



Guy du Toit

Two Thousand and Ten Reasons to Live in a Small Town

Map - Richmond, OCTOBER 2010 - FEBRUARY 2011



THOR and ZENA

Two Thousand and Ten Reasons to Live in a Small Town is a Visual Arts Network of South Africa(VANSA) project funded by the National Lottery and hosted and facilitated by Modern art projects(Map) – South Africa. The project is aimed at creatively re-imagining the public spaces of small rural towns. Artist Guy du Toit submitted a proposal for a project in Richmond, which was one of seven projects selected.

Richmond is a small town in the Karoo where Map made its home in 2005 in order to develop an arts centre and venue for an artists' residency. An old supermarket was renovated and transformed into a gallery, and the adjacent house turned into a residency. This space provided a perfect environment for the realisation of this project.

In October 2010, du Toit took a few volunteer students from the University of Pretoria to Richmond to brainstorm and network with locals about the upcoming project. They made contact with Richmond High School and various local crafts people. The workshop began in early December. A group of thirty young locals participated collaboratively



in creating drawings, paintings and clay maquettes. Animals featured strongly as subject matter and it soon became apparent that the final sculptures would be animal-based.

The project culminated in January 2011 with a bronze-casting workshop. A small foundry was transported to Richmond and two animal sculptures, affectionately named Thor and Zena, were developed and cast under the mentorship of Guy du Toit and his student assistants, with enthusiastic input from the Richmond participants, most of whom were exposed to making art for the first time. In keeping with *Two Thousand and Ten Reasons to Live in a Small Town* and in the spirit of the recently celebrated 2010 world cup, seven bronze soccer balls were cast as well. The bases for the sculptures were made by local brick manufacturer Daniel Skuil.

These sculptures now form a lively installation that adds a touch of art to the local environment and which locals can proudly claim as their own.







Artist: Guy du Toit

Text: Miranthe Garbett

Facilitators: Harrie Siertsema, Carla Crafford, Abré Crafford, Pascual Tarazona, Isabel Mertz, Riegerdt Deetlefs, Roelf Daling, Oliver Mayhew, Shaun Bettlinger

Special thanks to all the Richmond participants:

Chris Louw, Valentino Williams, Elzaan Williams, Ezzard Williams, Erol Rigard, Sebrina van Louw, Elrisha Williams, Marshall Meyers, Hersnell Pieterse, Lynwel Olifant, Jasime Olifant, Jasmine Douglas, Veroghen Olifant, Gilermo Pipes, Victor Harmse, Sipho Yola, Zomane, Carven Kiwido, Jandre Ners-ners, Nasley Pieterse, Doneven Plak, Ramsie Henry Baba, Roderick Peter, Lieron Vilander, Tiera, Riaan Louw, Hendrico Liwies, Owen, Grauw, Africka, George Williams, Elenore Williams, Gwendoline Williams, Elenore Williams, Elain Olifant, Maruis Rigard, Dawid Mafew, Donely Williams, Jafta Olifant



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Map - South Africa

PO Box 39

Groenkloof

0027

info@map-southafrica.org

www.map-southafrica.org





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