DR. ESTHER NOSTOKANA NAGIYANA NIKWAMBI MAHLANGU

BORN

1935 South Africa

SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025	Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA (forthcoming) The American Federation of Arts, New York, NY (forthcoming)
2024	Art Basel Miami Beach, Kabinett Solo Exhibition, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, Miami, FL
	Then I Knew I Was Good at Painting: Esther Mahlangu, A Retrospective, Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Then I Knew I Was Good at Painting: Esther Mahlangu, A Retrospective, Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
	1-54 Contemporary African Art Fair, The Melrose Gallery, New York, NY
2023	Dr. Esther Mahlangu: The Breath of Calligraphy, Galerie Enrico Navarra, Paris, France
	Dr. Esther Mahlangu: Where Two Rivers Meet, Almine Rech, London, United Kingdom
2021	Dr. Esther Mahlangu: Where Two Rivers Meet, Almine Rech, Paris, France Dr. Esther Mahlangu, Almine Rech, Paris, France
2020	Esther Mahlangu 85, The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Abstractions of a Culture: Towards a Retrospective, Investec Cape Town Art Fair,
	Past Modern Section, The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Disrupting Patterns, The Melrose Gallery at the One&Only, Cape Town, South
2019	Africa Timeless - Between Matter and Spirit by The Melrose Gallery, Oliewenhuis Art
2019	Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa
	Timeless - Between Matter and Spirit by The Melrose Gallery, Investec Cape
	Town Art Fair, Cape Town, South Africa
	Esther Mahlangu, Arena Studio d'Arte, Verona, Italy
2016	Esther Mahlangu: Ex Africa Semper Aliquid Novi, Kyo Noir Studio, Viterbo, Italy
2015	Esther Mahlangu 80, UCT Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa
2014	Esther Mahlangu: An Artistic Residency, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts,
	Richmond, VA,
2012	Overlay, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
2010	L'Africa Nei Loro Occhi, Vitarte, Viterbo, Italy
	I Colori Della Mia Tribu, Centro Espositivo St.Art, Calenzano, Italy
	Esther Mahlangu - La Regina d'Africa, Palazzo Samone, Cuneo, Italy
	Esther Mahlangu – La Regina d'Africa / African Dreams, Villa Genovese, Messina, Italy
	Esther Mahlangu – La Regina d'Africa, Museo Magi '900, Bologna, Italy
	Regina d'Africa, Galleria Franco Riccardo Artivisive, Naples, Italy
2009	Esther Mahlangu, La regina d'Africa (The African Queen), Artetivù Exhibition
	Center, Marcon, Italy
	Esther Mahlangu, Un Artiste Ndebele Ai Colonos, Villacaccia di Lestizza, Udine, Italy
2008	Esther Mahlangu: Reacquiring, The Kyle Kauffman Gallery, New York, NY
2005	Esther Mahlangu, 34LONG, Cape Town, South Africa
2003	Esther Mahlangu 2003, Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

1998	Esther Mahlangu, Musée des Arts d'Afrique et d'Oceanie, Paris, France		
1997	Esther Mahlangu and the Art of the Ndebele, York College, York, PA		
1996	Recent Oil paintings: Esther Mahlangu, Parish Gallery, Georgetown, DC		
1995	United States Tour in Tribute to Esther Mahlangu, South African Muralist, US		
1994 Esther Mahlangu, South African Muralist: The BMW Art Car and Relate			
	National		
	Museum of Woman in the Arts, Washington, DC		

SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023

2024 The Avant Garde: Those Ahead of Their Time, Jenkins Johnson Gallery, San Francisco, CA

Frieze London, Almine Rech and the BMW Group, London, United Kingdom *Giants*, the collection of Alicia Keys and Swizz Beatz, Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY

Giants, the collection of Alicia Keys and Swizz Beatz, Brooklyn Museum, High Museum, Atlanta, GA

60th International Art Exhibition 'Stranieri Ovunque' Foreigners Everywhere,

Venice Biennale Main Pavilion, Venice, Italy

What's Mine, What's Yours. Galeria La Cometa. Miami, FL

Artmonte-Carlo, Almine Rech at Grimaldi Forum, Monaco

Femme F(r)iction, New York, NY

Frontline, Swivel Gallery, New York, NY

In Dialogue: Abstraction & Figuration, Visioner, New York, NY Geometric Abstraction, Alpha 137 Gallery, New York, NY

The Female Emperor, 137 Gallery, New York, NY

Unique Works: Paintings, Works on Paper and Board, Alpha 137 Gallery, New York, NY

