

# Janet Botes

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Biography  
personal history



**Janet Botes was born and raised in Vanderbijlpark, a riverside town to the South of Johannesburg, South Africa. After studying Graphic Design at the Vaal University of Technology and attaining a B Tech qualification with Cum Laude, Janet worked and lived in Johannesburg and Pretoria, before settling in Cape Town.**

Janet has always loved drawing and finds personal peace and freedom in the creation process, especially when experimenting and combining different mediums. A deep affinity for nature and animals inspires and guides a lot of her creative work, which includes, but are not limited to:

- Painting
- Drawing
- Photography
- Illustration
- Graphic Design
- Tutoring & Workshops
- Performance Art
- New Media work
- Sculpture

*"We are shaped by our experiences, the people around us and the things we decide to make our own. I believe deeply in the human spirit as being nurturing, creative, loving, free, peaceful and compassionate. With a love for art, the environment, people and new experiences I enjoy getting involved in different projects and I work in a wide variety of disciplines and media. I am also deeply interested in philosophical and critical thoughts about our interaction with the environment, society, ourselves and religion, which offers my creative work a range of different subjects or sources for reference and inspiration."*



2006

**B TECH: Graphic Design (Cum Laude)**

Vaal University of Technology, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa

2005

**N.Dip: Graphic Design**

Vaal University of Technology, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa

Distinctions in: Drawing, Photography, Theory of Advertising, History of Graphic Design

2002

**Senior Certificate with Merit**

Transvalia Highschool, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa

Distinctions in: Art (HG), Afrikaans (HG), English (HG), Maths (HG), Computer Studies (HG).

2000

**Entrepreneurship Certificate**

North West University, Vanderbijlpark, South Africa

Distinctions in: Financial Aspects, Entrepreneurship, Small business Management, Marketing.

## Workshops

October 2011 | **Koekenaap regional artists workshop**

Presented by Wesland Art Society and the Department of Cultural Affairs, Koekenaap, Matzikama District

August 2011 | **Cross Pollination workshop**

Presented by Karen Suskin, Helen van Zyl & Haldane Martin. Cape Town.

March 2010 | **Professional Practice for Artists**

Presented and facilitated by Les Cohn and Tarryn Cohn from Art Source, and Theresa Lizamore from Art Space Gallery (Johannesburg), held at VANSAs Western Cape, Cape Town.

August 2009 | **Performance Art workshop**

Presented by Spier Contemporary and the African Centre, facilitated by Jay Pather, held at University of Cape Town's Hiddingh Campus, Cape Town.

April 2009 | **Lomography Workshop**

Facilitated by Fernando Badiali from Exposure Gallery at Greatmore Studios, Woodstock, Cape Town.

January 2006 | **S.I. Tutor Training Programme**

Vaal University of Technology, Vanderbijlpark

# Exhibitions

Public Viewings

## **Scrapes & Scapes**

Duo Show, Bodutu Gallery,  
Vaal Universtiy of Technology, Vanderbijlpark.  
19-31 Mei 2011

## **Dare to Dream in silent moments**

Trio Group Exhibition  
Wessel Snyman Creative, Cape Town  
23 September - 13 October 2010

## **VAN-Guard Winelands Group Exhibition**

Durbanville Hills, Western Cape.  
8 June - 18 July 2010.

## **Great Walk and More Arts Festival**

Greatmore Street, Woodstock.  
25 & 26 June 2010

## **African Odyssey**

Group Exhibition  
Raw Vision Gallery, Woodstock, Cape Town.  
May - July 2010.

## **Sex, Cake, Death**

Group Exhibition  
Wessel Snyman Creative, Cape Town.  
1-3 May 2010

## **State of Mind**

Group Exhibition  
VANSA Spin Space, Cape Town.  
30 November - 11 December 2009.

## **Sangisa Sangisa**

Group Exhibition  
VANSA Spin Space, Cape Town.  
21 September - 2 October 2009.

## **AVA members Exhibition**

Group Exhibition  
Association of Visual Arts, Cape Town.  
27 July - 15 August 2009.

## **MOLO LOMO**

Group Lomography Exhibition  
Thupelo Greatmore Studios.  
23 April - 6 May 2009.

## **Unified: Unpretty, Unclean, Underneath, Unnatural**

Quartet Group exhibition  
Eat Your Words Artspace, Vereeniging.  
2 - 19 December 2008.

