

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTIVE

ART IN BLACK

Curated by Allana Foster-Finley



The Art in Black Foundation proudly presents the South African Collective, the inaugural curatorial showcase led by Allana Foster Finley of Cur8Africa. This debut exhibition—launching at the 2025 American Black Film Festival in Miami Beach, June 11–14—brings South African visual art into powerful conversation with the worlds of film, media, and storytelling.

Curated on behalf of the Art in Black Foundation—founded in 2024 by Ellis Friday, a visionary young creative committed to cultural connection, with the support of his parents, Nicole and Jeff Friday—this collective reflects a bold dedication to building lasting platforms for African artists. The idea was sparked during an immersive art tour through South Africa, experienced by Jeff Friday and led by Allana Foster Finley earlier this year. That journey uncovered a wealth of talent and vision that now anchors this dynamic exhibition.

The South African Collective introduces these artists to the American Black Film Festival (ABFF) community, expanding the cultural dialogue between visual art, film, and television.

MEET THE ARTISTS



Steve Maphoso, a self-taught Angolan-born artist, uses acrylic and charcoal to explore emotional states rooted in personal experience. His portraits—focused on expressive eyes and layered with cloud-like abstractions—are poetic meditations on love, memory and connection. His latest body of work introduces a symbolic narrative of twin boys who have migrated from an ancient age, guided by ancestral intent for the artist to initiate them into traditional rituals in Mpumalanga. These works explore themes of heritage, migration, and the intimacy of brotherhood, reflecting a journey into parenthood and personal transformation. Maphoso invites viewers into his world—where grief and beauty converge, tradition meets evolution, and the intangible becomes momentarily graspable.



Thabiso Dakamela, born in 1994 to a Venda father and Ndebele mother, draws inspiration from daily life and cultural duality, creating work that explores identity, emotion, and interconnectedness. With over a decade of professional experience, his expressive, Afrocentric style—marked by emotive brushwork and rich contrasts—has earned him local and international acclaim. Featured in *The Art Times Magazine* and SABC's *Mzansi Insider*, Dakamela's art delves into the light and dark aspects of the human experience, often using shades of blue to evoke introspection, strength, and vulnerability. He is also the founder of the DKS Project House, supporting emerging artists with resources and space to grow.



Assan Taylor is a self-taught artist known for vibrant, textured portraits that blend traditional and contemporary techniques. Using charcoal, oil and acrylic paint, newspaper print, gold leaf and netting, he explores identity, culture, and human connection. Born in Southern Africa and now based at Ellis House Art Building, his bold, expressive style aims to inspire empathy and connection while pushing the boundaries of contemporary art.



Siyabonga Mlambi, born in Bizana in South Africa's Eastern Cape, draws deep inspiration from his culturally rich roots—also home to icons like Winnie Madikizela-Mandela and Oliver Tambo. A lifelong passion for art led him to study design, where he developed a distinctive mixed-media approach using acrylic, fabric, stones, ink, and found materials. His signature style, Khanda-Art Superblur African Synthetic Cubism, blends vibrant colour, movement, and emotion through elements like lines, shapes, and texture. Rooted in the Nguni concept of "Khanda"—to create from scratch—his work celebrates unity, imagination, and positivity, inviting viewers to feel beauty beyond what the eye can see.



Ayanda Moyo is a Zimbabwean artist known for evocative works in charcoal, oil, and acrylics. Through bold strokes and emotive pieces, Moyo explores themes of identity, culture, and human experience. With a passion for storytelling, Moyo's art invites viewers to reflect on the world around them.

