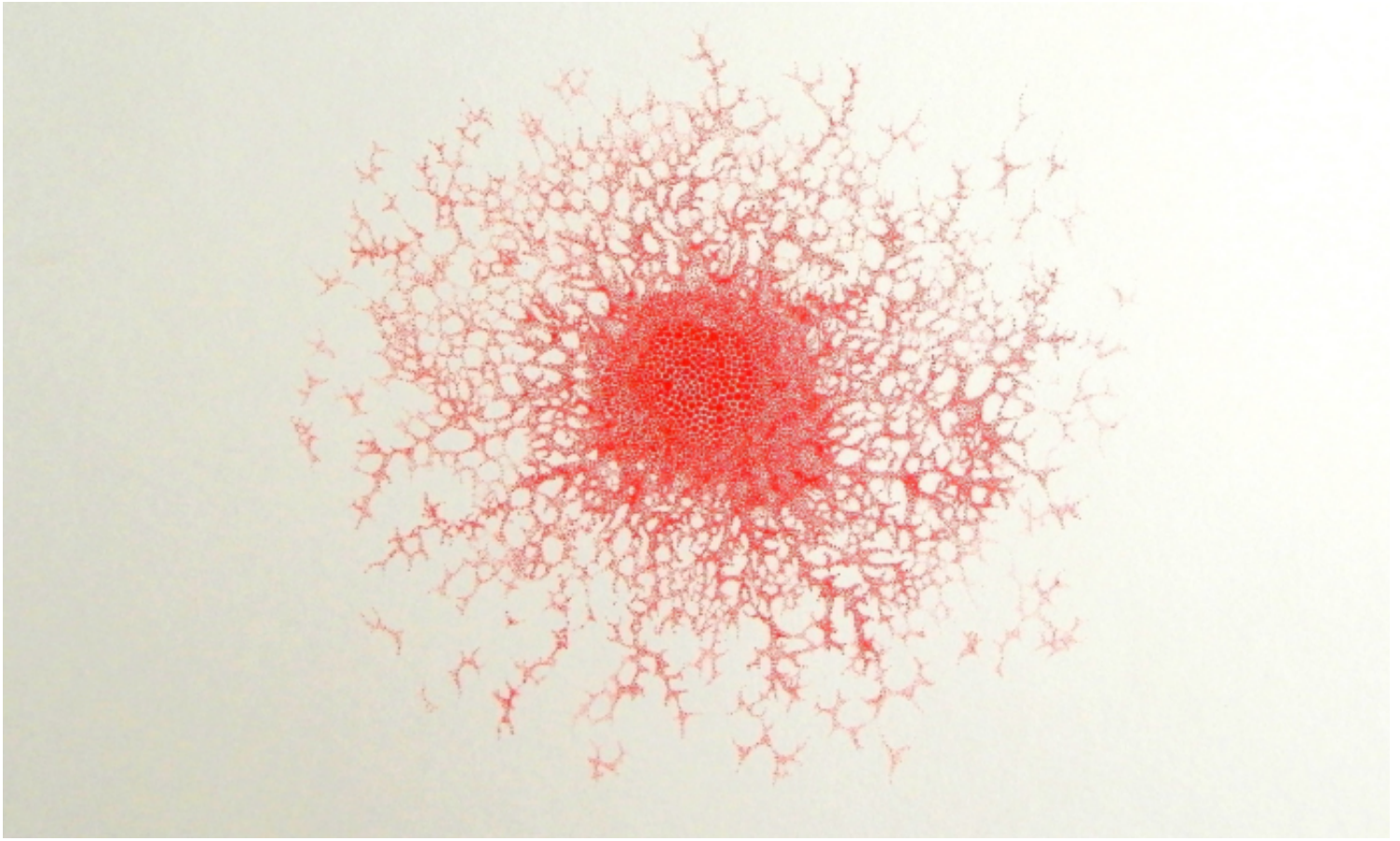


2015 Reinhold Cassirer Award Shortlist

October 7, 2015



ART. THE MAKING OF.

