

## About Nicola Brandt

Nicola Brandt is a Namibian-German artist working at the intersection between memory studies, landscape, ecology, and feminist and queer theory. Much of her work is focused on transfiguring male power—its political arrangements and landscapes. In turn, she celebrates entanglements of pleasure, solidarity and rebellion.

Brandt is the author of the monograph *Landscapes between Then and Now: Recent Histories in Southern African Photography, Video and Performance Art* published with Bloomsbury in 2020. She has contributed to publications including *The Journey: New Positions in African Photography* (2020), the reader of the 13th Edition of the Bamako Biennale (2022), co-edited by Simon Njami and Sean O’Toole.

She is the founder and series editor of the artists’ and writers’ residency *Conversations Across Place (CaP)*. The first CaP volume (2021) was published with Greenbox Publishing in Berlin. The artist holds a doctorate in Fine Art from the University of Oxford and is currently based between Germany and Namibia.



Nicola Brandt, Credits



Nicola Brandt, Guardian I. 2017

## CV

Born in Windhoek, Namibia in 1983  
Lives and works between Namibia and Germany.

### Education

DPhil in Fine Art (March 2015), University of Oxford, Ruskin School of Art and Christ Church.

MSt in the History of Art, History of Art Department and St Catherine's College, University of Oxford, October 2007 – June 2008.

### Awards & Scholarships (Selected)

2024

Berlin Global Village Decolonial Memorial: top five shortlist

2023

Doek! Literary Awards / Bank Windhoek: shortlist – visual art

2017–2018

Gerda Henkel Foundation Fellowship

2017

Leverhulme Trust (shortlisted), Oxford's Humanities

Division & Ruskin School of Art, University of Oxford Diversifying Portraiture, Vice-Chancellor's Diversity Fund, University of Oxford

2016

IFA (Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen) Wellcome Trust: Participant in Seed Award in Humanities and Social Science

2014

Namibian Film and Theatre Awards: Indifference, Special Mention of the Jury

2010–2014

Christ Church, University of Oxford, Hugh Pilkington

Scholarship

### Collections

Iwalewaha Collection, Bayreuth, Germany

National Art Gallery of Namibia

Embassy of Namibia, Berlin, Germany

Würth Collection, Germany

Eimuth Collection, Germany

Ministry of Lands and Resettlement, Windhoek, Namibia

The Joseph Schepers-Germaine Lijnen Fund, Brussels, Belgium

Scheryn Art Collection, Cape Town, South Africa

CIP Corporate Collection, Hamburg

Selected Solo and Group Exhibitions

2024-2025

On the Backs of Camels, Welt Museum Wien, Vienna 2024 Entangled, Rhodes House, Oxford  
 Into One's Own: Reckoning with Monuments and Memory, Guns & Rain  
 Decolonial Memorial Design Presentation (20 finalists), Gutshof  
 Britz / Museum Neukölln, Berlin

2023

Indifference, Nirox Foundation and The National Art Gallery of  
 Namibia  
 Gift Uzera, Nicola Brandt and Muningandu Hoveka, Man of War Leave My House,  
 Goethe-Institut Namibia, Windhoek

2022

Good Neighbours, Nirox Foundation, South Africa Freiburg und Kolonialismus:  
 Gestern? Heute!, Städtische Museen Freiburg, Germany

2021

Territories Under My Skin, curated by Tatiana Echeverri Fernandez, Jaro Straub and  
 Ella Ziegler, The Changing Room, Berlin, Germany

2020–2021

Landscapes, The National Art Gallery of Namibia 2020 From Where Do We Speak?  
 Frans Nambinga Arts Training  
 Centre, Havana, Windhoek

2019

The Burden of Memory: Considering German Colonial History in Africa, curated by  
 Rose Jepkorir, Princess Marilyn Douala Manga-Bell and Nontobeko Ntombela,  
 Yaounde, Cameroon, Goethe Institute  
 Hannah Ryggen Triennial: Faig Ahmed, Alighiero e Boetti, Nicola Brandt, Alexandra  
 Kehayoglou, Lise Bjørne Linnert, Ahmed Umar + Hannah Ryggen, curated by Solveig  
 Lønmo. Nordenfjeldske Kunstindustrimuseum, Trondheim, Norway.  
 Award: Best Exhibition 2019: The Artists Association, Oslo

2018–2019

Ovizire · Somgu: From Where Do We Speak?, curated by Johanna Wild and Bisrat  
 Negassi, The MARRK Museum &  
 M. Bassy, Hamburg, Germany