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Steve Maphoso
Gentleman
Mixed media on canvas
76 x 125 cm
2025
\$4 250



Steve Maphoso
The feeling
Mixed media on canvas
58 x 68 cm
2025
\$1 700



Steve Maphoso
The thinker
Mixed media on canvas
46 x 60 cm
2025
\$1 700



Steve Maphoso
Beauty 1
Mixed media on canvas
60 x 72 cm
2025
\$1 450



Steve Maphoso
Beauty 2
Mixed media on canvas
78 x 84 cm
2025
\$1 900



Steve Maphoso
Beauty 3
Mixed media on canvas
46 x 60 cm
2025
\$1 700



Steve Maphoso
Fathers love 1
Mixed media on canvas
46 x 60 cm
2025
\$1 700



Steve Maphoso
Fathers Love 2
Mixed media on canvas
46 x 60 cm
2025
\$1 700



Steve Maphoso
Dope
Mixed media on canvas
70 x 100 cm
2025
\$2 450

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Steve Maphoso
One love
Mixed media on canvas
104 x 125 cm
2025
\$4 550



Steve Maphoso
And I feel good
Mixed media on canvas
82 x 126 cm
2025
\$4 400



Steve Maphoso
Migration
Mixed media on canvas
130 x 120 cm
2025
\$5 650



Steve Maphoso
African lady with a purple jacket
Mixed media on canvas
119 x 113 cm
2025
\$3 150



Steve Maphoso
Twins with purpose
Mixed media on canvas
98 x 117 cm
2025
\$4 350



Steve Maphoso
Self Portrait
Mixed media on canvas
78 x 85 cm
2025
\$1 900



Steve Maphoso
Wear your crown queen
Mixed media on canvas
84 x 104 cm
2025
\$2 550



Steve Maphoso
Sisters
Mixed media on canvas
cm
2025

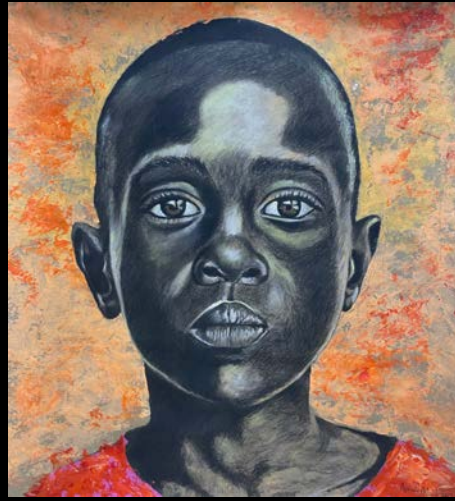


Steve Maphoso
Twin sisters
Mixed media on canvas
100 x 100 cm
2025
\$2 750

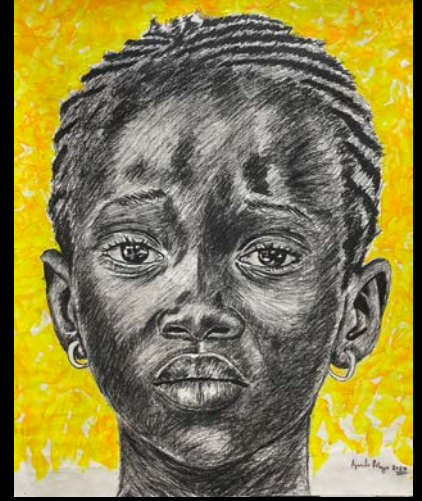
SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTIVE



Ayanda Moyo
Boy 1
Acrylic and Charcoal on paper
80 x 60 cm
2025
\$570



Ayanda Moyo
Boy 02
Acrylic and Charcoal on paper
90 x 70 cm
2025
\$750



Ayanda Moyo
Innocence
Acrylic and Charcoal on paper
80 x 60 cm
2025
\$570



Ayanda Moyo
Prayer
Acrylic and Charcoal on paper
80 x 60 cm
2025
\$570



Assan Taylor
Shadow of Elegence 1
Mixed media on paper board
80 x 70 cm
2025
\$680



Assan Taylor
Shadow of Elegence 2
Mixed media on paper board
80 x 70 cm
2025
\$680



Assan Taylor
Shadow of Elegence 3
Mixed media on paper board
80 x 70 cm
2025
\$680



