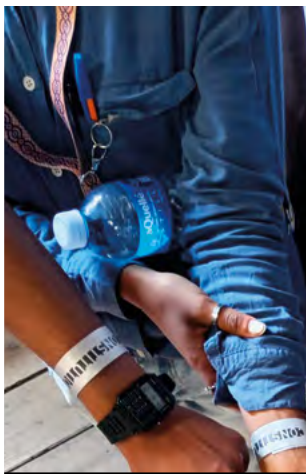
For the duration of the project, Student Design teamed with Mr Ashley Bailey, an artist and youth educator from Westbury. Mr Bailey's role was to ensure that the design teams' thinking and solutioning remained relevant to the broader Westbury community. For the first activity of the project, the student design teams engaged with secondary research that focused on the Westbury community's historical, current, and future concerns for their neighbourhood environment. Thereafter, the teams led by Mr Bailey went on a site visit to Westbury where they did a walking tour, met several residents, and visited neighbourhood sites, such as the Westbury Youth Centre, Library, and the Community Centre. Drawing on knowledge gained from the first two activities, the design teams applied an anticipatory mindset to speculate on how smart urban technology could contribute to a future Westbury that reflected the preferences of residents for their suburb. Over the next few weeks, the group's concepts were refined in consultation with the Mr Bailey and lecturing staff. Concepts were ultimately developed into visual projective scenarios that articulated the groups integration of smart urban technologies with the real needs and requirements of the community.

The 'Westbury Wellness District' (Image 2), an example of one of the student projects, suggests that with the integration of smart technology and the community's involvement, Westbury could transform from a community with major drug related problems to one focused on providing drug rehabilitation and wellness services to broader society. While this transformation would begin with technology designed to assist addicts to access sterile needles and alternatives (such as methadone) to hard drugs, it would also include training community members to work in rehabilitation and creating wellness facilities across the neighbourhood. The Westbury Wellness District scenario displays the hallmark of projective research in that it not only offers an ideal future state worth working towards but also suggests a range of tactical factors that could lead to the realisation of this preferred future. From a design perspective, projects such as this one are important as they provide a local perspective on how digital technology can enhance the urban experiences of citizens of Africa's cities. From an educational perspective, they have much value as they expose students to longer-term strategic and systemic thinking as well as to the experience of working on community-centred design projects.

In August, all the teams' projects were displayed in FADA at the Honours Project Day, with a final presentation to be held in Westbury nearer the end of the year.



Multimedia
Honours
Field
Trip



On Friday, 10 May 2024, eight students from the Multimedia Honours group, together with lecturer Dr Lukasz Pater, visited the Constitution Hill Human Rights Precinct. The trip was planned so that students could experience both the unique design aesthetic of the Constitutional Court buildings and its extensive art collection, as well as the precinct's historically significant sites.

When we arrived at the precinct, news crews were on site and access to the court buildings was blocked, as the Constitutional Court hearing of the case of former president Jacob Zuma appearing on the election ballot as the uMkhonto we Sizwe party nominee was in progress. It was a significant moment to witness a historical event unfolding in real time. Despite these restrictions, the students were still able to see the exterior of the court buildings and study Durban-based designer Garth Walker's distinctive typeface used as signage on the court buildings. We then made our way to the Old Fort, explored its interior museum displays, and walked along its ramparts, which provided excellent 360-degree views of the CBD, Hillbrow, Braamfontein and Parktown. The walk also served as an opportunity for a short informal history lesson on the various architectural styles one can identify that trace Johannesburg's growth, from the Colonial-era bank buildings of downtown CBD to the Art Deco of Hillbrow and Berea and the apartheid-era Modernism/ Brutalism of Braamfontein's Civic Centre. From there, we made our way to the Women's Jail, where the elegant buildings and serene atmosphere contrast one's visceral experience of the severe and inhumane conditions under which female prisoners were kept.

The trip was a welcome variation on the Honours groups' regular routine of classroom activities and an opportunity to engage with the rich heritage of our city. This engagement also aligned with the direction of several of the students' research projects, which include a Joburg-based 'Streetfighter'-style game and a documentary on Apartheid-era migrations. These and other Honours projects will be showcased at the end-of-year FADA Student Exhibition.



