

RAFFAELLA
CORTESE
~

Gabrielle Goliath
CV

Born 1983 in South Africa. She lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa.

EDUCATION

2023

PHD candidate (Live, Interdisciplinary & Public Art), Institute for Creative Arts, University of Cape Town

2011

MAFA (with distinction), University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

2007

BAFA, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

2003

Diploma Fashion Design, Technikon of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

GRANTS & AWARDS

2019

Future Generation Art Prize (Special Prize), Future Generation Art Prize, Pinchuk Art Centre, Kiev

2019

Standard Bank Young Artist Award

2017

Afrique en Créations Prize (Jury Prize),

Institut Français, Bamako Encounters Biennale, Mali

2015

Ampersand Foundation Fellowship, New York

2011

Tierney Fellowship Award, Tierney Foundation, New York

2010

Brait Everard Read Award, Circa, Johannesburg

2007

Art's Alive, Johannesburg

2007

Wits Martienssen Show, Wits School of Arts, Johannesburg

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025

Elegy, Porta Santo Stefano, Bologna, Italy

2024

Personal Accounts, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, UK

Elegy, Galleria Raffaella Cortese, Milan, Italy

This song is for... Vol I, Frac Bretagne, Rennes, France

2023

Beloved, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2022

Chorus, Dallas Contemporary, Dallas, USA

This song is for..., Kunsthaus Baselland, Switzerland

2021

Chorus & This song is for... Vol I, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

Roulette, Musée d'Art Moderne, Paris, France

This song is for..., Konsthall C, Farsta, Sweden

This song is for..., Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa

2020

This song is for..., Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2019

This song is for..., Iziko South

RAFFAELLA CORTESE

~

African National Gallery, Cape Town,
South Africa

This song is for..., Standard Bank
Gallery / Johannesburg, South Africa

This song is for..., Monument Gallery /
Makhanda, South Africa

Elegy, Cornelia van Piloane,
Afrovibes Festival, Amsterdam and
Rotterdam, Netherlands

Elegy - Kagiso Maema, Theatre
of Vulnerability (It's the Real
Thing Performance Art Festival),
Basel, Switzerland

2018

Elegy - Louisa van de Caab, Iziko
Slave Lodge, Cape Town, South Africa

Elegy - Eunice Nthombifuthi Dube,
Centre for the Less Good Idea,
Johannesburg, South Africa

*Elegy - Sizakele Sigasa and Salome
Masooa*, Verbo 2018, São Paulo, Brasil

*Elegy - Sizakele Sigasa and Salome
Masooa*, Videobrasil, São Paulo, Brasil

Elegy - Joan Thabeng, National Arts
Festival, Grahamstown, South Africa

Elegy - Joan Thabeng, Do Disturb
Festival, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

*This song is for...Nondumiso
Msimanga*, Centre for the Less Good
Idea, Johannesburg, South Africa

2017

Elegy - Karabo Mokoena, The
Holocaust and Genocide Centre,
Johannesburg, South Africa

Elegy - Hannah Cornelius, Spielart
Festival, Munich, Germany

Elegy - Camron Britz, Spielart Festival
- Munich, Germany

Elegy - Lerato 'Tambai' Moloi, Zeitz
MOCAA, Cape Town, South Africa

Stumbling Block, Zeitz MOCAA, Cape
Town, South Africa

Elegy - Lekita Moore, Duke University,
Durham, UK

Elegy - Noluvo Swelindawo, ICA Live

Art Festival, Cape Town, South Africa

Elegy - Koketso "Queen", Richmond
Art Centre Atrium, Western Michigan
University, Kalamazoo, USA

2016

Elegy - Sinoxolo Mafevuka, Langa
Methodist Church, Cape Town,
South Africa

2015

Elegy - Ipeleng Christine Moholane,
Goodman Gallery, Cape Town,
South Africa

2014

Faces of War, Goodman Gallery,
Johannesburg, South Africa

2011

Murder on 7th, Nirox at Arts on Main,
Johannesburg, South Africa

2010

Berenice, Circa, Johannesburg,
South Africa

2009

Murder on 7th, Gallery Momo,
Johannesburg, South Africa

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025

MoMA Museum of Modern Art, New
York, USA

2024

Biennale Jaou Tunis, B7L9 Art Station,
Tunis, Tunisia

*Stranieri Ovunque - Foreigners
Everywhere*, 60th International
Art Exhibition of Venice Biennale,
Venice, Italy

Cantando Bajito: Testimonies, Ford
Foundation Gallery, New York, USA

Rewilding, Kunsthau Baselland,
Basel, Switzerland

This Song is For... Vol. 1, 2021, Frac
Bretagne, Rennes, France

2023

Think from Black: A Lexicon,
Johannesburg Art Gallery,
Johannesburg, South Africa

