

## About Turiya Magadlela

Turiya Magadlela (b.1978) is a South African artist who employs a unique exploration of textiles to address issues that shape a gendered and racialized society. She sews and embroiders nylon pantyhose, correctional service uniforms, prison sheets, and other conceptually loaded fabrics to address societal issues through conceptual investigation, exploring profound themes of racial and sexual discrimination, femininity, and eroticism. Her use of tights serves not only as a medium for creativity but also as a powerful symbol, drawing attention to skin colour and the complex social landscape of South Africa, employing art-making techniques traditionally associated with femininity and craft.

Magadlela's art goes beyond mere visual representation. In live performances within the exhibition space, she sews tights on a sewing machine, offering a poignant commentary on labor conditions, gender disparities, and the enduring legacies of sexual and racial violence and abuse. In her latest series, Magadlela creates awe-inspiring tapestries from tights, transforming exhibition spaces into immersive environments reminiscent of cave-like structures. Through these monumental works, she invites viewers to contemplate the deeper implications of race, gender, and identity. These tapestries, akin to square keyholes of voyeurism, are stretched on wooden frames, inviting viewers to peer into a world fraught with historical and contemporary struggles. Prepare to be transported as Turiya Magadlela's artistry challenges and inspires.

Magadlela studied at the University of Johannesburg and Rijksakademie, Amsterdam. Since winning the FNB Art Prize in 2015, and shortlisted for the Prix D' Prat Prize, she has shown at the 2016 Armory Show and exhibited in Berlin, USA and Ghana. Her work was included in the acclaimed group show "Blue Black," curated by artist Glenn Ligon at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation in St. Louis. Magadlela cuts, stitches, and folds her materials across wooden frames to create multilayered abstract compositions. Drawing from her experiences as a Black woman and a mother as well as from Black South African history, Magadlela's works serve as vibrant celebrations of Black womanhood while simultaneously suggesting the implicit eroticization of and violence against the body.



Turiya Magadlela, Vuka Luka Mfondini Sambe, (dawn, is the time to wake up, before the sun is out, we have to work), 2024.

## CV

### Education

2004

Postgraduate Research Study, Rijksakademie van Beeldende Kunsten, Netherlands

2001

National Diploma of Fine Arts, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

1998

Certificate in Fine Arts, Funda Community College, Johannesburg, South Africa

1997

National Senior Certificate, The National School of the Arts, Johannesburg, South Africa

### Solo Exhibitions

2021

Would Say II, Ubuntu un rêve lucide, curated by Marie-Ann Yemsi, Palais De Tokyo, Paris, France  
A Few Good Friends, Motho Fela, LatchKey Gallery, New York City, United States of America

2020

Mandisa, Nil Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2019

Mashadi WouldSay... , MSGSU Resim ve Heykel Muzesi, Santiyesi, Istanbul, Turkey

2017

The Armory Show, Solo Exhibit for the Armory Show Presents, / New York City, United States of America  
Wabona lapho isifebe, wangena kuso, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2015

Impilo ka Lova, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
Kaffersheet, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Imihuzuko (for the FNB Art Prize), FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa

2012

Everybody knows uFeela, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

### Group exhibitions

2024

Our Barren Womb Boys Weep, Kates Ferri Projects, New York  
SAFCA, SEED III, Latitudes Online, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Signifying the impossible song, Southern Guild, Los Angeles, United States of America  
Refuse the given world, Kalashnikov Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
Art Dubai, AKKA Projects, Dubai  
Materialistic, 1-54 New York, Kates Ferri Projects, New York  
Gallery 1957, Unlimited, Accra/London  
Art Paris Art Fair, Bredin Prat Endowment Fund, Paris, France  
Cape Town Art Fair, Kalashnikov Gallery, Cape Town  
Art Brussels, Kalashnikov Gallery, Belgium  
Gather II, Smac Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
Expo Chicago, Kalashnikov Gallery, Chicago, United States of America  
Spark Art Fair Vienna, Kates Ferri Projects, Austria