## **BoereChinese**

Group Exhibition  
Gallery at Duncan Yard, Pretoria  
7 November - 22 December 2008

## **Another Roadside Attraction**

Sanmart Gallery, Midrand, ZA  
Group Exhibit  
Dec 2008

## **Dabbling in Digital Dichotomies**

Group Exhibition  
Magpie Gallery, Irene, Pta.  
6 - 23 September 2008.

## **Between the lines**

Quartet Group exhibition  
Gallery at Duncan Yard, Hatfield, Pta.  
11 - 28 October 2008.

## **Group Graphic Design Student Graduate exhibition**

Gallery @ 157, Rosebank, Johannesburg, ZA  
October 2006

## **Woman**

Group student exhibition  
Gallery 88, Sasolburg, ZA  
2005

Art never stops reshaping itself, recreating the thoughts and ideas each of us have at any given time. I believe that one can only truly be free and happy when in harmony with nature, your true self, and others. Recognizing that stopping to grow and change is to die slowly, I constantly try to find new ways and things that inspire and motivate me.

I aim to approach every new project as a new and unique challenge. Everything apart from the creative process itself becomes secondary and every new step in the process is a new, yet-undiscovered experience. My art will probably never retain an original "present" state of being - whether it be a conceptual, stylistic or technique-focused retention or a physical experimentation due to my inherent tendency for creative experimentation.

### **April 2011 - current**

Launched, managing and facilitating the GYA (Greening your art) initiative, which includes monthly GYA gatherings for artists

The SCAPES arts project; wherein I collaborative with other artists on inter-disciplinary projects focused on our response to our respective environments

### **July 2007 – current**

#### ***Practicing fine artist***

- Artist with State of the Art
- Member of VANSAs (Visual Arts Network South Africa)
  - Part of the Sangisa Sangisa art collective
- Member/participant of the COPART movement

#### **Also associated with:**

The Gallery at Duncan Yard (Pretoria), Greatmore Studios (Cape Town), The Fringe Arts (Cape Town), Wessel Snyman Creative (Cape Town), Association of Visual Arts (Cape Town), Doodle Creative Space (Cape Town), Haas (Cape Town), Studio 46 (Bloubergstrand)

#### ***Personal Land Art Projects***

around Gauteng, the Northern Cape and Western Cape

### **2009 - 2010**

#### ***Facilitation of workshops & adult art classes***

White Rabbit Studios, Gardens, Cape Town

### **September 2009**

Involved with PeacePro events for the Peace Camp at Earth Dance, as part of the Green Team

### **October 2009**

350 Action day.  
Performance art in Palmer Road, Muizenberg, as part of Communitree's programme.

### **2009**

Freelance/voluntary writer for Cape Town Live.

### **Freelance, Projects and Consultation**

#### **Jan 2004 – present**

#### **Art Commissions for several private residences and business offices.**

#### **Graphic design, branding and production of promotional material.**

Clients include:  
Optima Training, Ace Marketing, Fibreway, Abasunguli Training Specialists, The Gallery at Duncan Yard, Transvalia High school, Roodehoek Adventure Farm

#### **Photographic and Illustration work**

Clients include:  
Skatkis Children's Magazine, The Ad Factory, Made Plain, State of the Art

May 2011

#### **Workshop in online self promotion**

to the Graphic Design third year group, in the Visual Arts Department of the Vaal University of Technology

### **Employment**

#### **Jan 2007 – June 2008**

#### **Graphic designer at:**

- Media Hunter, Cape Town (2009)
- "it's called advertising", Pretoria (2007-2008)
- Profitcreative, Pretoria (2007)
- The Adfactory, Johannesburg (2007)

#### **Jan – Oct 2006**

Graphic Design Student Tutor and assistant to lecturers at The Vaal University of Technology, Vanderbijlpark.

#### **June - Dec 2006**

Camera sales consultant and photographic assistance Kodak, Vaal Mall, Vanderbijlpark

#### **Dec 2005 – Jan 2006**

Graphic designer and layout artist Corals Publishers, Vanderbijlpark.

#### **Dec 2000 – Jan 2001**

General Assistant for signage designer Dolphin Industrial, Sasolburg

## **References**

State of the Art  
Greatmore Studios (Cape Town)  
The Gallery at Duncan Yard (Pretoria)  
Wessel Snyman Creative (Cape Town)

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