2018

Tomorrow's Today, curated by Tumelo Mosaka, Investec  
 Cape Town Art Fair, South Africa  
 Namibia. The Art of a Young Generation, Museum Würth, Erstein, Alsace, France

2017

Another Antipodes: Urban Axis, PS Art Space, Fremantle, Australia

2016

Kunst Einer Jungen Generation, Museum Würth, Künzelsau, Germany  
 Mo(ve)ments: African Digital Subjectivities, Yale School of  
 Art, Yale University, Yale, New Haven

2015

Land Matters in Art, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) & the Namibian Ministry of Land Reform, St. Johannes-Evangelist-Kirche, Berlin-Mitte Christoph Schlingensief & Nicola Brandt, Unrecounted: Historical Amnesia in Germany and Namibia, Filmgalerie 451 and the National Art Gallery of Namibia, Conservatorio Benedetto Marcello, Palazzo Pisani, Venice  
Re-presenting Photography in Namibia, Annual Visual Art Museum Programme (AVAMP), Windhoek

2014

The Earth Inside, curated by Vid Simoniti, National Art Gallery of Namibia, Windhoek

2012

Namibia: Definitions of Space, London Festival of Architecture 2012, Ambika P3, University of Westminster, London  
In Site: Art as a Mode of Enquiry, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

2011

Fuori Campo, Galleria Fuori Campo, Piazza del Campo, Siena, Italy  
Wlotzkasbaken, International Photography Festival, Galleria Edieuropa, Rome

#### Selected Press

2024

Van Wyk, Bayron. (n.d.). Contested Statues: A Review of 'Man Of War: Leave My House' at The Goethe-Institut, Windhoek. Stimulus – Respond, Space: Colony. <https://www.stimulusrespond.com>.  
Rensing, Julia. Histories and Landscapes Embodied: Counter-Memorial and Embodied Strategies in Namibia and Beyond, a Case Study, in Curating Transcultural Spaces, ed. Sarah Hegenbart (Bloomsbury, 2024).  
Frank Steinhofer, 'Traces of Violence in Windhoek,' Democracy: The Architectural Review issue 1511, May 2024.

2023

Mukaiwa, Martha. 'Brandt on Fire at ICTAF,' The Namibian, 24 February 2023, The Namibian Online.  
Wilson, Paul. 'Remembering the Herero-Nama Genocide in Namibia, African Arts 56, no. 1 (Spring 2023): 62–81.  
Fumanti, Mattia. (2023). 'The "haunting" and the "haunted": White ness, orthography, and the (post)-apartheid condition in Namibia. History and Anthropology, 34:3, 497–520

2022

Mukaiwa, Martha. 'Artists Consider New Memorials and Inclusive Futures'. The Namibian, 29 November 2022. <https://www.namibian.com.na/index.php?page=archive-read&id=62261>

2022

Baas, Renzo. 'Review: Nicola Brandt, Landscapes between Then and Now. Recent Histories in Southern African Photography, Performance and Video Art'. *Journal of Namibian Studies : History Politics Culture* 31 (2022): 141–43.

2021

Leonie March, "Wir wollen nur Gerechtigkeit": Völkermord – Die deutsche Kolonialvergangenheit prägt Namibia bis heute. Doch von einer Aufarbeitung ist das Land weit entfernt – ebenso wie Deutschland.' *Spiegel Geschichte, Der deutsche Kolonialismus. Die verdrängten Verbrechen in Afrika, China und im Pazifik*

2021

Dag Henrichson, Out of History: Artists, Landscapes and New 'Practices of Self' in Southern Africa, *Art Africa*, January / March 2021

2020

Martha Mukaiwa, 'Namibian Landscapes,' *The Namibian*, 12 June 2020  
Dag Henrichson, 'Whose Land is This?,' *The Namibian*, 18 May 2020

2019

Fabian Lehmann, 'A place of eclectic remembrance. The former German concentration camp on Namibia's Shark Island.' *Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture*, 26, 29–50. Retrieved from <https://namibian-studies.com/index.php/JNS/article/view/8434>. Hannah Ryggen: *New Land*, exh. cat., Nordenfjeldske, Kunstindustrimuseum, Trondheim.

2018

Leonie March, 'Kunstprojekt zur Aufarbeitung deutscher Kolonialgeschichte, Bruch eines Tabus', *Deutschlandfunk Kultur* (online). Sara Rosen, 'An Unsettling Visual Trip through Namibia's Past: Living Memorials', *Huck Magazine*. Denise Lim, 'What the Landscape Recalls', *Art Africa* (online). Kea Wienand, 'Deutsche Kolonialgeschichte als Thema postkolonialer Kunst', *Iwalewaha*, University of Bayreuth, Germany.