Highlights from the Multimedia Project Day

Multimedia Department's Project Day

The Department of Multimedia held its first Project Day in August, providing an opportunity for Honours students to present their practical design projects from the first semester. The event showcased a diverse range of design skills and focused on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN's SDGs) as well as themes related to the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Students showcased several projects, including interactive educational games developed as part of a physical computing unit. These games aimed to enhance learning experiences within a South African context by integrating real-world data through a variety of sensors. By using Arduinos, students developed engaging and interactive educational products. Students engaged in thorough planning, conducted detailed research, and documented their processes comprehensively.

One of the other projects featured projective design. Students were tasked with imagining how emerging technologies could be utilised over the next 30 years to address one of the UN's SDGs. Students created design fictions grounded in research and

data, exploring the potential societal impacts of specific technologies. This approach encouraged them to propose innovative solutions for future design challenges.

The final products demonstrated how technology can effectively support educational objectives while showcasing a blend of creativity and technical proficiency. The event was well attended by students and staff and attracted interest from other departments. The Graphic Design Department took part in the showcase, and other departments showed interest in joining the next Project Day. The event's success instils a sense of optimism that *Project Day* will become a recurring event in the Faculty's calendar going forward.

Between writing and making: ***Trade-Off*** by Christine Dixie at the Gallery of the SARChI Chair in South African Art and Visual Culture

During the most stringent period of the lockdown in 2020, South African artist and senior lecturer at Rhodes University, Christine Dixie, produced *DisOrder – Trade-Off*, the first of a series of works engaging with the impact of COVID-19. The work, comprising nine prints, alludes to a media discourse about a necessary “trade-off” between, on the one hand, damage to the economy that would result from the lockdown and, on the other, dangers posed by the spread of infection if people were not kept apart from one another. Dixie was listening to Daniel Defoe’s *Journal of the Plague Year* while making this work. Defoe’s book, while first published in 1722, focuses on events in 1665, when the bubonic plague resulted in London losing about 15% of its population, and she was alert to the way in which that plague too compromised commerce and exchange.



However, “trade-off” also alludes to a complex relation of language to image. This interest in language has its origins in another large project by Dixie – *To Be King*. An installation and video with stop-frame animation that the artist first exhibited in 2014, *To Be King* is a reworking of Velazquez’s *Las Meninas*, in the light of Michel Foucault’s famous study of the work in *The Order of Things: An Archaeology of the Human Sciences*, first published in French in 1966 and in English in 1970. Foucault explored the complexity of the relation of language to image in his essay on *Las Meninas*, writing that “the relation of language to painting is an infinite relation. It is not that words are imperfect, or that, when confronted by the visible, they prove insuperably inadequate. Neither can be reduced to the other’s terms; it is in vain that we say what we see; what we see never resides in what we say”.

This engagement with the relationship of image and language is developed further in this exhibition through the showing of *DisOrder – Trade-Off* along with a recent artwork, *Extract*, constituted from a written text in which Brenda Schmahmann engaged with *DisOrder – Trade-Off* and its meanings. The text, part of a chapter Brenda Schmahmann authored for *A Show of Hands: Crafting Concepts in Contemporary Art*, edited by Ileana Parvu, Berlin: De Gruyter (in press), is configured into a work comprised of six components which allude to an open book.

DisOrder–Trade-Off features three key actors or protagonists – a princess, a plague doctor and a dog. The exhibition includes *Blueprint for a Breathless World*, a work in diaphanous fabric, and in which these three figures also appear. Derived from *Las Meninas*, the princess, the plague doctor and the dog appear as central figures in *The DisOrder – Trade-Off* as well as in *Blueprint for a Breathless World*.



At the well-attended opening of *Trade-Off*, Christine Dixie was introduced by the Dean of the FADA, Prof Federico Freschi, and then she responded with an overview of her work. Indicating appreciation for the role of the late scholar, Jane Taylor, who had encouraged to purchase a mask at the National Arts Festival which ultimately inspired the figure of the plague doctor, she made evident how this led to an important iconographic step. But Dixie focused especially on the relationship of images and words. *Trade-Off*, she explained, is an engagement between not only image and word but also between two scholars – herself and Brenda Schmahmann, the latter of whom has written about her work over an extended period. In giving Prof Schmahmann’s words on her art practice concrete form, Dixie sought to honour the SARChI chair’s writings, to indicate her profound appreciation for scholarship on her practice, and to indicate how art practices and theoretical writing – while they can “never be can be reduced to the other’s terms”, as Foucault indicated in his groundbreaking essay - are nonetheless interwoven in a mutual relationship of support.