2023

Africa Supernova, Collection Carla and Pieter Schulting, Kunstal Kade Amersfoort, Netherlands  
 Untitled Miami Beach Art Fair, Kalashnikov Gallery, Miami, United States of America  
 Dark Matters, Kates-Ferri, NYC, United States of America  
 Kates Ferri Projects, NYC, USA  
 A woman's work, Jac Forbes Contemporary, Malibu, United States of America  
 Lean On Me, Ko Gallery, Lagos, Nigeria  
 He Said She Said, 1:54 New York Kates-Ferri Projects, New York, United States of America  
 Contemporary African Art Survey, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, Netherlands

2022

A Collection of African Portraits, Kunsthalle Krems, Vienna, Austria  
 We Paint, Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux Arts de Paris, curated by Christiano Raimondi, 10 years by Jean-François Prat Prize, Paris, France  
 (De) Framing Identity and the body, I know you are, but what am I? UMOCA, Utah, United States of America  
 Mama, PRIOR Art Space, Berlin  
 4000+years of African Art +Ans D'art African, curated by Destinee Ross-Sutton, Musee Wallhouse, Saint Barthélemy Foundation, La Fondation Gandur pour L'Art Geneve  
 Shades of human nature: Storytelling, through resilient colour, curated by Katherine Finerty, BloomGallery, Geneva, Switzerland  
 Home Strange Home, curated by Reservoir, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Whatiftheworld Gallery and Krone Cap Classique, Tulbagh, South Africa  
 Water is not for sale, curated by Cassandra Bowes, Bloom Gallery Saint Tropez, France  
 When Yonic, Becomes Phallic, Editions, Artthrob in association with DGI Studio and Latitudes  
 Untitled Art Fair, Kates Ferri Projects, South Beach Miami, Florida, United States of America  
 Artissima, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Italy  
 Quantity of Movements, AKAA Fair, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Paris, France  
 Planet B. Climate Change and the new sublime II, Charles Darwin and the coral reef, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud, Palazzo Bollani, Venice, Italy

2022

Planet B. Part III, The Tragic Death of Nauru Island, curated by Nicolas Bourriaud, Palazzo Bollani, Venice Art Now  
 FNB Art Joburg, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 African Galleries Now, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa and Artsy  
 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Kalashnikovv Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 Dirurubela, 1:54 London, Kalashnikovv Gallery Johannesburg, South Africa  
 Current Identities, BODE Projects and Bloom Gallery, Berlin, Germany

2021

L' aventure ambiguë, BISO  
 The International Biennial of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso  
 West Bund Art and Design, Bloom Gallery and HdM Gallery, Beijing, China  
 Last Supper curated by Tamecca Seril, LatchKey Gallery, in special partnership at Industry City, New York, United States of America  
 KUGARISANA - Group show of artists from the Continent of Africa Presented by Simchowitz - Beverly Hills, California, United States of America  
 Hello And Goodbye - Kalashnikovv Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2020

Against Interpretation - Everard Read, London, United Kingdom  
 Courage is as Contagious as Fear - Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
 BLACK VOICES/BLACK MICROCOSM, curated by Destinee Ross, CFHILL official, Sweden  
 Colours of the African Di-as-po-ra {noun} LACK

2019

King of the Hill - Jack Shainman Gallery, New York, United States of America

Material Insanity, Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden (MACAAL) Marrakech, Morocco  
 New Conversations - Malibu Art Walk, Malibu, California, United States of America  
 Gossamer - Curated by Zoe Bedeaux, Carl Freedman Gallery, Margate, Kent, United Kingdom  
 Speculative Inquiry, on abstraction curated by Nkule Mabaso Michaelis Galleries, South Africa  
 Frieze Art Fair, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Brooklyn and San Francisco, United States of America  
 UNTITLED, San Francisco, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, United States of America  
 Open Agenda - blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2018

Blank Projects & Galerie Guido W. Baudach, Berlin, Germany  
 More for less, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
 The Same As Ever, But More So - Braunsfelder, Cologne, Germany  
 UNTITLED, Miami, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Miami, United States of America  
 EXPO Chicago, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Chicago, United States of America  
 Jean François Prat Prize, Bredin Prat Foundation, Paris, France

