STEPHEN HOBBS BIOGRAPHY

For the past three decades, Hobbs's practice has been underpinned by three core interest areas: architecture and the built environment, art and war, and anatomy and the body. Johannesburg, his hometown has served as a critical reference point for his artistic insights into the - apartheid city turned African city - with a particular interest in the impact of defensive urban planning and architecture on the behavioural aspects of city and society. Printmaking, model making, video and photography serve as foundations for large-scale installations and commissions, simultaneously offering audiences access to a variety of editioned and serialised works. Much of this effort has been facilitated through close collaboration with David Krut Projects in South Africa and New York. Hobbs holds a BAFA(Hons) Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand, is a fellow of the Ampersand Foundation, co-director of the trans-disciplinary artists collective The Trinity Session and visiting critic at the Graduate School of Architecture, University of Johannesburg. Hobbs has had numerous solo exhibitions in South Africa and abroad, and has participated in residencies in North America, Europe, and Africa. His work can be found in public and private collections in South Africa, Europe, and the USA.

---

www.stephenhobbs.net
www.thetriniysession.com
Instagram: @hobbstep

CURRICULUM VITAE

BORN: May 1, 1972, Johannesburg, South Africa

ACADEMIC

1990-93 B.A.F.A. (Hons) , Univ. of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

PROFESSIONAL

2022 – pres. Executive Director Orchards Project / Spark Gallery NPC, Orange Grove, Johannesburg. ZA
2022 – pres. Critic Graduate School of Architecture, University of Johannesburg. ZA
2017. Unit Leader, Critic Graduate School of Architecture, University of Johannesburg. ZA
2000-pres. Co-Director, The Trinity Session. Johannesburg. ZA
2004-2008 Co-Director, The Gallery Premises, Joburg Theatre, Johannesburg. ZA
1998-2003 Lecturer, South African School of Film and Dramatic Arts, Johannesburg. ZA
1994-2000 Curator, Market Theatre Galleries, Johannesburg. ZA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Man Shouting in Distance,* Wits Art Museum. Johannesburg. ZA
The Visitors, David Krut Projects. Johannesburg. ZA
2023 *House Arrest in Pink*, Studio 12 Backwater Artists Group, Cork City. IE
2022 *A short Life with Bungalow Bliss*, David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
Shallow Sleep, Hobbs Studio, Maboneng. ZA
2021 *Woodview Residency*. Turbine Art Fair, Johannesburg. ZA
2019 *Height, Weight, and Age*, POPArt Theatre, Maboneng. Johannesburg. ZA

Body Parts. David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
2017 *No Fusion,* David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
2016 *Landlocked City*, Centre for Contemporary Printmaking, Connecticut. USA
The Ship Has Landed, performance for *The Craftsmen's Ship*, building design and landscaping collaboration with Propertuity, Maboneng Precinct, Johannesburg. ZA
2015 *Ghost Ships and Dazzle films* for the launch of the Media Mesh public video art screen, Cleveland Institute of Art. USA
Ghost Ships. Solo Project, FNB Joburg Art Fair, Johannesburg. ZA
Permanent Culture at 1800 metres. David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
Permanent Culture. David Krut Projects, Cape Town. ZA
SAS Somerset and other war stories. 2050, Cape Town. ZA
2014 *JAG/SNAG.* The Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg. ZA
2013 *Very Special Places*. Krings-Ernst Gallery, Cologne. DE
Be Careful in the Working Radius. David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
Activities on the Grid, US Gallery, Stellenbosch. ZA

GROUP EXHIBITIONS / SPECIAL PROJECTS

2024 *Soul City.* Hobbs/Neustetter Gardening of Soul in 5 Chapters. Schafhof – European Art Forum Upper Bavaria. DE
2023 *Soul City.* Hobbs/Neustetter Gardening of Soul Chapter II, House of Arts, Usti nad Labem. Czech Republic. CZ
If You Look Hard Enough You Can See Our Future. Selections of Contemporary South African Art from the Nando's Art Collection. Curated by Laurie Ann Farrell. African American Museum Dallas, Texas. USA
A Selection: The SABC Collection. Curated by Koulla Xinisteris. FADA Gallery, University of Johannesburg. ZA
Zone. Stephen Hobbs & Ricky Burnett. Curated by Koulla Xinisteris. Turbine Art Fair. Johannesburg. ZA
2020 *The Long Minute*. Curated by Bronwyn Lace. Kunsthaus Bregenz. AT
A Moment before Lockdown, Curated by Brian Mc Domhnail. Backwater Artists Group. Cork. IE
2019 *Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*. Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, Texas. USA
Urban Chemistry: Creative Placemaking in Johannesburg, David Krut Projects, New York. USA
2018 *Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*. High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia. USA
Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design. Albuquerque Museum, Albuquerque, New Mexico. USA
2017 *Invisible Exhibition*, Season 2. Centre for the Less Good Idea. Maboneng, Johannesburg.
Booknesses, An exhibition of Book Arts from the Ginsberg Collection. University of Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg. ZA
2016 *Unnatural Landscapes*. David Krut Projects, New York. USA
Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design. Guggenheim, Bilboa. ES
2015 *Making Africa: A Continent of Contemporary Design*. Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein. DE
2014 *Johannesburg in Print: Ubuntu Festival*. Carnegie Hall, New York City. USA
2013 *My Joburg*. La Maison Rouge, Paris. FR

MURAL COMMISSIONS

2024 Wits Education Campus, Highfield Dining Halls. Johannesburg.ZA
2023 The Matrix. Wits University. Johannesburg. ZA
2022 Eden Labs Africa. Forest Town. Johannesburg. ZA
2018 Arts on Main. Maboneng, Johannesburg. ZA
2017 Brick Lane. Propertuity, Rivertown, Durban. ZA