SARChI Chair

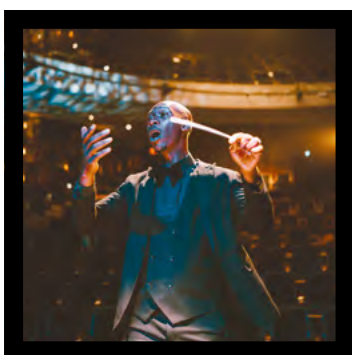


UJ Choir's Echoes of Heritage Triumphs at the kykNET Fiëstas

UJ Arts & Culture, a division of the Faculty of Art, Design, and Architecture (FADA) shares its success at the prestigious kykNET Fiëstas.

Hosted in Cape Town on 7 March, Echoes of Heritage, with compositions by UJ Artist in Residence, Mbuso Ndlovu, performed by UJ Choir, was lauded with two awards at the ceremony that recognises exceptional work presented at arts festivals, like Suidoosterfees, KKNK, Innibos, Vrystaat Kunstefees, Toyota US Woordfees, and Momentum Beleggings Aardklop.

Echoes of Heritage was nominated in four categories: Best Music Production, Best Original Music, Best Ensemble and Best Festival Production, and it walked away with Best Music Production and Best Original Music.



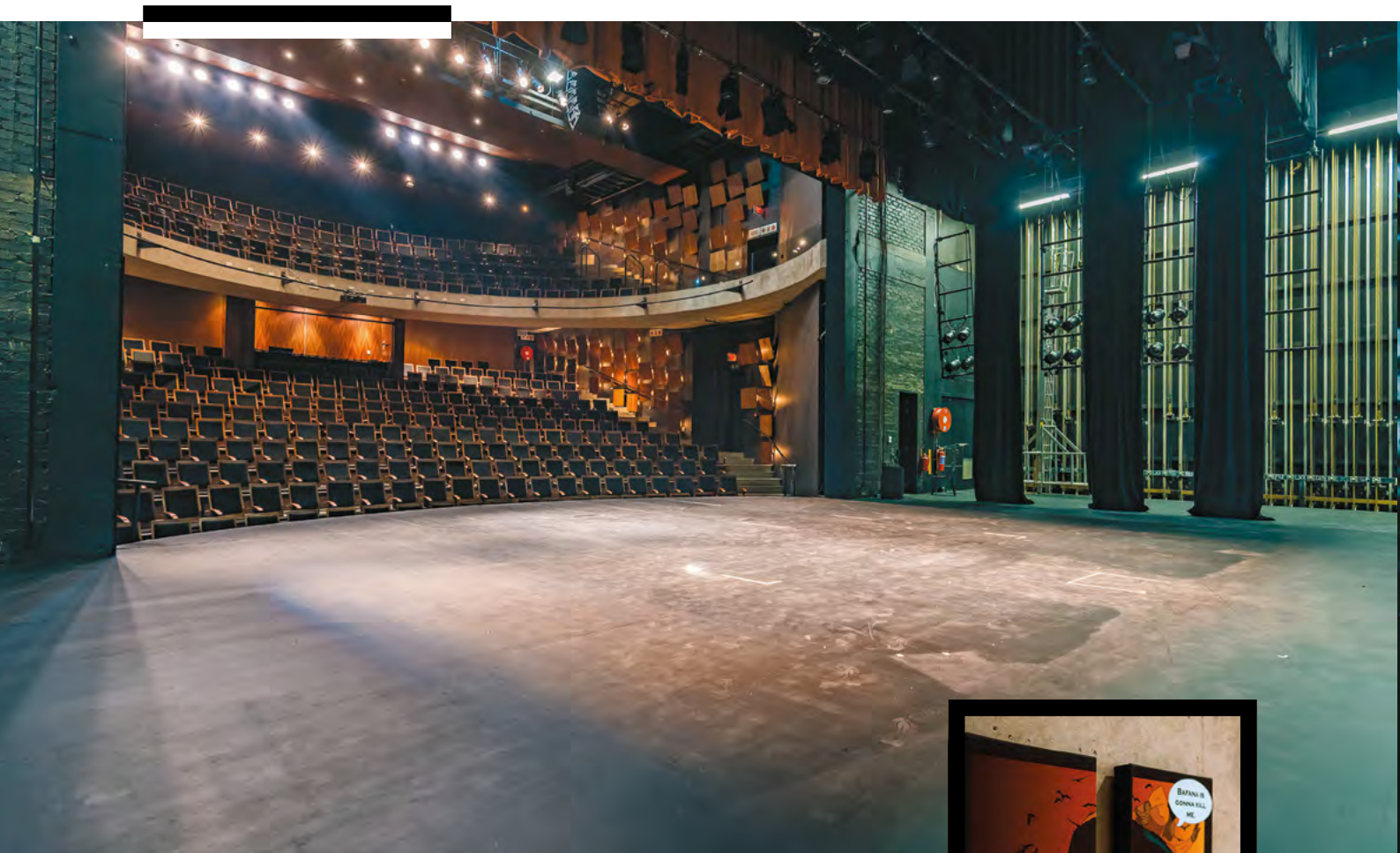
Melodi: A South African Choral Evolution at UJ