2017

Looking Back, Moving Forward, Constitutional Hill, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 Blue Black curated by Glenn Ligon, Pulitzer Arts Foundation, St Louis, United States of America  
 MO Simple Passion, Complex Vision: The Darryl Atwell Collection, Gantt Centre, Charlotte, United States of America  
 Les jour qui vient, curated by Marie-Ann Yemsi, Galerie des Galeries, Paris, France  
 A Painting Today, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
 MO Simple Passion, Complex Vision: The Darryl Atwell Collection, Gantt Centre, Charlotte, United States of America  
 The Past is Present, Jack Shainman Gallery, New York City, New York

2016

Blackness in Abstraction, Pace Gallery, New York, United States of America  
 The Quiet Violence of Dreams, Stevenson, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 3 881 days, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
 Figure, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2015

Furniture: A Sculpture Exhibition, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
 Back to the Future II: Abstract Art in South Africa, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa

2014

The Poetry In Between: South-South, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 half- devil and half- child, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2013

This is the thing, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
 Blank projects in Johannesburg, Ithuba Arts Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2012

When Form Becomes Attitude, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2006

De Grote Oversteek, Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2004

Rijksakademie Open Ateliers, Amsterdam, Netherlands

2001-2002

Activate Architects, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 ABSA L 'Atelier Exhibition, Johannesburg, South Africa Museum Africa, South Africa

Collections

Foundation Bredin Prat Studio Museum  
Harlem Brooklyn Museum  
Iziko Museums  
Foundation Gander pour L'Art Schussing Art Collection  
Jac Forbes Gallery  
Scott Newman Collection  
Superior Collection  
Collection Société Générale  
Creative Art Partners  
Jack Shainman Gallery  
Natalie Kates  
Pace Gallery  
Nich McCree  
Stefan Simchowitz  
Destinee Ross-Sutton  
Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation  
Olm Collection  
Leridon Collection  
Collection UHODA  
Cuperior Collection  
Tiroche DeLeon Collection  
Hoosein Mahomed Collection  
Schulting Collection

Awards and Grants

2018  
Jean-Francois Prat Prize, Bredin Prat Foundation for Contemporary Art, Paris, France

2015  
FNB Joburg Art Prize, Johannesburg, South Africa

2004  
National Arts Council of South Africa  
Dutch Ministry of Arts and Culture, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
National Ministry of Arts Culture, Science and Technology, South Africa

2003  
Young Artist Award, Goethe Institut and Johannesburg Art Gallery Johannesburg, South Africa

2002  
Top 100 Best National Artists, ABSA L'Atelier, Johannesburg, South Africa

Residencies

2005  
Rijksakademie Van Beeldende Kunsten

Press

2022  
Planet B: Climate Change and the New Sublime, Nicola Bourriaud  
The seventh BMW Art Guide, BMW Group Independent Collectors

2021  
African Artists, From 1882 > Now, Phaidon Press Inc

2019

Vitamin T: Threads and Textile in Contemporary Art, Phaidon Editors Janelle Porter, Phaidon PressInc

How to Attend an Art Fair' by Charles Desmarais, Datebook

Pantyhose That make you think, New York Times

My Top 5 Gems at EXPO Chicago by Caira Moreira-Brown, FAD magazine

Light as Air, Tough as boots pantyhose in art by Charlotte Jansen, Financial Times

16th Istanbul Biennial Announcement by E-FLUX

2018

Future Greats by Sue Williamson, Art Review

Turiya Magadlela 2016-2017, Blank Projects

Contemporary & 2018 The Same As Ever, But More

So., Braunsfelder, Art Viewer

2017

Turiya Magadlela selected by Sue Williamson

2015

In Conversation with Turiya Magadlela by Chad Roussouw, Art Throb

Art born of shared pain and pantyhose by Stefanie Jason, Mail & Guardian

Artist Showcase: Remaking the Material World by Mary Corrigan, The Times