

**MARLENE STEYN**

CURRICULUM VITAE

smac

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born 1989, Cape Town, South Africa.  
Lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa.

**EDUCATION**

- 2014** Master of Fine Arts in Painting Degree (MA), Royal College of Art, London, UK.  
**2011** Bachelor of Arts Fine Arts Degree (MA), University of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

**AWARDS, RESIDENCIES & PUBLICATIONS**

- 2022** Plant Magick. The Library of Esoterica, Fout-Part Book Series, Jessica Hundley, TASCHEN Publication, Cologne, Germany.  
**2017** Kav 16 Collaborative Residency with Abraham Kritzman, curated by Angels Miralde Tena & Karni Barzilay, Kav 16 Gallery, Tel Aviv, Israel.  
Elderton, L. and Morrill, R. ed. 2017. *Vitamin C: Clay + Ceramic in Contemporary Art*. New York: Phaidon Press Ltd.  
**2016** Collaborative Residency with Avantika Agarwal, Shoonya Space Centre for Art & Somatic Practices, Bangalore, India.  
**2015** The Vermont Studio Center Fellowship, Vermont Studio Centre, Johnson, USA.  
Collaborative Residency with Abraham Kritzman, & Angels Miralde Tena, Odd Cultural Node & Atelier 35, Bucharest, Romania.  
**2014** Art Residency Programme in collaboration with the Royal College of Art & the British Council, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.  
Finalist, Saatchi New Sensations, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK.  
Gordon Luton Award for Fine Art, The Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainer's & Royal College of Art, London, UK.  
**2013** Bloomberg New Contemporaries, Top 46 most promising artists, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, UK.  
**2011** Noli Procrastinare Public Art Residency, Visual Arts Network of South Africa (VANSA), Laingsburg, South Africa.

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- 2023** **[Upcoming]** Solo Exhibition, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
**2022** *You Me Verse*, Lychee One, London, UK.  
**2020** *MEANDER me and her*, Artist Room, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
**2019** *deep she dive her*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Unbuttoning my belly*, Lychee One, London, UK.

- 2018** *Garden Smoothie*, collaborative exhibition with Gabrielle Kruger, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.  
*MiArt* (SMAC Gallery), Fiera Milano City, Milan, Italy.  
*Shouty Insides*, Galerie DYS, Brussels, Belgium.  
**2017** *Knot I: I Knot*, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
**2016** *Your Skin Is Not The Best Hiding Place*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*You Can't Cry When Your Head is Underwater*, Lychee One, London, UK.  
**2015** *The End is Located Underneath Her Third Armpit (if the muscle is flexed)*, Commune.1, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Mad Love*, Lychee One, London, UK.  
**2014** *How Cannibals Cuddle*, CABIN Gallery, London, UK.

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- 2023** RMB Latitudes Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Shepstone Gardens, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
*X PINK 101*, X Museum, Beijing, China.  
*NON-PLACES*, Powerlong Art Centre, Shanghai, China.  
BAZ Art Festival, Cape Town, South Africa.  
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.  
**2022** FNB Art Joburg (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
*Inner Landscapes*, Bloom Galerie, Geneva, Switzerland.  
*Kindred*, Boschendal Norval Art Gallery, Franschoek, South Africa.  
London Art Fair (Lychee One), Business Design Centre, London, UK.  
*Body and Thrall*, Rugby Art Gallery & Museum, Rugby, UK.  
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.  
**2021** *In The Eyes Of The Night Creatures*, Delphian Gallery, London, UK.  
*Unfair Weather*, Lychee One, London, UK.  
*Weekend Special*, Cape Town Art Weekend, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Opening Exhibition*, FNB Art Joburg, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
Investec Cape Town Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Digital Event.