Melodi marked UJ Arts & Culture's first performance of 2024 on 24 February at the Keorapetse William Kgositsile Theatre. Created by former UJ Artist in Residence Sabelo Mthembu, this choral production explored South African choral music's history and evolution, reflecting on 30 years of democracy through rich vocal harmonies, storytelling, and poetry.



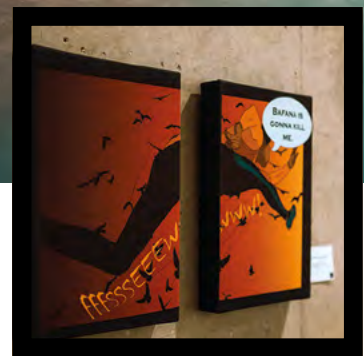
Mmakgabo Helen Sebidi's 'Ntlo E Etsamayang' (The Walking House) hosted at the UJ Art Gallery

University of Johannesburg Art Gallery, in collaboration with Everard Read Gallery and the Embassy of Sweden, hosted the exhibition *Ntlo E Etsamayang* (*The Walking House*) from 6 April 2024. Co-curated by Gabriel Baard and Prof Kim Berman, it featured 28 previously lost artworks by Mmakgabo Mmapula Helen Sebidi, recovered from Sweden after 32 years. The exhibition highlighted Sebidi's exploration of self-positioning, power, and healing, celebrating artistic dialogue and decolonisation.



