

About Nonzuzo Gxekwa

Nonzuzo Gxekwa (b. 1981) is a Johannesburg based photographer. Her approach to photography favours the everyday over the spectacular; sharing intimate moments by focusing the camera on what is around her as well as on herself. Whether photographing in the street or in the studio, her work explores the human condition in subtle and beautiful ways.

Collaboration is a crucial part of her practice, and she regularly works with photographers and other creatives in Johannesburg and further afield.

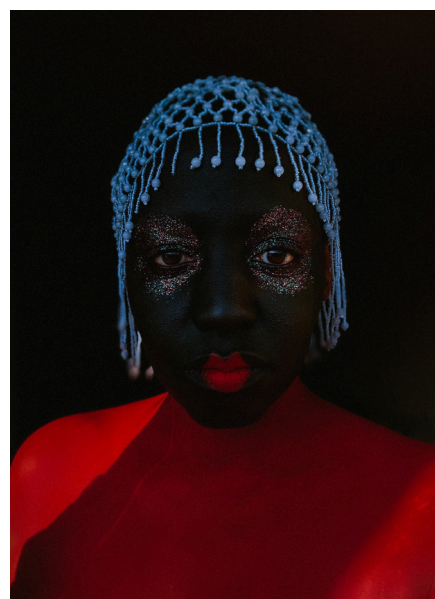
Nonzuzo Gxekwa captures life's little moments through photography, feeling most alive when creating and sharing things of beauty, she resonates most with Penn's views on photography: "It's about reacting to what you see, hopefully without preconception. You can find pictures anywhere. It's simply a matter of noticing things and organizing them. You just have to care about what's around you".

As a self-taught photographer she is constantly growing and learning. She draws inspiration from observing the simple in everyday life and nature.

Gxekwa's photographs wrestle past and present as she captures the bricolage of city life. Her work contemplates the intricacies of a society reckoning with the past as it seeks to redefine its identity. As Flurina Rothenberger writes: "Nonzuzo's work is characterized by an awareness of the deeply human that is woven into the structure of everyday urban life."

Nonzuzo's work was included in Presence: Five Contemporary African Photographers at the Photographer's Gallery in London from July – August 2021. In November 2021 Nonzuzo was selected for Self-Addressed, organised by Kehinde Wiley and Jeffrey Deitch in Los Angeles. For this landmark exhibition, Wiley invited a selection of contemporary African artists to produce a self- portrait. Together these portraits presented a new exploration of identity, perception, and self- regard within the global stage.

In 2022 her collaborative work, The Mask Project will form part of the exhibition Hope from Chaos: Pandemic Reflections at the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands in Singapore.



Nonzuzo Gxekwa, Isihlwele (Beaded Blue Headpiece), 2021

CV

Solo exhibitions

2020

'Life is Beautiful', THK Gallery, Online Exclusive

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

'Hope from Chaos: Pandemic Reflections', ArtScience Museum, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

2021

Cologne Fine Art & Design, THK Gallery, Cologne, Germany

'Self-Addressed', Jeffrey Deitch gallery, Los Angeles, USA

Art X Lagos Online, THK Gallery

'Presence: Five Contemporary African Photographers', Photographer's Gallery, London, United Kingdom

2020

1-54 Paris Online, THK Gallery

1-54 London, THK Gallery, Somerset House, United Kingdom

RMB Turbine Online Art Fair, THK Gallery

Latitudes Online Art Fair, THK Gallery

Theater Des Lebens, GAF Hannover, Germany

2019

'Yenza Kwenzeke', Underline Projects, Johannesburg

'Point Blank: Photography and Activism', PH Centre, Cape Town

2017

'Black Excellence: Overexposed or Underexposed', Soweto Art Week, Johannesburg 2016

'She.Clix: The 'Women' Exhibition', Daville Baillie Gallery, Johannesburg

Residencies

2022

Jan van Eyck Academie, Maastricht, Netherlands

Collaborations

2017

Soul Songs: exploring themes of jazz and African spirituality, collaboration with Thokozani Mthiyane, Johannesburg

2015

Carbon Copy, collaboration with Noncedo Mathibela, Johannesburg