

Imminent and Eminent Ecologies



Bronwyn Katz: 'Khalläeb (Flowering season)'; 2024; Greywacke, sandstone, slate, copper, river stone, jasper, rose quartz, blue gum, pine, black wattle; 319 x 953 x 33cm; © Bronwyn Katz; Courtesy of the artist and Stevenson, Cape Town, Johannesburg and Amsterdam; Photograph by Nina Lieska

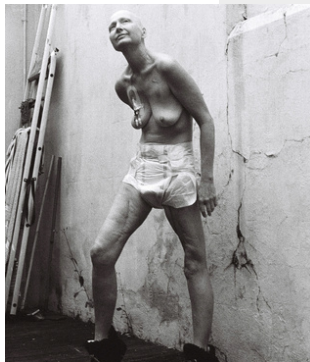
Exhibition Details

A group exhibition opening on **Thursday, 19 September at 18:30**
FADA Gallery, Bunting Road Campus,
University of Johannesburg

The Visual Identities in Art and Design Research Centre (VIAD) at the University of Johannesburg are delighted to announce their forthcoming exhibition of leading African and international bio- and eco-artists. The exhibition, titled 'Imminent and Eminent Ecologies', is co-curated by Leora Farber and Brenton Maart, and falls under VIAD's newly established Bioart + Design Africa (BA+DA) research stream. The artworks on show foreground the entanglement between living and non/living forms, humans and the more-than-human, and the effect culture has on climate change. The exhibition advocates that holistic decolonial practice can only be manifest through breaking down the artificial boundaries between species, and between the organic and elemental. An important outcome of this is the emergence of a new kind of trans-species democracy composed of multiple materialities - a democracy whose constitution is premised on what theorist and physicist Karen Barad terms 'intra-actions' based on empathy, care and respect.



Adam Broomberg and Rafael Gonzalez: N31°31,4634; E035°06,2059; 2024; Pigment print on Baryta paper; 40 x 50cm; © Adam Broomberg and Rafael Gonzalez; Courtesy of the artists.



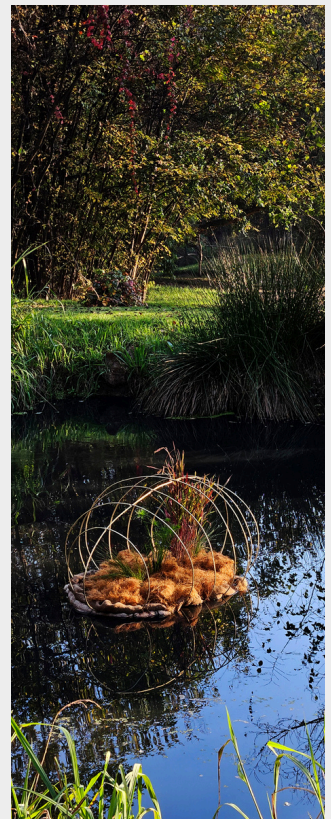
Louise Westerhout: From the project 'unclear'; 2023; Wallpaper installation; 270 x 180cm; Photograph by Lauren Brits



Russel Hlongwane, Francois Knoetze and Amy Louise Wilson: Film still from 'Dzata: The Institute of Technological Consciousness'; 2023; Single channel HD video; Duration 8:24; Projection dimensions variable

The exhibition showcases the work of the following BA+DA team members, artists-in-residence, and research associates, together with invited artists: Adam Broomberg and Rafael Gonzalez; Janneke de Lange; Stacy Hardy; Russel Hlongwane, Francois Knoetze and Amy Louise Wilson; Dean Hutton; Bronwyn Katz; Nandipha Mntambo; Miliswa Ndziba; Uriel Orlow; Theresa Schubert; and Louise Westerhout.

The exhibition is accompanied by a programme of walkabouts, discussions and seminars, and as well as a comprehensive catalogue. For further details, please visit us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) or visit our website www.viad.co.za



Dean Hutton: Maquette for 'Floating Bodies' installed at Nirox Sculpture Park; 2024; Metal, coir, hessian, SPX 33, plants; 120 x 80 x 80cm

BA+DA launched in 2023 with the completion of its microbiology laboratory dedicated to the production of bio-art and -design, and an accompanying curated group exhibition that explored the political implications of artworks made with microbial forms. Since then, BA+DA's specialist focus on microbial ecologies has expanded to include five additional focus areas: Precarious and reparative ecologies; Botanical ecologies; Biomedical ecologies; Material ecologies and Queer ecologies. The work on 'Imminent and Eminent Ecologies' spans these focus areas in an attempt to raise public awareness of urgent environmental and political issues. In so doing, audiences are invited to reimagine our current and future ecologies from decolonial, Africanised perspectives.