About Trevor Stuurman

Trevor Stuurman (b.1992) is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning visual artist, creative director and media entrepreneur. Blurring the lines with his work behind the lens, and his work in front of it, Trevor's oeuvre is crafting a complex new discourse about the role of young African artists and the nature of virtual mediums in the continent's contemporary creative culture.

Born in Kimberley in South Africa's Northern Cape province (the country's former mining capital), Trevor's work combines his educational background in motion picture & live performance with a multitude of creative fields such as fashion and performance art, allowing him to find and capture a uniquely African 'perspective on beauty', he explains, that reminds him of home: 'a place that is imbued with colour, love and belonging that reflects Africa.'

Starting out as a street photographer capturing Johannesburg's vibrant creative scene in the early 2000's on his Tumblr page Stuurman Style Diary, Trevor rapidly grew into a household name during his tenure as Elle magazine's style reporter in 2012. Since then he has gone on to captivate the public with his work, seeing him named Marie Claire magazine's Image Maker for 2018, GQ magazine's 'King of Creativity', one of Forbes Africa's 30 Under 30 and TIME Magazine's Next Generation Leader for 2021, Honorary Icon Award, Abryanz Style and Fashion Awards in Uganda, an Emy Africa Awards, Man of Style award in Ghana. In the same year Trevor was selected by the Disney group to interpret Marvel's Black Panther film into a new work, become one of British Vogue's contributors – alongside a prominent feature of his photography in the Photo Vogue Festival — and had his work published in the Swinging Africa monograph by Emmanuelle Courreges.

His work with global humanitarian foundations includes the United Nations, the Bill & Miranda Gates Foundation and the Obama Foundation to document former American president Barack Obama during his travels in Africa. Described as "a cultural force" by CNN's African voices feature, Trevor continues his work in beauty and fashion. He has captured the likes of Dr. Esther Mahlangu, Miss Universe 2019 Zizobini Tunzi, Naomi Campbell, Teyana Taylor, Shanelle Nyasiase, Gigi & Bella Hadid, Kendall Jenner and Iman Hammam. Trevor's involvement as part of the team who created and styled Black is King for Beyonce. A British Vogue contributor, Trevor's work at Arise Africa and Afro Punk Johannesburg has contributed significantly to the increasing global interest in the work of creatives from the continent.



Trevor Stuurman. Tongoro Beauty 6, 2024.

An avid traveller, his exploration of Africa remains at the core of his body of work. "The more I leave home, the more I realise the power and currency that home has. And I think that in turn makes me a better storyteller." This essence of narrating authentic African stories inspired him to host his first solo exhibition entitled Home, a love letter to the Himba Women of Namibia, that enjoyed a successful run at the Hazard gallery in Johannesburg.

Subsequently, Trevor has exhibited in group exhibitions at Digitalia — the art and economy of ideas in San Francisco at the Museum of the African Diaspora and more recently in the Brooklyn Museum Africa Fashion exhibition that opened in 2023. Trevor's drive to promote the artists of his generation has also seen him curate his own installations; Teleporting into Africa and This Is Home for the Absolut One Source live creative festivals; A Place Called Home with Botho Project Space in Johannesburg; This Is Home at the Motsepe Foundation's Mandela 100 summit, and group exhibitions with THK Gallery at the Cape Town Art Fair, Enter Art in Denmark and the 154 Art Fair London; Trevor is also included.

Alongside his artwork, Trevor has cemented himself as a co-pilot with brands such as Montblanc, one of Africa's Mont Blanc Mark Makers, Coming to America x Uoma Beauty campaign, Disney, Mini Cooper, Nedbank, G Star RAW, Vivo Mobile, Gucci, Rich Mnisi, Tongoro, Moshions and Laurence airline. He has collaborated with artists such as Black Coffee, Ciara, Nelson Makamo, Tiwa Savage, Dear Ribane and the Carters - Beyoncé and Jay-Z.

CV

Solo Exhibitions

2022

A Place Called Home, Botho Project Space, Johannesburg Life Through the Lens, Doyle Wham Gallery, London

Group Exhibitions

2024

We Are Here: Scenes From the Streets, International Center of Photography, New York

2023

Synaptic, THK Gallery Light + Space, THK Gallery Africa. Now., THK Gallery

2022

Botho Art Collective, Los Angeles

Art Fairs

2024

1-54 New York, THK Gallery

2023

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THK Gallery Enter Art Fair, Denmark, THK Gallery Unseen Amsterdam, THK Gallery 1-54 London, THK Gallery Photo Basel x Scope, Doyle Wham Gallery, Miami

Prizes and Awards

2022

Man of Style, Emy Africa Awards, Ghana Honorary Icon Award, Abryanz Style and Fashion Awards, Uganda Photo London Fair, Doyle Wham Gallery, London

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TIME Next Generation Leader Emmy Award for Outstanding Costumes for Black is King, a film by Beyonce

Achievements

2023

GUCCI campaign, Durban Launched The Manor, a multimedia home for Africa's greatest story.

2022

Published in Fashion Africa book by Victoria and Alfred Museum

THK

2021 Published in Swinging Africa book by Emmanuelle Courreges Conde Nast Traveler, September/ October Issue Photo Vogue Festival

2020 Mont Blanc Maker Coming to America x Uoma Beauty campaign