

# **WALLEN MAPONDERA**

CURRICULUM VITAE

smac

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born 1985, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Lives and works in Harare, Zimbabwe.

**EDUCATION**

- 2019** Masters of Fine Art Degree (MA), Rhodes University, Makhanda, South Africa.
- 2007** Certificate in Visual Arts Training, National Gallery School of Visual Arts Studio, Harare, Zimbabwe.

**AWARDS & RESIDENCIES**

- 2023** Shortlisted for The Norval Sovereign African Art Prize 2023, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2020** Art Dubai Artist-in-Residence Programme, Dubai, UAE.
- 2018** Artist in Residence, Pro Helvetia Studio, Zurich, Switzerland.
- 2016** Artist in Residence, in association with the Kuona Trust, Tafaria Castle, Nairobi & Tafaria, Kenya.  
Artist in Residence, Guns & Rain, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2015** National Arts Merit Awards (NAMA) for Two-Dimensional Work, National Arts Council of Zimbabwe (NACZ), Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Artist in Residence, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Artist-in-Residence (AiR) Award Laureate, the Africa Centre, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2012** First Prize for Drawing and Graphics: Family, Tradition and Religion, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Artist in Residence, Vermont Studio Center, Burlington, Vermont, USA.
- 2010** First Prize for Drawing and Graphics: FACET – Zimbabwe Now, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Over-all Award for Drawing: Artists in Stream, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2009** Over-all Award: F.A.C.T., National Gallery of Zimbabwe in association with COTCO, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2008** Award of Merit: Enriching Woman, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Award of Merit: Post Election Selection, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2007** Artist in Residence, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2006** Award of Merit for Painting: Graduate Exhibition, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
Award of Merit for Graphics: Graduate Exhibition, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

**SOLO EXHIBITIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- 2026** **[Upcoming]** *How Do You Even Sleep At Night?*, Galerie Mitterrand, Paris, France.  
*Power Elite (The Mbinga Culture)*, Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2025** *Kura Uone*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2023** Art Basel: Hong Kong (SMAC Gallery), Hong Kong.  
*Manzwi Akazvitakura/Pregnant Words*, Galerie Mitterrand, Paris, France.
- 2022** *Collar; the Concept of Freedom*, The Armory Show (SMAC Gallery), New York, USA.  
*Chikokoko (Little Pleasures That Counts)*, Galerie Mitterrand, Paris, France.
- 2020** *Zai Rakawora*, Art Basel OVR: Miami Beach, Miami, USA.  
*Chirema Chine Mazano Chinotamba Chakazendama Madziro Part Two*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2019** *Chirema Chine Mazano*, Rhodes University, Makhanda, South Africa.  
*Moving Target*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
Atelier Mondial, Münchenstein, Switzerland.
- 2018** *Emergency Exit*, Tyburn Gallery, London, UK.  
*Samusha weiri Dongo*, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2017** *Tsananguro | Clarifications*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2016** *Paint My Tea Pot*, Tafaria Castle, Tafaria, Kenya.
- 2014** *SOCIAL ZOOMETRY*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2013** *ANI-MAN (a human in an animal)*, Association for Visual Arts Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2012** *TURNING TABLES*, Red Mill Gallery, Vermont Studio Center, Vermont, USA.
- 2009** *X MARKS THE SPOT*, Trueworths Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2008** *MAZUVA OSE (Everyday)*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

**GROUP EXHIBITIONS & PRESENTATIONS**

- 2026** Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2025** Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.

- Art Basel: Hong Kong (SMAC Gallery), Hong Kong.  
 Art Paris (Galerie Mitterrand), Paris, France.
- 2024** Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.  
 Art Basel: Hong Kong (SMAC Gallery), Hong Kong.  
*Gather II*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
 FNB Art Joburg (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
*Mother Lode: Material and Memory* (Galerie Mitterrand), James Cohen Gallery, New York, United States.
- 2023** *between borders: migration, power and boundless imagination*, Museum Arnhem, Arnhem, The Netherlands.
- 2022** *Unraveling the (Under-) Development Complex or Towards a Post- (Under-) Development Interdependence*, SAVVY Contemporary, Berlin, Germany.  
*Inner Landscapes*, Bloom Galerie, Geneva, Switzerland.  
 Art Basel Hong Kong (Galerie Mitterrand), Hong Kong.  
*I Did Not Leave A Sign?*, Zimbabwean Pavilion, curated by Fadzai Muchemwa, 59th Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy.  
 FNB Art Joburg (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
*Within the Fold*, SMAC Gallery, Johannesburg; Stellenbosch, South Africa.  
*Fragments*, curated by Anna Schmidt, Museum der Kulturen Basel, Basel, Switzerland.  
 Art Brussels (SMAC Gallery), Tour & Taxis, Brussels, Belgium.  
 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2021** The Armory Show (SMAC Gallery), Online.  
*Black Luminosity*, curated by Gcotyelwa Mashiqa, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.
- 2020** *Gather*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Matereality*, Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2019** Artissima (SMAC Gallery), Turin, Italy.  
 1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair London (SMAC Gallery), Somerset House, London, UK.  
 FNB Art Joburg (SMAC Gallery), Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC), Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2018** *Five Bhohb: Painting at the End of an Era*, Zietz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA), Cape Town, South Africa.  
 UNTITLED, Art (Tyburn Gallery), Miami Beach, Miami, USA.
- Back to the Future III – Abstract Art In South Africa: Past and Present*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, 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.
- 2016** Turbine Art Fair (TAF), Johannesburg, South Africa.  
*Nothing Personal*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa.  
*Suddenly A Dissident (Two Man Show)*, Point of Order Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2015** Turbine Art Fair (TAF), Johannesburg, South Africa.  
 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, UK.
- 2012** Thupelo Workshop Exhibition, Greatmore Studios, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Between the Sheets*, Gallery East, North Fremantle, Western Australia.  
*Tradition, Family & Religion*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2011** *Colour Africa*, Zeitgenössische Kunst Aus Simbabwe, Kulturallmende, Munich, Germany.
- 2010** *FACET – Zimbabwe Now*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
*Live 'n' Direct*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
*African Expressions*, The University of Avignon, Avignon, France.  
*Artists in Stream*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2009** *Unity*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
*Ani-mal*, VEO Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*F.A.C.T COTCO*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2008** *COTCO*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare.  
*The Young artist Exhibition*, Gallery Delta, Harare.  
*Salon 91 Art Exhibition*, Salon 91, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Miniature Exhibition 2008*, VEO Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.  
*Enriching Women*, The International Women's Film Festival, Gallery Delta, Harare.  
*Onai (Do You See When You Look)*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe in Mutare, Mutare, Zimbabwe.  
*Africa University Annual Festival of Art and Culture: an exhibition of Paintings and Graphics*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe in Mutare, Mutare, Zimbabwe.  
*Post Election Selection*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.
- 2007** *The Young Artist Exhibition*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
*Peace Through Unity and Diversity*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.  
*The Sixth Sense*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe in Mutare, Zimbabwe.  
*Drawings and Graphics: An Overview*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.