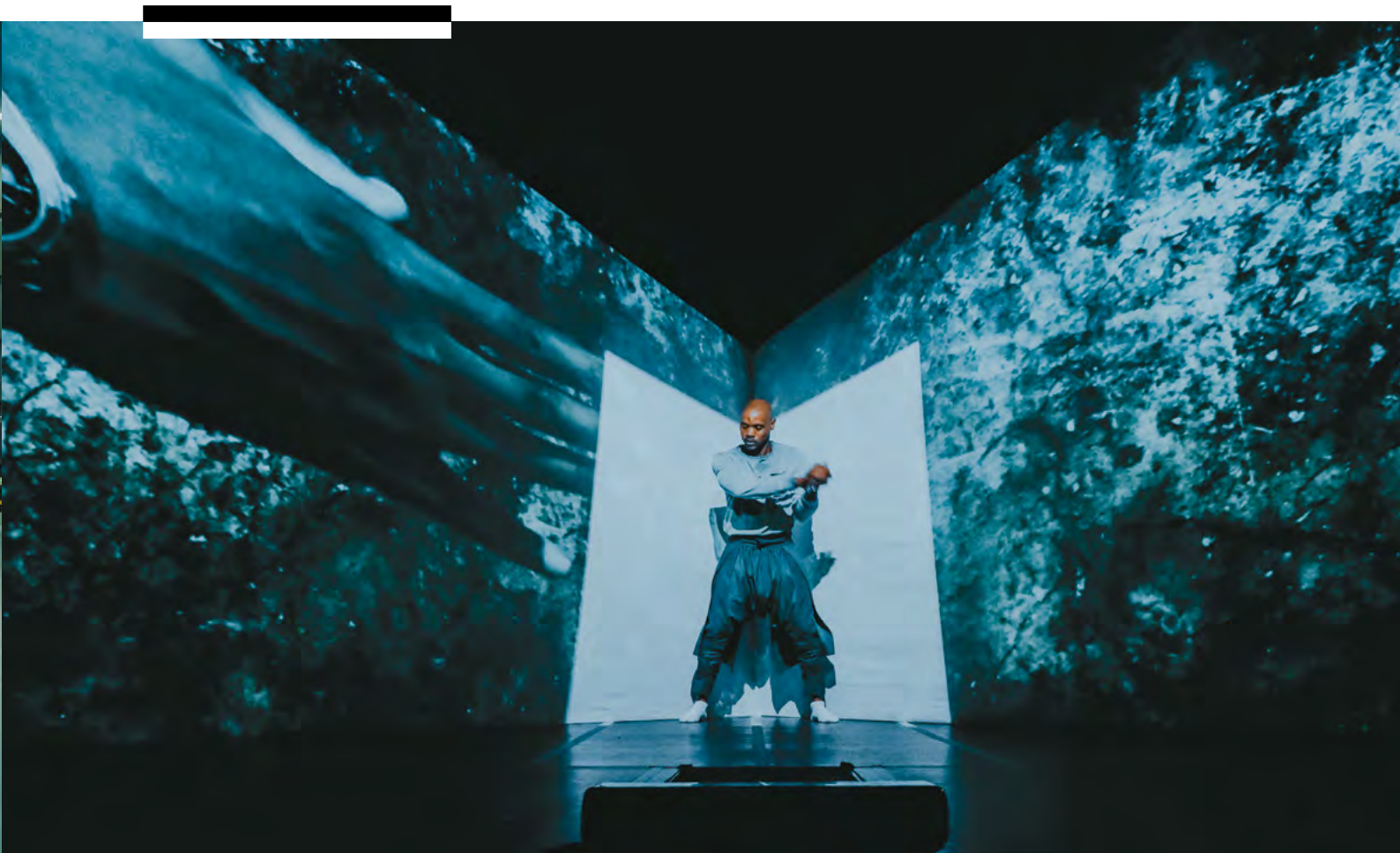
UJ Choir Presents Sounds of Democracy

On 3 May 2024, the UJ Choir performed *Sounds of Democracy* at the Keorapetse William Kgosisile Theatre. Conducted by Sizwe Mondlane and directed by Renette Bouwer, the concert celebrated 30 years of South African democracy and the choir's 50th anniversary. The programme featured a mix of African and Western music, including selections from the award-winning *Echoes of Heritage* by former UJ Artist in Residence, Mbuso Ndlovu, spoken word, and classical pieces.



The UJ Art Gallery in partnership with Rainbow Nation Comics and Afro Geek proudly present African Hero

The UJ Art Gallery, in partnership with Rainbow Nation Comics and Afro Geek, proudly presented *African Hero* from 8 June to 12 July 2024. The exhibition redefined superhero aesthetics through an African lens, focusing on reclaiming narratives, challenging colonial legacies, and emphasising self-representation. Highlights included mixed media pieces, digital art, and a 1-minute comic trailer created by UJ Multimedia students. The event also celebrated African storytelling and creativity, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in a vibrant world of modern heroism and imagination.



UJ Art Gallery takes re/ connect/ing to the Vrystaat Kunstefees

The UJ Art Gallery, in collaboration with MTN SA Foundation, presented *re/connect/ing* at the 2024 Vrystaat Kunstefees from 2-6 July. Curated by Dineke Orton, this exhibition continued their collaborative journey from "Shifting Conversations" (2017), featuring works by Christo Coetzee, Gerard Bhengu, and Gabisile Nkosi. It explored South Africa's cultural narratives and aimed to reconnect audiences with art in the digital age.

Dance meets visual storytelling at the Vrystaat Kunstefees

UJ Arts & Culture showcased *Without Limits* at the 2024 Vrystaat Kunstefees from 2-6 July. Directed by Fana Tshabalala, this dance production combined choreography with video mapping projection, exploring the conflict between rural roots and corporate life. The performance featured a collaborative team, including Pieter Jacobs, Karabo Mtshali, Jurgen Meekel, Oliver Hauser, Kuba Silkiewicz, and Nthabiseng Makone, merging dance with technology and prompting reflections on reality and imagination.