- The Artists' Oracle (the show)*, White Crypt Gallery, London, UK
- Fertile Laziness*, curated by HAZE, Platform Southwark, London, UK.
- 2020** *Miscellanées d'été / Summer miscellany*, Galerie Dys, Brussels, Belgium.
- Staycation*, Lychee One, London, UK.
- 'L'Heure Bleue'*, PLUS-ONE Gallery, Antwerp, Belgium.
- A Show of Solidarity*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- SHAPING THINGS: An exploration of clay and ceramics in contemporary South African art practice*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Investec Cape Town Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- London Art Fair (Lychee One), Business Design Centre, London, UK.
- 2019** Luxembourg Art Week (Galerie DYS), Luxembourg.
- African Textures*, OSART Gallery, Milan, Italy.
- arteBOTANICA*, in collaboration with Lezanne Viviers, Nirox Sculpture Park, Krugersdorp, South Africa.
- OR/BITING AURABOROS*, collaborative exhibition with Viviers Studio, Lotus House, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- FNB Art Joburg (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- HOLDING STILL: Psychology and Portraiture*, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Investec Cape Town Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- L'acte final - scene one: Louis & friends*, GUS Art Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- 2018** *Wish You Were Here*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- Bone Memory*, Lychee One, London, UK.
- Papercuts*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK.
- Kneading the torsomakesabuzz*, curated by Karni Barzilay, KAV 16 Gallery, Tel Aviv, Israel.
- FNB Joburg Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Desires*, GNYP Gallery, Berlin, Germany.
- Investec Cape Town Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2017** 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), London, UK.
- FNB Joburg Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Another Antipodes Inc*, PS Art Space, Fremantle, Australia.
- X: Part I*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Where they hum*, Lychee One, London, UK.
- All Things Being Equal*, Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa.
- X: Part III*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Cape Town Art Fair (SMAC Gallery), Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2016** *across the divide*, curated by Lu Chao & Ian Rosenfeld, Rosenfeld Porcini, London, UK.
- Summer Show'16*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Break the Spell*, Gallery University Stellenbosch (GUS), Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Inside Out*, Castlefield Gallery, Manchester, UK.
- Faces & other scenarios*, two-person show with Sofi van Saltbommel, Galerie d'Ys, Brussels, Belgium.
- Paper | Publication | Performance*, Lychee One, London, UK.
- New Monuments*, Commune.1, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2015** *Defining the Narrative*, Gallery MOMO, Cape Town, South Africa.
- LUSH*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Island II - Native*, g39, Cardiff, UK.
- FNB Joburg Art Fair (Commune.1), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- His Sprinkled Blood Served to Fructify the Blood of Three Golden Apples*, collaboration with Abraham Kritzman & Angels Miralda, odd and Atelier 35, Bucharest, Romania.
- Art 15 (Lychee One), Delphina Foundation, London, UK.
- All S-He Ever Wanted to Be*, GalleriaM, Kolkata, India.
- Portretteer*, Oude Libertas Art Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- Cape Town Art Fair (Commune. 1), V&A Waterfront, Cape Town, South Africa.
- "regARTs" sur "La piscine"*, Espace Croix-Baragnon, Toulouse, France.
- 2014** *Scintilla: An Alchemy Show*, Commune.1, Cape Town, South Africa.
- Saatchi New Sensations Finalist Group Exhibition, Victoria House, Bloomsbury, London, UK.
- Artmagedon: an affordable art show*, West End Centre, Aldershot, UK.
- The Luminous Language*, The Assembly Rooms, London, UK.
- Artists in Transit: A Group Exhibition*, Imibala Gallery, Somerset West, South Africa.
- Stewarts Law RCA Secret*, Royal College of Art, London, UK.
- An Inoperative Mythology*, Imperial College, London, UK.
- PNTING NOV*, Henry Moore Gallery, London, UK.

