

THK GALLERY

JAKE MICHAEL SINGER | BIO & CV



Jake Michael Singer (b. 1991) experiments with a broad range of disciplines from photography to works on paper and commands an exquisite mastery of sculpture. Drawing inspiration from the emergent behaviour of flocking birds, where the individual is subsumed in the whole; and meditating on the timeless monumentality of the *Winged Victory of Samothrace*, his *Murmurations* series speaks to our time. Meticulously constructed, using up to sixteen thousand

meters of marine grade stainless steel for a single sculpture, the *Murmurations* series establishes his position as one of the leading young sculptors from Africa.

Singer has held solo shows in Africa and America and been part of over 60 group shows since graduating in 2013. He was recognised by the Eduardo Villa Foundation Grant both in 2016 and 2017, the youngest sculptor yet awarded this. His work features in private collections in South Africa, Germany, Greece, Canada, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

He has completed residencies in Johannesburg in 2014, and Amsterdam in 2017, and has further completed three large-scale public sculptures in Johannesburg: *Dawn Chorus*, part of the RMB Collection in the Think Precinct; *Roarke's Evacuation Plan*, a landmark on the Jo'burg skyline; and *Red Murmur*, a site-specific installation in the new Radisson Red in Rosebank.

THK Gallery presented a solo exhibition of Singer's works in Cape Town in November 2019. His work was presented by THK Gallery at Contemporary Istanbul 2019, AKA

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Art Fair 2019 in Paris, and the Cologne Fine Art & Design Fair 2019 in Germany. He was also part of the group show, *Between the Lines*, in THK Gallery from December 2019 to early February 2020, before being presented at the Investec Cape Town Art Fair in 2020.

In 2020, Singer launched the Emergence Art Prize with THK Gallery, which was supported by RMB. His work has been exhibited at Zeitz MOCAA, and his large installation *And all the Birds Flew with a Harsh Scream (Marmara)*, 2020, featured in Iziko Museum's *Matereality*, and is currently on exhibition in the sculpture garden of the Norval Foundation. Most recently, Singer completed *Bennu Stasis* a site-specific installation in a former Hamman in Istanbul dating from 1477.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2021

- *Bennu Stasis*, Istanbul

2019

- *In Murmurs*, THK Gallery, Cape Town
- Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, Matter Gallery

2018

- *But A Storm Is Blowing From Paradise*, Matter Gallery, Toronto

2017

- *Pale Stability*, Punt WG, Amsterdam
- *RGB Sky*, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg
- Nest Collective and Jake Michael Singer, Matter Gallery, Toronto
- *No Longer and Not Yet*, 50 Golbourne Gallery: Lagos X Johannesburg with Olalekan Jeyifous, London

2016

- *Catastrophes*, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg

2013

- *Vestiges of Development*, Michaelis Grad Show, Cape Town

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022

- *Flights of Fancy* | THK X Boschendal X Norval, Boschendal Manor House gallery, Franschhoek, South Africa
- Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THK Gallery, Cape Town

2021

- Cologne Fine Art & Design, THK Gallery, Cologne
- *TransForm* | THK Cologne Group Show, Cologne, Germany
- Also Known as Africa (AKAA) art fair, THK Gallery, Paris
- 1-54 London, Somerset House, THK Gallery, London

2020

- Investec Cape Town Art Fair, THK Gallery, Cape Town
- *Matereality*, Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town
- *Reflect. Reimagine. Reset.*, THK Gallery, Cape Town
- *Between the Lines*, THK Gallery, Cape Town

2019

- *The Main Complaint*, Zeitz MOCAA, Cape Town
- Contemporary Istanbul art fair, THK Gallery, Istanbul
- Also Known As Africa (AKAA) art fair, THK Gallery, Paris
- Cologne Fine Art & Design, THK Gallery, Cologne
- *Reflecting on August*, THK Gallery, Cape Town

2018

- Kampala Biennale curated by Simon Njami Kampala
- *Triptych*, Matter Gallery, Toronto
- *Talking To Dear Ears*, Absa Gallery, Johannesburg

2017

- AKAA, Also Known As Africa, Art Intelligence, Paris
- *Occupy I*, Fried Contemporary, Pretoria
- *Urban Axis, Another Antipodes*, Perth
- Cape Town Art Fair, Hazard Gallery, Cape Town
- *A Flagrant Arcade*, Art Africa Fair, Cape Town
- *Whats In It For You?* No End Gallery, Johannesburg

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GROUP EXHIBITIONS (CONTINUED)

2016

- *I Never Read*, Alma Martha, Basel
- Suba Biennale, Dak'art Off, Dakar
- Also Known As Africa (AKAA) art fair, Paris, Hazard Gallery
- FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg
- *False Idols*, Twilsharpe Studios, Johannesburg
- *Young Art Virtuoso*, August House, Johannesburg
- Turbine Art Fair, No End Gallery, Johannesburg
- *Actresses*, an adaption of Chekov's *Seagull*, Grahamstown Arts Festival
- *August House*, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg

2015

- Arte Lima, Psh Projects, Lima
- Nirox Sculpture Fair, Cradle of Humankind
- Grid Cape Town Biennale, Cape Town
- Transitions at the Post Office, Johannesburg
- Public Sculpture, Arts on Main, curated by Parts and Labour, Johannesburg
- *Africa Future Now*, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg

2014

- *Electron Salon*, LACDA, Los Angeles
- Morphos Sustainable Empires, Venice
- Emerge Art Fair, Washington DC
- *Play*, Nirox Sculpture Park, Cradle of Humankind
- *Fete, an Art Show*, curated by Martha Collective, Johannesburg
- Nirox Sculpture, Cradle of Humankind
- *Cubicle*, Infecting the City, Cape Town
- *Greatest Hits, Industrial Harvest*, Ava Gallery, Cape Town

2013

- *Two Weeks Notice*, Cape Town
- *Platform 18-28*, Infecting the City, Cape Town

GRANTS

- Eduardo Villa Foundation Grant, 2017
- Eduardo Villa Foundation Grant, 2016

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COMMISSIONS

- Public Sculpture Commission for W+A Building, New Doornfontein, Johannesburg
- *Dawn Chorus*, RMB Think Precinct, Johannesburg

RESIDENCIES

- Nirox Foundation, Cradle of Humankind, 2014, Johannesburg
- AirWG, 2017, Amsterdam

PRIZES & AWARDS

2021

- Named as one of Business Day's Wanted21 Young and Vital Artists, South Africa