

# AFRICAN PLACES AND SPACES

THE African Art Centre in Florida Road, Durban, is hosting the first part of the three-part exhibition, titled *Places and Spaces*, which comprises paintings by young, emerging and well-known artists from KwaZulu-Natal.

Among the participating artists are Welcome Danca, Sibusiso Duma, Mfundo Mthiyane, Philani Luthuli, Joseph Manana, Jabulani Cele and Xolile Mazibuko.

The works on show resulted from a mentorship programme facilitated by established artist, Themba Shibase, at the African Art Centre, which aimed to introduce the participants to the principles of professional art practice, including integrity, originality, imagination, productivity and growth.

The African Art Centre consistently facilitates development projects, which are geared towards creating a new generation of skilled craftspeople, who recognise the potential of the craft industry and the effect it has on poverty eradication and social and economic upliftment.

The results can be seen in a display of innovative seed bead containers and tableware, produced by a group of men and women in



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Xolile Mazibuko's *Prayer*, which can be viewed in the *Places and Spaces* exhibition at the African Art Centre.

Loskop, near Estcourt, who participated in a development project facilitated by master crafter Nathi Zondi, who is from Durban.

There is also a selection of works in a variety of mediums, including works on paper, jewellery and paintings by the Velobala Group, an



PHOTO: SUPPLIED

Welcome Danca's *Rural Development*, which forms part of the *Places and Spaces* exhibition at the African Art Centre.

African Art Centre development project aimed at offering formal art classes to young, talented black artists who do not have the financial means to enroll for tertiary art education.

This project, in collaboration with the department of fine Art of the Durban University



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A work by Joseph Manana, which forms part of the *Places and Spaces* exhibition at the African Art Centre.

of Technology has reached over 450 artists over a period of 18 years, and has proved that art is a universal language that can be used to create employment, and to educate, heal and develop mutual respect.

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