Works By or About Black artists, Alpha 137 Gallery, New York, NY

To Weave the Sky: Textile Abstractions- Jorge M. Pérez Collection, EL Espacio 23, Miami, FL

Archipelago Hervé Di Rosa, Museu de Arte Arquitetura e Tecnologia (MAAT), Lisbon, Portugal

Africa Fashion, Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY

Africa Supernova, Carla & Pieter Schulting Collection, Kunsthal KAdE,

Amersfoort, Netherlands

1-54 Contemporary Art Fair London, Albertz Benda, London, United Kingdom Heritage Exhibition, 20th Africa Growth and Opportunity Act Forum, Johannesburg, South Africa

Icons of Contemporary Art, Bellagio Fine Art Gallery, Las Vegas, NV

2022 When Rain Clouds Gather- Black South African Women Artists, 1940 – 2000, Norval

Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa

Bande-Annonce, La Collection Pigozzi à Cannes, Gare Maritime de Cannes, Cannes, France

SculptX 2022, The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

Also Known As Africa (AKAA), The Melrose Gallery Collection, Carreau du Temple, Paris, France

1-54 Contemporary Art Fair, Albertz Benda in London, United Kingdom

2021 House Party, THEFOURTH, Cape Town, South Africa

	Cosmogonies Zinsou: An African Collection, MO.CO. Hôtel des Collections, Montpellier, France
	Africa Staged, LIS10 Gallery, Arezzo, Italy
	A Force For Change, Agora Gallery, New York, NY
	POP- The Melrose Gallery Collection, Sandton City, Johannesburg, South Africa Breaking Down the Walls, Iziko: South African National Gallery, Cape Town,
	South Africa
2020	Courage is as Contagious as Fear, Selected Works from the Hoosein Mahomed Collection, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa
2019	Conflict Resolution Art, Serafio Space, Athens, Greece Expressions d'Afrique : Inside Jean Pigozzi's Collection, Galerie Gmurzynska,
2018	Zürich, Switzerland Not A Single Story, Nirox Foundation Sculpture Park, Cradle of Humankind, South Africa
	African Passions, Cadaval Palace, Évora, Portugal BMW Art Cars Collection, Museum der Bildenden Künste Leipzig, Leipzig,
	Germany
2017	Amref Health Africa: Benefit Auction 2017, Amref Health Africa Artball, New York, NY
	Colours, Imibala Gallery, Somerset West, South Africa A Tribute to Nelson Mandela, The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Concours South Africa, Sun City, South Africa
	FNB Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
2016	Celebrating Contemporary African Art, Amref Health Africa Artball, New York, NY South Africa: The Art of a Nation, The British Museum, London, United Kingdom Regarding Africa: Contemporary Art and Afro-Futurism, Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, Israel
	BMW Lounge, Frieze Art Fair, London, United Kingdom
2015	Imibala Gallery, Somerset West, South Africa
2010	40 years of BMW Art Cars, BMW Museum, Munich, Germany
2014	Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, South Africa
	Les Magiciens de la Terre (Revisited), Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France
	Look Mickey!, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
	Traditional African Murals, Museum of African Art, Belgrade, Serbia
2013	FourWalls, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
	Africana, Fondazione Mudima, Milan, Italy
	Urban Interpretation, Graffik Gallery, London, United Kingdom
	1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, London, United Kingdom
	Les Trésors de l'Art Modeste, Musée International des Arts Modestes, Sète,
0040	France
2012	Blend, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa
2044	Art Drive! The BMW Art Car Collection 1975-2010, London, United Kingdom
2011	ArtMonaco'11, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco, Monaco
	Africa. Objetos y Sujetos, Teatro Fernan Gomez Centro de Arte, Madrid, Spain
	Durban Tourism Indaba, Inkosi Albert Luthuli Convention Centre (Durban ICC),
	Durban, South Africa
2010	Ensemble, 34FineArt, Cape Town, South Africa Twenty: South African Sculpture of the Last Two Decades, Nirox Sculpture Park,
2010	Cradle of Humankind, South Africa
	ATASA Trust Southern Africa Handcraft & Ndebele Art Exhibition, Worker's
	Library, Johannesburg, South Africa