Assan Taylor
Shadow of Elegence 4
Mixed media on paper board
80 x 70 cm
2025
\$680



Siyabonga Mlambe
Untitled
Acrylic on canvas
34 x 24 cm
2025
\$350

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTIVE



Siyabonga Mlambo
Untitled
Acrylic on canvas
34 x 24 cm
2025
\$350



Siyabonga Mlambo
Icebo lizakuzakha
Acrylic on canvas
65 x 55 cm
2025
\$1 250



Siyabonga Mlambo
Elakhe icebo liyaphilisa
Acrylic on canvas
65 x 55 cm
2025
\$1 250



Thabiso Dakamela
Any Given Sunday 01
Oil on canvas
90 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 550



Thabiso Dakamela
Any Given Sunday 02
Oil on canvas
90 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 550



Thabiso Dakamela
Blue Summer Dress 01
Oil & Newsprint on paper
60 x 40 cm
2025
\$1 300



Thabiso Dakamela
Blue Summer Dress 02
Oil & Newsprint on paper
60 x 40 cm
2025
\$1 300



Thabiso Dakamela
Golden Hand 01
Oil & gold leaf on canvas
100 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 900



Thabiso Dakamela
Golden Hand 02
Oil & gold leaf on canvas
100 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 900

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Thabiso Dakamela
Contemplations
Mixed media on canvas
120 x 83 cm
2025
\$3 550



Thabiso Dakamela
Heavy is the head that wears the crown
Oil on Canvas
112 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 200



Thabiso Dakamela
Super Dad
Oil on Canvas
110 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 550



Thabiso Dakamela
Red ballet dress 01
Oil and Newsprint on Canvas
120 x 80 cm
2025
\$3 550



Thabiso Dakamela
Red ballet dress 02
Oil and Newsprint on Canvas
110 x 90 cm
2025
\$3 550



Thabiso Dakamela
Umtswalo
Oil on paper
65 x 45 cm
2025
\$1 300



Naledi Modupi
Softly Strong
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



Naledi Modupi
Phambili Phambili
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



Naledi Modupi
Monde
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200

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Naledi Modupi
Mama ge Tshepo
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



Naledi Modupi
Jess
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



Naledi Modupi
Lebohang
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



Naledi Modupi
Gladys
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



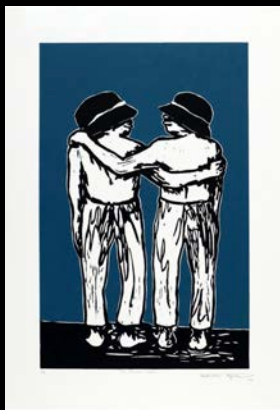
Naledi Modupi
Aging Gracefully
Digital Print
24 x 24 cm
2025
\$200



Thokozane Madonsela
Lol
Linocut
37 x 25 cm
2020
\$150



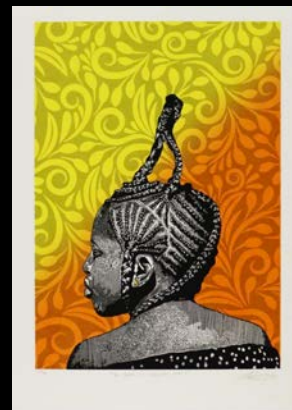
Thokozane Madonsela
Whhat's my next moveL
inocut
49.7 x 34.6 cm
2024
\$350



Thokozane Madonsela
My brother's keeper
Linocut
49.7 x 34 cm
2024
\$350



Thokozane Madonsela
Peace
Linocut
49.9 x 33 cm
2024
\$350



Lebohang Motaung
Ke Gaba Ka Moqhaka Waka 2
Screenprint Print
48.6 x 34.4 cm
2024
\$250



Lebohang Motaung
Don't touch my pride 2
Screenprint Print
48.6 x 34.4 cm
2024
\$250