

JACOB VAN SCHALKWYK, artist, writer



Jacob van Schalkwyk's work has been exhibited by **David Krut Projects in New York, Johannesburg and Cape Town**, and by **GALLERY AOP** in Johannesburg since 2010. He exhibited with **blank projects** in 2011 and 2013, and was included in *Back to the Future*, a survey of abstraction in South Africa at **SMAC** in 2013.

His debut novel (in Afrikaans and English) *The Alibi Club*, was published by **Penguin Random House** in 2014. It was nominated for the **Barry Ronge Fiction Prize**. He contributed to *Africa Modern*, an authoritative resource on the South African cultural landscape around the launch of the Zeitz MoCAA. He is a regular contributor to *Ons Klyntji*.

Prior to returning to South Africa from New York, van Schalkwyk worked as an experimental video artist and musician, performing at the **Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM)**, **Central Park SummerStage**, **REDCAT Los Angeles**, **MassMoCA**, **Salle Jacques Brel in Paris**, and **De Singel in Antwerp**. He toured South Africa with Carl Hancock Rux and progenitors of hip-hop **The Last Poets** in 2006 as part of the **Urban Voices Festival**. Returning to the theater in 2018, Van Schalkwyk served as dramaturge for Jemma Kahn's *The Borrow Pit* at the **National Arts Festival** and **The Centre for the Less Good Idea**.

He is a director of the **Initiative for Motion Pictures in the African Continent (IMPAC)**, a triennial exploratory film festival in Centurion, where he has shown the work of Dutch experimental filmmaker **Gerard Holthuis**. Van Schalkwyk collaborated with artist-filmmaker **Michael Macgarry** on *LHR-JNB*, *Will to Power*, *Race of Man* and *As Above So Below*, screened internationally at film festivals such as **The 62nd International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen, Germany** and as part of Macgarry's ten year retrospective *Show No Pain* at the **WITS Art Museum (WAM)** in 2017.

Van Schalkwyk received a **BFA** from the Bauhaus-style integrated art and design **Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY** in 2003, where he focused on Drawing, studying anatomy (including human dissection lectures at Columbia University Medical School) with **Salvatore Montano** and drawing with **William Sayler and Denis Masback**. He studied the philosophy of mathematics and logic under **Robert Richardson**. He is currently completing his **MVA**, focusing on sculpture, at **Stellenbosch University** under **Ledelle Moe and Lize van Robbroek**.

Van Schalkwyk has a decade's worth of experience as a part-time lecturer, having taught at tertiary level at **WITS**, **The Open Window School of Visual Communication** and **Stellenbosch University**. He worked as video compression specialist, in New York for **IDEALOGUE** on *FANATIC* and the **D&AD Yellow Pencil Award-winning adicolor podcast campaign** of 2006, and as **Head of Graphic Design for Artlogic** between 2009 and 2011, responsible for all below and above the line design for the **FNB Joburg Art Fair** and the **Sanlam FoodWineDesign Fair**.

Known primarily as an abstract artist, Van Schalkwyk uses lithographic ink as a medium for drawing and painting. His work on paper and aluminium conflates the distinction between drawing, painting, printmaking and low relief sculpture. He continues to exhibit and publish regularly and is slated to launch *Kalahari Elegy*, a limited edition album of experimental/noise music with **Bad Paper**, along with a new sculptural work at the Joburg Art Fair in September this year.

CURRICULUM VITAE

b 1979 Cape Town, South Africa, grew up in Pretoria

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EDUCATION

2003, Bachelor of Fine Arts (Drawing), Pratt Institute, New York (with highest honors)

Pratt Circle Merit Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

2019, MAVA (Sculpture), Stellenbosch University (in process of completion)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2017 *DOLCEFARNIENTE*, David Krut Projects, Johannesburg, Cape Town

2016 *SUNSETS*, David Krut Projects Cape Town.