2009	The Global Africa Project, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY Toronto International Art Fair, Toronto, Canada <i>Against Exclusion</i> , 3rd Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art, Garage Museum
	of Contemporary Art, Moscow, Russia Africa? Una Nuova Storia, Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy A-friche, Galleria Monteleone, Palermo, Italy
2008	Sante Fe International Folk Art Market, New Mexico, New Mexico The Speed of Art Museum, Louisville, KY
2007	Signs, Danubiana Meulensteen Art Museum, Bratislava, Slovakia Why Africa?, Pinacoteca Giovanni e Marella Agnelli, Turin, Italy The Winter Show, AfroNova Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Esther Mahlangu and Speelman Mahlangu, 34Long, Cape Town, South Africa Heritage Arts Awards Festival, Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa Orlando Museum of Art, Orlando, FL
2006	Tacoma Museum of Art, Tacoma, Washington, DC 100% African, Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao, Spain
2000	Memory Innovation Tradition, 34LONG, Cape Town, South Africa
	Beyond Lilith: The Sacred Feminine, Scuderie Aldobrandini Frascati, Roma, Italy 1st Malindi Biennale, FN centre, Malindi, Kenya Indianapolis Museum of Art, Indianapolis, IN
2005	New Identities: Contemporary Art from South Africa, Pretoria Art Museum,
	Pretoria; Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
	African Art Now: Masterpieces from the Jean Pigozzi Collection, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; The Smithsonian Institution: National Museum of African Art, Washington, DC
	I Walk with Ndebele, A Visual Journey with Women, Transformed and Self- Defined in Post Apartheid South Africa, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa
	South Africa-USA Native American Exchange Project, Institute of American Indian Arts, Santa Fe, NM
2004	New Identities: Contemporary Art from South Africa, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Bochum, Germany
	South African Freedom and Congo Square Stage, New Orleans Jazz Festival, New Orleans, LA
	A Decade of Democracy: South African Art 1994-2004, Iziko: South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
2003	Dentro e Fuori le Mura, Fabbrica Eos, Milano, Italy
2002	Passport to South Africa, Centro Culturale Trevi, Bolzano, Italy The Art of Colour, Knysna Fine Art Gallery, Knysna, South Africa
2001	Arte Africana Contemporanea, Galleria d'arte Spazia, Bologna, Italy
	Festafrica, Galleria Cavellini, Brescia, Italy South Africa Today, The Helsinki Fair Centre, Helsinki, Finland
2000	Partage d'Exotismes: 5th Biennale of Contemporary Art, Halle Tony Garnier,
	Lyons, France
1999	Dialogue of Cultures, EXPO 2000, Hanover, Germany << Rewind >> Fast Forward. ZA, Van Reekum Museum, Apeldoorn, Netherlands
1998	Africa Africa: Vibrant New Art from a Dynamic Continent, Tobu Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan
	Art of the Ndebele - Evolution of a Cultural Identity, Atlanta International Museum, Atlanta, GA
1997	Ndebele Images - Then and Now, National Arts Club, New York, NY

	Oog op Zuidelijke Afrika, Het Afrika Museum, Berg en Dal, Netherlands African Immigrant Folklife Festival, Washington, DC
1996	Esther Mahlangu: South African Muralist, Congressional Black Caucus
	Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference Washington, DC
	Armour J. Blackburn Centre, Howard University, Washington World bank,
	Washington, DC
1995	BMW Art Cars and Paintings Exhibition, Sydney, Australia
	Africus, 1st Johannesburg Biennale, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Eight From South Africa, Yerba Buena Centre for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
1993	La Grande Vérité, Les Astres Africains, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nantes,
	Nantes, France
	European Inventive Business Travel Meetings Exhibition, Lisbon, Portugal
4000	Geneva International Exhibition, Geneva, Switzerland
1992	Out of Africa, Saatchi Gallery, London, United Kingdom
	BMW Art Cars Collection at Documenta IX, Kassel, Germany
	Africa Hoy, Groninger Museum, Groningen, Netherlands; Cultural Centre of
1001	Contemporary Art, Mexico City, Mexico
1991	BMW Art Cars Tour, Johannesburg; Durban; Cape Town, South Africa
	Ny Afrikansk Billedkunst, Rundetårn, Copenhagen, Denmark
	Africa Hoy, Centro Atlántico de Arte Moderno, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain
1990	Les arts au Soleil: La Caravane des Caravanes, France
1989	Les Magiciens de la Terre, Grande Halle de la Villette, Centre Pompidou, Paris,
1909	France

COLLECTIONS

High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA Meulensteen Art Museum, Bratislava, Slovakia The Jean Pigozzi African Collection, Geneva, Switzerland Sovereign Art Foundation, Switzerland Kunstmuseum Bochum, Bochum, Germany BMW Art Cars Collection, Germany Kunstmuseum Den Haag, The Hague, Netherlands BROKER Art Collection, Belgium Musée International des Arts Modestes, Sète, France Musée des Arts d'Afrique et d'Oceanie, Paris, France Musée du Quai Branly - Jacques Chirac, Paris, France Musée d'Angoulême, Angoulême, France Centre national d'art et de culture Georges-Pompidou, Paris, France Museum of Modern Art, Equatorial Guinea Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC Pérez Art Museum, Miami, FL Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY

Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, DC Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, CA Johnnic Communications Management services Collection, Johannesburg, South Africa South African National Gallery, Iziko Museums, Cape Town, South Africa BOE Bank, Cape Town, South Africa Botshabelo Museum, Botshabelo, South Africa
BHP Billiton Collection, Johannesburg, South Africa
Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa
RE:CM Collection, Cape Town, South Africa
Rupert Art Collection, Stellenbosch, South Africa
University of Cape Town Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa
University of Cape Town Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town, South Africa
Oliewenhuis Art Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa
William Humphrey Art Gallery, Kimberley, South Africa
Wits Art Museum Collection, Johannesburg, South Africa
The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg; Cape Town, South Africa
The Gorgeous George Collection, Cape Town, South Africa

AWARDS

2024	Honorary Doctorate, University of South Africa (UNISA), South African Creative
	Arts Lifetime Achievement Award, Pretoria, South Africa
2023	Metro FM Lifetime Achievement Award, Mbombela, South Africa
2022	Honorary Doctorate, Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), Pretoria, South Africa
2021	Lifetime Achievement Award, South African Traditional Music Achievement Awards, Johanesburg, South Africa
2019	Officier de L'Ordre Arts et Lettres (Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters), French Embassy, Pretoria, South Africa
	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) South Africa NGO and Multi-Stakeholder Award, Pretoria, South Africa
2018	Honorary Doctorate, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
2010	Honorary Doctorate in Visual and Performing Arts, Durban University of
	Technology, South Africa
	First United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) South Africa NGO and Multi Stakeholder Award Pretoria, South Africa
2017	Arts and Culture Veteran Award, Ubuntu Awards, Cape Town, South Africa
2016	Minister's Award, Provincial Lilizela Tourism Awards, Mpumalanga, South Africa
2010	Discourse Honorary Award, CAAMMPPS, South African Women Identity &
	Heritage Life Lessons, Johannesburg, South Africa
2015	The Lilizela Tourism Award, Roots and Culture, Ggeberha, South Africa
2010	Lifetime Achievement Award, South African Traditional Music Achievement
	Awards, Gauteng, South Africa
2013	2nd Mbokodo Awards for South African Women in the Arts, Midrand, South Africa
2012	1st Mbokodo Awards for South African Women in the Arts, Soweto, South Africa
2011	Dr JS Moroka Local Municipality Lifetime Achievement award, Mpumalanga,
2011	South Africa
2010	Increasing Access to the Arts Award, 13th annual BASA Awards, Johannesburg,
2010	South Africa
2007	The Heritage Award for Preservation and Promotion of South African Heritage
200.	and Culture, Durban, South Africa
2006	The Order of Ikhamanga (Silver), Government of South Africa, Cape Town, South
	Africa
	Lifetime Achievement Award, National Arts and Culture Trust, Johannesburg,
	South africa
2001	Arts and Culture Award for Art Promotion, Johannesburg, South Africa



	Pan African Broadcasting, Heritage and Achievement Award (PABHA), Nigeria
	Radio Ndebele Award, Mpumalanga, South Africa
1999	Mpumalanga Arts and Culture Award, Mpumalanga, South Africa
1997	Incorporated Village of Hempstead Citation, Hempstead, New York, NY
	Nassau County Commendation, New York, NY
	Award from the Ministry of Culture and Communication, Centre de la Villette,
	France
1996	Mpumalanga Sport Premier's Culture Award, Mpumalanga, South Africa
1991	1st prize Certificate of achievement for Traditional Painting, KwaNdebele
	National Show, Mpumalanga, South Africa
	Honorary Citizen, Civic Authorities, Angoulême, France
1988	Radio Ndebele Award, Mpumalanga, South Africa