2016 The Craftsmanship. Maboneng, Johannesburg. ZA
2008 Outlet Dazzle. Tshwane University of Technology. ZA

RESIDENCIES

2023 Gardening of Soul, Usti nad Labem. Czech Republic. CZ
2021 Turbine Art Fair, David Krut Projects. Johannesburg. Za
2019 The Ampersand Foundation, New York City. USA
2017 The Cill Rialaig Project, Ballinskelligs, Co. Kerry. IE

TALKS AND PRINT WORKSHOPS

2021 *Blending Cities and Cultures: World Conference on Creative Economy*. Ministry of Culture and Youth. Dubai Expo 2020. UAE
Cultures in Conversation: Urban and Rural Development Week. Dubai Expo 2020. Programmed by Alserkal. Dubai. UAE
Open Streets: Cultures Place in the City. Alserkal Avenue. Dubai. UAE
2018 *Unpacking the Artist,* Four Seasons Hotel and David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
2016 College of Architecture Undergraduate Program, Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts Washington University, St. Louis. USA
National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution. Washington DC. USA
A\M/A Architecture Meets Art. 6 Part Talk Series, David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. ZA
Boogertman + Partners International Lecture Series, University of Johannesburg, GSA. ZA
2015 Penny Stamps Speaker Series, Detroit Design Festival. USA
Cleveland Institute of Art. USA
College of Art Graduate Program, Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts Washington University, St. Louis. USA
New York City College, New York. USA

ARTICLES / PUBLICATIONS / PODCASTS

- Stephen Hobbs: Negotiating the complexities of Johannesburg with art practices. Art Research Africa. https://www.iono.fm/e/1499069
- Lesego Cheapape, *Of man-made forests and the hidden work of fungi*. Mail&Guardian. 29 August 2024
- Derek Davey, Urban mushroom farming in South Africa is a space saving eco friendly revolution. Mail&Guardian. 16 July 2024
- Andrew Carroll Interview: The Leeside Arts and Culture Show. Cork, Ireland. 23/05/23
- *Practice Note on Including Children in Spatial Planning and Design Development Processes*. South African Research Chair in Wits Spatial Analysis and City Planning. University of the Witwatersrand. 2022
- Sarah Long, *Illusions of space and the delusion of independence in Stephen Hobbs' installation 'House Arrest in Pink'*. theparpercork.com. Aug 6. 2023
- Mary Corrigall, *A Tale of Two (Art) Cities in the Time of Covid*. 2 September 2022
- Ufrieda Ho, *Adapt or Die*. Sunday Times, Lifestyle. 18 September 2022
- Jenn Law and Penelope Stewart, Ed. @artsletterspress. Evolve Issue 3. Sept 12-18. 2022
- Peter Maher, Ed. Wits Review (cover), Vol 42, October 2019
- Cobi Labuscagne, *Explore Awesome South African Artists.* Jacana Media (Pty) Ltd. 2019
- Severine, Kodjo-Grandvaux. *Salon urbain de Douala: quand la poésie et l'art transfigurent la ville. Le Monde*, Afrique, Dec. 2017

- Stephen Hobbs, Sumayya Vally, Ed. *Radical Heritage*, Unit 11. GSA, University of Johannesburg, Nov. 2017
- Stephen Hobbs*. Where Architecture Meets Art.* Arch Sa, Journal of South African Institute of Architects. July, August, Vol 86, pp 24-30. 2017
- Khumo Sebambo*. Ugliness, Contradictions and Beauty.* Art Africa, Bell Roberts Publishing September, Issue 09, pp 108-110. 2017
- *No Fusion*. Published by David Krut Projects, Johannesburg. 2017
- Nele Dechmann, Fabian Jaggi, Katrin Murbach, Nicoal Ruffo, Ed's. *UP, UP Stories of Johannesburg's Highrise's* Hatje Katje Cantz and Fourthwall Books. 2016
- Tacy Murinik, Ed. *Constructure: 100 years of the JAG building and its evolution of space and meaning*. Johannnesburg Art Gallery in association with David Krut Publishing. 2015
- Justin Fox, *The Hobbsian Line* - Permanent Culture, David Krut Publishing, 2015
- Keith Baine, *Destination Africa Profile*. British Airways - High Life Magazine, February. 2015
- Melvin Minnaar, *Meditation on War and Subterfuge,* Mail and Guardian. 13 March 2015
- Toni Muir, *Celebrating Urban Decay*, Slow Mag, Ed 5. Pp 16-18. 2014
- Loren Kruger, *Imagining the Edgy City*, Oxford University Press. Pp 205-234. 2013
- Jacqueline Nurse, Ed. *Be Careful in the Working Radius*. David Krut Publishing. 2013
- Stephen Hobbs: *Be Careful in the Working Radius*: POP-UP book*.* David Krut Publishing. 2013
- Mary Corrigall, Feature. Sunday Independent, Sunday Life, Nov 11. 2012
- Sean O'Toole, Feature. Art South Africa, Bell Roberts Publishing. Winter Issue, pp 84-89. 2010

COLLECTIONS

New York Public Library. Warren M. Robbins Library, National Museum of African Art Smithsonian Institution. Adler Museum of Medicine, WITS University. SASOL Collection. South African Broadcasting Corporation. BHP Billiton, ZA. The Johannesburg Art Gallery. Merrill Lynch, UK. Private collections, South Africa, Europe, USA.