The Bag Factory Artists' Studios, in partnership with Strauss & Co, William Kentridge and Benon Lutaaya
2015 Reinhold Cassirer Award. This prestigious award has helped create and shape the lives and careers of
The award is in its 5th year and is a tremendous opportunity for an artist to gain a foothold into the industry.

The Bag Factory would like to thank all those who applied for the award. We received numerous fantastic
quality of work produced by young artists in South Africa.

The shortlisted artists are:

- Lois Anguria
- Nompumelelo Ngoma
- Keneilwe Mokoena

Although they have not been shortlisted we would like to recognise and make Special Mention of the following:

- Kehla Chepape Makgato
- Teboho Relesai



Lois Anguria, From Uncle – Unwrapped for Easter (detail), 2013-14

Lois Anguria

Lois Anguria has an interesting and diverse relationship with the African continent with strong familial ties. She explores the African diaspora and her own position in relation to it and more directly in relation to the African diaspora within the continent itself? Her diverse range of materials express her interest in what makes or defines the modern, western world, a world where citizenship is complicated, both on and off the continent and across



Nompumelelo Ngoma, Valley of Dry Bones

Nompumelelo Ngoma

Nompumelelo Ngoma was born in 1984 Dlamini, Soweto. Her work interrogates the traditional African culture of identity and gender through domesticity and vulnerability within the context of African tradition. She explores these aspects in her work as she tries to unpack the underlying issues that resonate within the culture of give and take, contrasting her work by the use of the bride and the cow. The work is simultaneously uneasy and romantic, questioning a westernised society.



Keneilwe Mokoena, Fraccions, 2015. Pen on 300gsm Hannemuhle. 69. 42cm

Keneilwe Mokoena

Keneilwe Mokoena's work spans between multiple disciplines including drawing, painting, photography and sculpture. She explores the chaos within herself and her environment in an attempt to come to terms with the chaotic nature of her surroundings. Her work is based on the concept of interconnection. Everything organic and inorganic, microcosm and macrocosm, mind and matter, are interconnected. Her patterns dictated by changes that are both within and without her control. She finds solace in this interconnection. She says, "When I look at the cracks and peels of paint caused by changes in environment-a worn out surface that tells a story of emotional wounds that come with great changes in life. Everything suddenly becomes a metaphor of everyday life. It is in nature that I find solace in the understanding that I, as human, am not alone in the struggle with chaos."

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE REINHOLD CASSIRER AWARD ARE:

- Tshepo Mosopa
- Blessing Ngobeni
- Asanda Kupa
- Thato Nhlapo

Tshepo Mosopa, the first recipient of the award in 2011 has since participated in two international residencies in Paris and Berlin. He has shown his work in numerous group exhibitions and won the SA Taxi Art Foundation Award. His work explores the relationship between different communities, the artist, the subject and the viewer. Through this he records and communicates the human experience of interaction, observation and investigating the challenges and conditions, their impact psychologically on the individual.

Blessing Ngobeni is a self-taught painter. His paintings are filled with the irony of the cabaret, sporting a style that is never forgetting his township roots. Ngobeni has since had four solo exhibitions with Gallery MOMO, attended the JHB Art Fair and other international art fairs. His work is in many private collections including the M&G Top 200 Young South Africans in 2014.

Asanda Kupa, the third recipient of the award, has participated in numerous group exhibitions, art fairs and residencies. He continues to commit himself to matters concerning his community in Molteno in the Eastern Cape. He resides in Molteno where he teaches school children basic art and life skills, and together they beautify the small town by painting murals. He is currently producing a documentary about Molteno.

Thato Nhlapo, the most recent winner of the award, participated in a European residency with beer company Heineken for which he reimagined his work on a SMEG Fridge. Nhlapo uses his graffiti style to challenge traditional forms by bringing the outside into the gallery spaces.