2017

Fabian Lehmann, 'A Place of Eclectic Remembrance: Visiting Luderitz's Shark Island today', paper, *ECAS 7*, Basel.

2016

Kunst Einer Jungen Generation, exh. cat., Museum Würth, (Künzelsau: Swiridoff, 2016).

'Nos quatre coups de coeur de la foire d'art contemporain Africa in AKAA, à Paris' in Le Monde (Afrique) Online, 11 November 2016.

Susan Middleton, 'Beelde wat in lae spreek', Rapport, (Johannesburg, South Africa), November 2016, 11.

2015

Elisa Schaar, 'Unrecounted: Historical Amnesia in Germany and Namibia: Exhibition Reviews', ARTMargins Online, 6 November 2015.

Pascale Viscardy, 'Théâtre Postcolonial: Biennale Internationale d'art de Venise 56e' in L' Art Même #66 (Brussels: Ministère de la Communauté française), 16–17.

Kößler, Reinhart, Namibia and Germany: Negotiating the Past (Namibia: UNAM Press, 2015).

2014

Eberhard Hofmann, 'Herbe Schönheiten zwischen Lagen gruseliger Erinnerung', Allgemeine Zeitung, August 2014. Hendrik Ehlers, 'Analogie der Amnesie funktioniert', Allgemeine Zeitung, August 2014.

2013

Land Matters in Art, exh. cat., (Windhoek: National Art Gallery of Namibia and Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ, GmbH on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, 2013).

2011

Personal Geography, exh. cat., (Rome: Punctum Editions, 2011).

#### Recent Publications

2023

Fire and Physical Energy on the Slopes of Devil's Peak'. In Lost Libraries, Burnt Archives, edited by Julia Rensing and Sindi-Leigh McBride. Cape Town: Michaelis Galleries.

Brandt, Nicola. 'Practices of Self': Embodied MemoryWork, Performance Art and Intersectional Activism in Namibia. Memory Studies 16, no. 3 (2023): 533–45.

2022

Brandt, Nicola. 13th Edition of The Bamako Encounters African Biennial Of Photography Reader: Maa Ka Maaya Ka Ca A Yere Kono.

Edited by Chiara Figone. Dakar, Berlin and Milan: Archive Books, 2022.

2021

Brandt, Nicola and Frances Whorrall-Campbell, eds., Conversations across Place, The Green Box, 2021.

2020

Brandt, Nicola, 'Time, Performance and Landscape', in *The Journey*, edited by Simon Njami and Sean O'Toole. Kerber, 2020. Brandt, Nicola, *Landscapes Between Then and Now: Recent Histories in Southern Africa* Photography, Video and Performance Art, Bloomsbury Press, UK.

2019

Brandt, Nicola. 'Under Fire: The Concept of Landscape'. @GI weltweit, October 2019. <https://www.goethe.de/prj/lat/en/ide/hin.html>.

Brandt, Nicola, exh. cat., 'Margaret Courtney-Clarke: In the Harsh Light of the Present', *Cry Sadness into the Coming Rain*, solo exhibition, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Selected Public Talks and Screenings

2023

'Contestations of Memory: Publics & Spaces,' with Michael Rothberg, Robert Kriger, Steven Robins and Sylvie Njobati, Point Sud 2023, Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, Stellenbosch  
 Man of War: Leave My House screening and discussion, The Goethe Institute, Windhoek

2022

Diasporic Entanglements (moderator) with Sumayya Vally, Denise L. Lim and Frances Whorrall-Campbell, Center for African Studies and the Humanities Center, Stanford University

2021

Keynote speaker, *In/Visible Landscapes: Photography, Colonialism and the Environment*, 6th International Conference of Photography and Theory

2020

*Sites of Reckoning: Memorials, Museums & Fractured Truth(s) in the Aftermaths of Mass Violence*, Georgia State University, Atlanta GA

2019

*Black Portraitures*, New York University, New York  
 Museum Conversations, Goethe Institute, Windhoek, Namibia

2018

Staatstheater Nürnberg, Germany.  
 The Goethe-Institute Namibia & Museums Association of Namibia Senator's Reception on the occasion of the 2nd Herero and Nama Conference, City Hall, Hamburg  
 The MAXXI, National Museum of the 21st Century Arts, Rome

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