2014 *Topoi, Tropi, Apotropos*, GALLERY AOP, Johannesburg

2013 *Constraints*, GALLERY AOP, Johannesburg

2013 *6+1...14+1; 1st, 2nd*, blank projects, Cape Town

2012 *FUN AND GAMES...*, GALLERY AOP, Johannesburg

2011 *Bait al-Hikma*, GALLERY AOP, Johannesburg

PUBLICATIONS

2017 *Africa Modern*, KT Wong Foundation

2016 *SUNSETS*, David Krut Projects

2013 *Drawings, 2011 - 2013*, GALLERY AOP, edition 100

2014 *The Alibi Club / Die Alibi Klub* (novel), Umuzi imprint, Penguin Random House.

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018 *Bad Paper booth*, Cape Town Art Fair, Joburg Art Fair

2018 *The Emporium*, Keyes Art Mile, Johannesburg

2018 *The Colourist Manifesto*, David Krut Projects, Cape Town

2017 *Atmosphere*, David Krut Projects New York City

2016 *David Krut Projects booth*, FNB Joburg Art Fair

2016 *New Monuments Commune 1*, Cape Town

2015 *Drawing a Group Show*, GUS Gallery, Stellenbosch

2011 - 2015 *GALLERY AOP booth*, FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg

2014 - 2016 *GALLERY AOP booth*, Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town

2014, 2015 *Edinburgh International Fashion Festival*, Scotland

2013 *Back to The Future*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch

2012 *When Form Becomes Attitude*, blank projects, Cape Town

2012 *blank projects booth*, SUPERMARKET Art Fair, Stockholm, Sweden

2011 *Avant Car Guard, Jaco+Z-dog and Friends*, blank projects, Cape Town

2010 *Drawing Links*, GALLERY AOP, Johannesburg

2002 *SAIDA DE EMÉRGENCIA*, Graduate exhibition, Pratt Institute, New York

CURRICULUM VITAE *cont.*

FILM, THEATER, PERFORMANCE

2018 *The Borrow Pit* (with Jemma Kahn), Dramaturge, National Arts Festival Main, Centre for the Less Good Idea

2017 *Art Years are Like Dog Years*, 16mm film, David Krut Projects Johannesburg, Cape Town

2010 – 2016 (with Michael Macgarry) *LHR-JNB, Will to Power, Race of Man, As Above so Below*. Selected screenings: International Short Film Festival, Oberhausen Germany, Vila Do Conde, Portugal, Wits Art Museum

2002 – 2006 (with Carl Hancock Rux) *MYCENAEAN*, video design and audio-visual performance, BAM Next Wave Festival 2006, REDCAT, Washington Performing Art Society, HERE Arts Center NYC

2002 – 2006 (with Carl Hancock Rux) Laptop musician, touring performances of *Rux Revue* and *Good Bread Alley*, selected performances: De Singel Antwerp, Mass MoCA, Central Park SummerStage, Bard University, Urban Voices Festival South Africa

2009 – 2011 (with Zander Blom) *Jaco+Z-dog*, various small stages around South Africa

REFERENCES

David Krut, director David Krut Projects, david@davidkrut.com

Wilhelm van Rensburg, Senior Art Specialist, Strauss&Company, wilhelm@straussart.co.za

LECTURER

2016 - 2018 Guest Lecturer, drawing and painting, University of Stellenbosch.

2009 - 2011 Lecturer, Open Window School of Visual Communication, Department of Film Arts, Centurion. Employment reference: Pluto Panoussis. plutopan@gmail.com

2007 - 2008 Lecturer, University of the Witwatersrand (WITS), School of Digital Arts, Johannesburg

2005, 2006 Visiting Artist, California Institute of the Arts (CalArts) Department of Theater, Valencia, USA

DESIGN AND ADVERTISING

2003 – 2006 IDEALOGUE, NYC: Video compression specialist and graphic design for *Adidas FANATIC*, *adicolor podcast* and *Little Mynx* campaigns.

Employment reference Mark Beukes, mark@idealogue.com

2009 – 2011 Artlogic, Johannesburg, Head of Graphic Design, FNB Joburg Art Fair and Sanlam FoodWineDesign Fair. Employment reference Cobi Labuscagne, cobil@artlogic.co.za