- 2013** *Bloomberg New Contemporaries* (BNC), Spike Islands, Bristol, UK.  
*Dreamtime: New Surrealism*, Mirus Gallery, San Francisco, USA.  
*Stewarts Law RCA Secret*, Royal College of Art, London, UK.  
*Work in Progress Show*, Henry Moore Gallery, Royal College of Art, London, UK.  
*Notes to Self 'Thinking Aloud and Making Moves'*, Dyson Building, Royal College of Art, London, UK.
- 2011** *Bachelor's Graduate Show: Gradex*, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.  
*VANSA 2010 Reasons to Live in a Small Town*, Goethe on Main Project Space, Johannesburg, South Africa.

#### SELECTED PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Sophie. 2021. *FOR (art) FORMES, Marlene Steyn: A sculptural freefall - in clay, words and space*. *Art Formes* [online]. Available via *ArtFormes* newsletter. [Accessed 23.11.2021]

O'Toole, S. 2021. *The Stellenbosch Four: The Art Group You Never Heard Of*. cur8.art [online]. Available at: <https://cur8.art/art-news/the-stellenbosch-four-the-art-group-you-never-heard-of/>. [Accessed 23.11.2021].

Waterman, N. Battaglia, LS. 2019. A lyrical essay inspired by the works of Marlene Steyn's exhibition *Unbuttoning my Belly* at Lychee One Gallery, London. [Sheperforms] Available at: <https://www.sheperforms.com/unbuttoning-my-belly>. [Accessed 23.11.2021].

Collier, LV. 2019. *MARLENE STEYN @ LYCHEE ONE*. Gallerygirl [online]. Available at: <https://www.google.co.za/amp/s/gallerygirl.co/2019/06/26/marlene-steyn-lychee-one/amp/>. [Accessed 23.11.2021].

Phaidon Editors. 2017. *Vitamin C: Clay and Ceramic in Contemporary Art: Phaidon Editors*. Phaidon [online]. Available at: <https://www.phaidon.com/agenda/art/articles/2017/november/27/marlene-steyn-why-i-create/>. 2 Oct, 2017 [Accessed 23.11.2021]

Steer, E. 2016. *Opening This Week: Marlene Steyn: Your Skin Is Not The Best Hiding Place*. Elephant Magazine [online]. Available at: <https://elephant.art/now-showing-marlene-steyn-smac/>. [Accessed 19.01.2019].

O'Toole, S. 2017. *Marlene Steyn is proving to be an artist worth watching*. Times Live [online]. Available at: <https://www.timeslive.co.za/sunday-times/lifestyle/2017-10-24-marlene-steyn-is-proving-to-be-an-artist-worth-watching/>. 24 Oct, 2017. [Accessed 04.03.2018].

Kawitzky, R. 2016. *Runny yolks and Running Jokes*. Adjective Magazine [online]. Available at: [https://smacgallery.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Runny-yolks-and-Running-Jokes\\_Roxy-Kawitzky\\_-adjective\\_2016-09-05.pdf](https://smacgallery.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Runny-yolks-and-Running-Jokes_Roxy-Kawitzky_-adjective_2016-09-05.pdf). 5 Sept, 2016. [Accessed 19.01.2019].

Rea, N. 2018. *Here Are 7 Standout Artists to Discover at miart 2018*. Artnet News [online]. Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/market/7-standout-artists-discover-2018-miart-1264568>. 13 April 2018. [Accessed 19.01.2019].

Shorkend, D. 2016. *Playful, sinister metaphors*. Cape Times [online]. Available at: <https://www.iol.co.za/capetimes/arts-portal/playful-sinister-metaphors-2059825>. [Accessed 19.01.2019].

Snoekx, K. 2018. *Marlene Steyn: pretzel perfect*. BRUZZ [online]. Available at: <https://www.bruzz.be/en/expo/marlene-steyn-pretzel-perfect-2018-03-11>. 3 Nov, 2018. [Accessed 19.01.2019].

#### COLLECTIONS

Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa.  
 Royal College of Art, London, UK.  
 Luo Yi, YIS Foundation, London, UK & Beijing, China.  
 Springmeier Collection, Berlin, Germany.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact SMAC Gallery for more information or any other queries.

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