MURALS

2024 2023	Forthcoming Unveiling, Serpentine Gallery, London, United Kingdom Chalet Africa, Gstaad, Switzerland
2022	Casa Farida x Esther Mahlangu, Carvalhal, Portugal
2020 2018	Indoor mural, Southgate Mall, Johannesburg, South Africa The Market Theatre foyer, The Market Square, Johannesburg, South Africa
2010	Esther Mahlangu Boardroom, Windybrow Arts Center, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Nirox Foundation Sculpture Park, Cradle of Humankind, South Africa
	Cadaval Palace, Évora, Portugal
2010	Mandela Forum, Florence, Italy
2009	Villacaccia di Lestizza, Udine, Italy
2005	Project Row Houses: Round 22, Houston, TX
	Arts of Africa, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
2004	New Identities: Contemporary Art from South Africa, Kunstmuseum Bochum, Bochum, Germany
2000	Maison de la Culture d'Amiens, Amiens, France
	U'gwala, Partage d'Exotismes : 5th Biennale of Contemporary Art, Halle Tony Garnier, Lyons, France
1997	Courtyard mural, Spoleto Festival, Charleston, SC
1996	Alexandra Township Stadium, Johannesburg, South Africa
1994	Full building facade mural at National Museum of Woman in the Arts, Washington, DC
	Ndebele College of Education, KwaNdebele, Mpumalanga, South Africa
	Stage backdrop for Lisboa94, African Festival, Lisbon, Portugal
	South African Tourist Board mural, European Inventive Business Travel Meetings
1000	Exhibition, Geneva, Switzerland
1992 1991	Fire Screen, Civic Theatre, Johannesburg, South Africa L'Émile Roux School, Angoulême, France
1990	Rosebank Shopping Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa
1990	School, Johannesburg, South Africa
	Foyer mural of Student Hostel, Sisters of Saint Joseph of Cluny, Bordeaux,
	France
1989	Indoor mural, Musée des Beaux-Arts d'Angoulême, Angoulême, France

PRODUCTIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

'Nostokana' a new car featuring BMW's latest colour change technology. Frieze Los Angeles, CA				
The Electric AI canvas in association with BMW group for Art Basel, Switzerland; Frieze Seoul, South Korea & Contemporary, Turkey				
Air Jordan 1 sneakers decorated by Mahlangu used for the South African Pavilion of the Expo 2020 Dubai, United Arab Emirates				
Unveiling of the Rolls-Royce Mahlangu Phantom, Cape Town, South Africa Carol Bouwer Bag Collection Collaboration at The Melrose Gallery in South Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa				
Tiger Brands Heritage Day special edition Tastic rice and Albany bread packaging, Gauteng, South Africa				
Collaboration with tea company Freshpak for the Freshpak x Esther Mahlangu Tin, Cederberg, South Africa Decorated a motorcycle for the Africa Passions exhibition, Évora, Portugal				
Painted a 1995 BMW Isetta for Concours, Eastern Cape, South Africa				
Collaborated with BMW again for the BMW 7 Series Individual with painted				
interior panels by Mahlangu, Johannesburg, South Africa				
New design for the Belvedere (RED) bottle and HIV/AIDs campaign tour across				
the USA, United States				
Sneaker design with Swedish company Eytys for Paris Fashion Week in Paris,				
Paris, France				
Commissioned as the FIFA Official Artist for South Africa in Italy, Rome Italy				
Painted limited edition Ultragirl pumps in collaboration with shoe company				
Melissa for their São Paulo Fashion Week program in Brazil, São Paulo, Brazil				
Painted the New Fiat 500 for the Giovanni and Marella Agnelli collection in Italy, Rome Italy				
Painted Jean Pigozzi's Volkswagen Type 181 for his collection in Geneva,				
Geneva, Switzerland				
Design for the poster of The South African Society for Surgery of the Hand 34th Congress in Cape Town, Cape Town, South Africa				
The Spirit House Project for the Three Rivers Art Festival in Pittsburgh,				
Pittsburgh, PA				
Decorated one of the 100 make-up vases (No. 52) for Alessandro Mendini's 100% Make-up project, Milan, Italy				
Fashion magazine campaign with supermodel Iman at Botshabelo in				
Mpumalanga, Mpumalanga, South Africa				
Comme des Garçons boutiques installation for the show Ndebele which toured				
Tokyo, Japan; New York, USA & Paris, France				
Invited to take part in the Quartiers-Lumières initiative in Angoulême, Angoulême,				
France				
BMW 525i Art Car, 12th Art Car commission, issued to Mahlangu from BMW				
headquarters in Munich, Munich, Germany				
Star of the video documentary Esther se Wêreld which premiered on TV1 in South Africa, Cape Town, South Africa				

BIBLIOGRAPHY

2025	Walsh, Lary. "Esther Mahlangu Handbook", No More Ruler's, 2025. (forthcoming)
2024	Dr, Girst, Thomas and Nwagobu, Azu and Obrist, Ulrich. "Esther Mahlangu-A life
	in Color", <i>Thames & Hudson</i> , 2024. (forthcoming)
2018	Department of Sport, Arts and culture. "Living Human Treasures", <i>Flow Communications</i> , 2018.