

Art Life

SOLO STUDIOS

Riebeeck Valley Creative Community Opens Its Doors Again

9th - 12th August 2018

www.solostudios.co.za



Solo Studios, an annual event that has fast made a name for itself amongst art lovers, will be taking place in the Riebeek Valley from Thursday the 9th to Sunday the 12th of August. This bespoke art experience has firmly established itself on the events calendar, and promises to again attract hundreds of art aficionados.

This will be the third year that Solo Studios will take place, following the resounding success of the inaugural event in 2016, and the proceeding - and even more successful - event in 2017.

Hosted in and around the towns of Riebeek Kasteel and Riebeek West, “Solo Studios – Intimate Art Encounters” provides a rare opportunity for art collectors – from beginners to the very seasoned - to visit artists in their studios to view and purchase their art straight off the easel.

The participating artists open their private homes and studios to a limited number of visitors over the weekend. This year’s event features 16 top artists, all of whom call the Riebeek Valley home. These artists are: Tamlin Blake, Claudia Gurwitz, Jenny Parsons, Antoinette von Saurma, Leila Fanner, Ivan Kirstein, Louisa Gerryts, Gordon Williams, Solly Smook, Andre van Vuuren, Tanya Majo, Riaan van Zyl, Raymond Oberholzer, Greta McMahon, Wiehan de Jager and Emma Willemse.

Exciting new additions to previous years’ events

Building on the unique offerings of previous years, Solo Studios 2018 will include some exciting additions such as an opportunity to meet **Jacques Pauw at The Red Tin Roof**, the very place where he wrote “The President’s Keepers”, and which made headlines after being raided by The Directorate for Priority Crime Investigation (The Hawks) .

For wine-lovers “**The Art of Wine**” - curated by Joseph Tongai Dhafana, one of South Africa’s leading sommeliers and a rising star in the world of wine - sees a unique collaboration between the Solo Studios artists and a boutique wine producer. “Joseph started out as a wine steward in Riebeek Kasteel, and has since developed an illustrious career in the wine industry, representing Team Zimbabwe in the

Andre van Vuuren Studio





Above: Leila Fanner Studio
Left: Claudia Gurwitz, *Revive 2*; 2018; Oil on Canvas; 80 x 80 cm



Tamlin Blake Studio



Riaan van Zyl Studio



Louisa Gerryts, *Karoo Monument*, 2018 Digital Collage, 22x42cm

recent World Wine Tasting Championships in Burgundy, France,” explains Klaus Pipek, organiser and overall driving force behind Solo Studios. “**The Solo Sessions**’ will see a select group of musicians coming together to entertain visitors throughout the weekend with ad-hoc performances and “jam-sessions”.”

Group Exhibitions Galleries, pop-up group exhibitions and cultural collaborations that are also participating in Solo Studios, and which will be open for the entire weekend, are RK Contemporary, The Gallery, The Royal Gallery, The Collaborate and Pictorex Print Studio.

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Visitors encouraged to stay and get a taste of village life “Visitors are encouraged to stay in the Valley over the entire weekend of Solo Studios, during which time they can directly engage with the participating artists in their personal workspaces, admire the group exhibitions in the galleries, and experience everything else that the valley has to offer,”

Tickets for the event come in a variety of options. The “Premier Weekend Pass” will include the option of a guided walkabout of select studios, access to the official opening cocktail event and access to all participating studios and group exhibitions. A regular “Weekend Pass”,

and “Day Passes” for the Saturday or Sunday respectively, allows access to all participating studios and group exhibitions. An additional cover charge will be applicable at select entertainment venues.

“Solo Studios was conceptualised to be an intimate, personal and exclusive art encounter that allows people the rare opportunity to meet these highly talented artists ‘at the coal face’ so to speak,” explains Pipek. “Solo Studios is not another ‘Arts Festival’. You will not find a flea market or beer tents at Solo Studios, for example. We are welcoming visitors to experience our village life as it normally exists,



Emma Willemse Studio



Left: Greta McMahon Studio
Right: Leila Fanner Studio



“The Riebeek Valley has so much to offer to visitors over the weekend which allows them to experience the excellent local wines, olive products, craft beers, cuisine, freshly roasted coffee, superb hospitality and top-notch entertainment which the Valley has become famous for.”



Solly Smook Studio

but with just a little extra zing, and of course the very rare opportunity to enter the personal realm of our colony of acclaimed artists. The 2018 event takes place over an extended long weekend, Thursday 9 August being Women’s Day. Potential visitors are therefore encouraged to book well in advance to avoid disappointment. Accommodation would also need to be secured well in advance for the long weekend (visit www.riebeekvalley.info).

“We are very excited for Solo Studios 2018 with its additional aspects and new developments which promise visitors even more to enhance the experience.”

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For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.solostudios.co.za and follow the link to Webtickets. A limited number of tickets are available and pre-booking is essential. For more information on Solo Studios contact Klaus Pipek on 074 209 6838, or email klaus@solostudios.co.za.



Nigatu Tsehay, Selfie 3, oil on canvas, 170 x 155 cm

Christopher Moller Gallery

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