Free State Arts Festival Awards

At the Free State Arts Festival, UJ Arts & Culture presented its captivating dance production, *With-Out Limits*, in collaboration with its resident dance company, *Broken Borders*, under the directorship of Fana Tshabalala. Furthermore, the UJ Art Gallery in collaboration with the MTN SA Foundation, took their re/connecting/ing exhibition to be featured at the festival as well.

At the end of the festival, UJ Arts & Culture received seven nominations: Best Marketing Campaign, Best Community Engagement, Best Visual Arts Presentation, Best Artistic Design, Best Lead Performer, Best Director, and Best Production.

The UJ Art Gallery won the award for Best Visual Art Exhibition, and the *With-Out Limits* production took home the award for Best Artistic Design.



UJ Choir: Golden Jubilee at Hilton Arts Festival

In 2024, the University of Johannesburg Choir celebrated its 50th anniversary at the Hilton Arts Festival. The performance honoured five decades of musical excellence, showcasing a diverse repertoire of sacred choral works, contemporary Western pieces, and vibrant African music. Highlights included selections from the award-winning *Echoes of Heritage*, reflecting the choir's rich history under the direction of Sizwe Mondlane.

UJ Choir 50th Celebration Concert

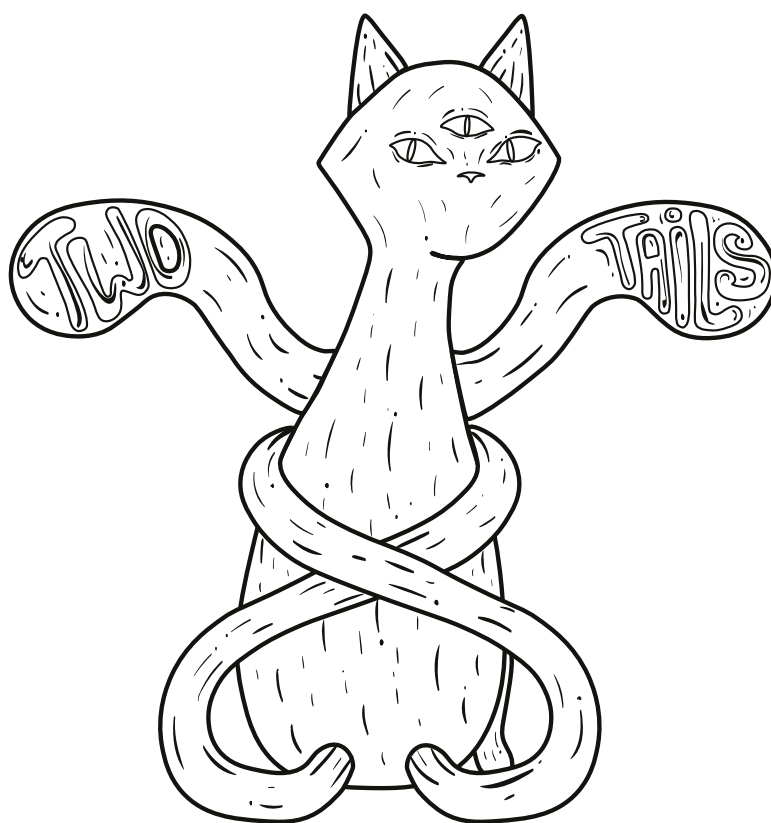


This year, the UJ Choir commemorates five decades of exceptional music-making.

Through the years, UJ Choir has bloomed into a musical beacon, mirroring the nation's historical struggles and aspirations for the future. It exemplifies the unifying power of song, bringing together individuals from diverse socio-political backgrounds into a harmonious unity that transcends the transient borders of our land.

This celebration highlights a long-standing legacy that has upheld camaraderie and excellence in choral music at its core. Uniting current members of the University of Johannesburg Choir with its alumni choristers, it promises to be a memorable performance.

Since 1974, the Choir had been directed by four legendary conductors, with Renette Bouwer, who recently retired, serving the longest tenure. Over a hundred choir alumni will join UJ Choir 2024 on stage in this special gathering.



20 YEARS
— 2005-2025 —
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The **Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture** offers under- and postgraduate programmes in Architecture, Fashion Design and Production, Graphic (Communication) Design, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Jewellery Design and Manufacture, Digital (Multimedia) Design and Visual (Fine) Art. This brochure lists the undergraduate programmes and their application criteria for 2025, and introduces the faculty's research centres, galleries and theatres.



UJ FADA



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