*"Edible Mapepa"* An exhibition of art pieces from handmade paper, National Art Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Alliance Francaise Annual Exhibition, Maputo, Mozambique.

*Zimbabwean change*, St Bavo Church, Haarlem, Netherlands.

**2006** *HIFA ( Hand in Hand )*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

*Our Thoughts*, National Gallery of Zimbabwe in Mutare, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

*Rembrandt: An African Response*, Gallery Delta, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Manicaland Visual Arts and Craft Association (MANISA), National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Mutare, Zimbabwe.

Final Year Exhibition, National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

**1998** *Why Use Agro Chemicals?* University Of Zimbabwe, Mount Pleasant, Harare, Zimbabwe.

## PUBLICATIONS

Mapondera, W. 2022, *Wallen Mapondera*, SMAC Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa.

## COLLECTIONS

The National Gallery of Zimbabwe, Harare, Zimbabwe.

Spier Art Collection, Stellenbosch, South Africa.

Tiroche Deleon Collection, Tel Aviv, Israel.

The Cassat Foundation, The Netherlands.

The Ekard Collection, The Netherlands.

Galila Barzilai-Holander's P.O.C., Belgium.

The Clark Collection, Chicago, USA.

OnemaArt Foundation, Warsaw, Poland.

## PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

Hoberman, M. 2023. *Critic's Picks: Wallen Mapondera*. Artforum [online]. Available at: <https://www.artforum.com/events/wallen-mapondera-2-544807/> [Accessed 01/01/2024].

Das, J. 2021. *The Artsy Vanguard 2021: Wallen Mapondera*. Artsy [online]. Available at: <https://www.artsy.net/article/artsy-editorial-artsy-vanguard-2021-wallen-mapondera> [Accessed 11.03.2022]

Artnet Auctions. 2021. *Explore Innovative Works by Four Daring Zimbabwean Artists on Artnet*

Auctions. Artnet News [online]. Available at: <https://news.artnet.com/buyers-guide/explore-innovative-works-by-zimbabwean-artists-on-artnet-auctions-2004670> [Accessed 11.03.2022]

Muvhuti, B. 2020. *An exhibition which translates ordinary Zimbabweans' survival strategies in the face of economic hardships*. Arikana.org [online]. Available at: <https://africanah.org/wallen-mapondera-2/>. 9 March 2020. [Accessed 30.11.2020]

Proctor, R.A. 2019. *Art Dubai 2020: Why the Mideast's leading art fair is turning to Africa*. Arab News [online]. Available at: <https://arab.news/vsgqf>. 14 December 2019. [Accessed 30.11.2020]

Moloi, N. 2018. *'Five Bobh' is a taxi to the end of an era*. Mail & Guardian [online]. Available at: <https://mg.co.za/article/2018-11-23-00-five-bhobh-is-a-taxi-to-the-end-of-an-era>. 23 November 2018. [Accessed 22.01.2019].

Morris, C. 2018. *Artists We Love: Wallen Mapondera*. Visi [online]. Available at: <https://www.visi.co.za/artists-we-love-wallen-mapondera/>. 13 March 2018. [Accessed 03.03.2018].

Garan'anga, S. 2016. *Artists light up Gallery Delta*. The Herald [online]. Available at: <https://www.herald.co.zw/artists-light-up-gallery-delta/>. 24 June 2016. [Accessed 22.01.2019].

Happener. 2017. October 30 | *Turner Contemporary Gets Bigger*. Happening Magazine [online]. Available at: <https://www.happening.media/category/artdigest/en/articles/3071/october-30-turner-contemporary-gets-bigger>. 30 October 2017. [Accessed 22.01.2019].

ArtAfrica. 2018. *Right at the Equator*. ArtAfrica Magazine [online]. Available at: <http://artafricamagazine.org/right-at-the-equator/>. 15 February 2018. [Accessed 22.01.2019].

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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

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### CAPE TOWN

25 Church Street  
CBD  
Cape Town, 8000  
T +27 (0)21 461 1029

### STELLENBOSCH

1st Floor, De Wet Centre  
Church Street  
Stellenbosch, 7600  
T +27 (0)21 887 3607

**[www.smacgallery.com](http://www.smacgallery.com)**  
[info@smacgallery.com](mailto:info@smacgallery.com)

RegNo: 2007/043038/23  
VATNo: 4850246721