The Power of my Hands, Museum of
Natural History, Luanda, Angola

2022

Thinking Historically in the Present,
15th Sharjah Biennial, Sharjah, UAE

In Our Veins Flow Ink and Fire, Kochi-
Muziris Biennale, Kochi, India

Our Time, Even in Dreams, JOAU,
Tunis, Tunisia

The Power of my Hands, centre d'art
SOMETHING, Abidjan, Ivory Coast

Empowerment, Kunstmuseum
Wolfsburg, Wolfsburg, Germany

10x10: 100 artworks, Wits Art Museum,
Johannesburg, South Africa

2021

A Biography of Daphne, Australian
Centre for Contemporary Art,
Melbourne, Australia

*La clairière d'Eza Boto - Opus I:
Imagine a huge clearing in our forest*,
L'Orangerie - Jardin des Plantes de
Rouen, Rouen, France

The Normal, Talbot Rice Gallery,
Edinburgh, Ireland

The Power of my Hands, Musée d'Art
Moderne, Paris, France

2020

Our Red Sky, Göteborgs Konsthall,
Gothenburg, Sweden

2019

Le Guess Who, Centraal Museum,
Utrecht, Netherlands

*I've grown roses in this garden of
mine...*, Goodman Gallery, London, UK

Future Generation Art Prize, Palazzo:
Ca' Tron University, Venice, Italy

*Kubatana - An Exhibition with
Contemporary African Artists*,
Vestfossen Kunstlaboratorium, Norway

Future Generation Art Prize, Pinchuk
Art Centre, Kiev, Ukraine

Conversations in Gondwana, São Paulo
Cultural Center, São Paulo, Brasil

2018

Fracture Zone, 24th International
Symposium on Electronic Art, Durban,
South Africa

RAFFAELLA CORTESE

~

Harboured, Analogue Eye, Silo's District V&A Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa

Nirox Winter Sculpture Fair, Nirox Sculpture Park, Krugersdorp, South Africa

Evidence of things not seen: Performing gendered and Queer Identities, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2017

AFRICA. Raccontare un mondo, PAC Pavilion of Contemporary Art, Milan, Italy

Looking after Freedom, Michaelis Galleries, University of Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa

Writing for the Eye/ Writing for the Ear, Centre for the Less Good Idea, Johannesburg, South Africa

Afrotopia: encounters of Bamako, African Biennale of Photography, Bamako, Mali

Report Back: States of Grace, Zeitz MOCAA, Cape Town, South Africa

SpielART Festival, Munich, Germany

Live Art Network Africa Launch, Institute for Creative Arts UCT, Cape Town, South Africa

2016

The Evidence of Things Not Seen, Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa

After the Thrill is Gone, Richmond Center, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, USA

In Context: Where We Are, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

New Revolutions: Goodman Gallery at 50, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2015

Sights and Sounds: South Africa, Jewish Museum, New York, USA

In Print – In Focus, Michaelis Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2014

Brave New World, Iziko South

African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

Language Games, Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, South Africa

2013

Between the Lines, Former Tagesspiegel Building (Between the Lines, Symposium North), Berlin, Germany

2012

Rewind: Dathini Mzayiya & Gabrielle Goliath, Centre for African Studies, UCT, Cape Town, South Africa

2012

A Shot to the Arse, The Michaelis Galleries, Cape Town, South Africa

Working Title, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

Photoville, Tierney Fellowship Exhibit, New York, USA

Dak'Art, Biennale of Contemporary African Art: Contemporary Creation and Social Dynamics, Senegal

2011

Alternating Conditions: Performing Performance Art in South Africa, Goethe on Main and Bag Factory Artists' Studios, Johannesburg, South Africa

PERFORMANCES

2024

Elegy, For two ancestors, 60th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy

2018

This song is for...Nondumiso Msimanga – Season 3, Centre for the Less Good Idea, Johannesburg, South Africa

Elegy – Sizakele Sigasa and Salome Masooa, Verbo 2018, São Paulo, Brasil

Elegy – Sizakele Sigasa and Salome Masooa, Videobrasil, São Paulo, Brasil

Elegy – Joan Thabeng, National Arts Festival, Grahamstown, South Africa

Elegy – Joan Thabeng, Do Disturb Festival, Palais de Tokyo, Paris, France

2017

Elegy – Hannah Cornelius, Spielart Festival, Munich, Germany

Elegy – Camron Britz, Spielart Festival, Munich, Germany

Elegy – Lerato 'Tambai' Moloi, Zeitz MOCAA, Cape Town, South Africa

Stumbling Blocks, Zeitz MOCAA, Cape Town, South Africa

Elegy – Lekita Moore, Duke University, Durham, South Africa

Elegy – Noluvo Swelindawo, ICA Live Art Festival, Cape Town, South Africa

2016

Elegy – Koketso "Queen", Richmond Art Centre Atrium, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, USA

Elegy – Sinxolo Mafevuka, Langa Methodist Church, Cape Town, South Africa

Stumbling Block performance, Institute for Creative Arts, Cape Town, South Africa

2015

Elegy – Ipeleng Christine Moholane, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2009

Domestic, Goethe Institute Arts on Main, Johannesburg, South Africa

COLLECTIONS

FRAC Bretagne, Rennes, France

Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

Kunsthhaus Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland

MoMA, Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA

MUDAM, Luxembourg

TATE Modern, London, UK

WITS Art Museum, Johannesburg, South Africa