LAUNCH
TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2016
UCT HIDDINGH HALL

Saleem Badat • Suren Pillay • Zethu Matebeni
• Imraan Coovadia • Thembha Mbuli • Khanyisile Mbongwa • Gabrielle Goliath • Owen Manamela-Mogane • Paul Waxon • Dean Hutton • Bronwyn Katz • Buhlebezwe Siwani • Bonolo Kavula • Charity Kelapile • Lungiswa Gqunta • Pinky Mayeng • Sisipho Ngodwana • Sethembile Msezane • Thandiwe Msebenzi • Thuli Gamedze • Asemahle Ntlonti • Tankiso Mamabolo • Breeze Yoko

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**PROGRAMME**

17:15 Durational artworks performed through the Launch:

*The Commute 2* by iQhiya

Conversation is central to iQhiya’s practice as it forms the basis of their collaboration – iQhiya meets, talks and disperses. Their place of meeting is never fixed – from each other's houses to wifi hotspots – the ‘studio’ for iQhiya is a mobile space. It is this notion of conversion and mobility that *The Commute 2* seeks to interrogate.

*Stumbling Block* by Gabrielle Goliath

*Stumbling Block* is a perimeter intervention. A huddled, blanketed form lies on cardboard boxes, partially blocking the entrance to a space – in this instance a university hall in Cape Town, South Africa. Access is thus complicated, and the privileged remove of the space thrown into question.

18:00 Welcome: Sakhela Buhlungu (Dean of Humanities, UCT)

18:10 Book launch: *Relocations: Reading Culture in South Africa*, a compilation of lectures from the Great Texts/Big Questions public lecture series edited by Cóilín Parsons, Imraan Coovadia and Alexandra Dodd. Introduced by Imraan Coovadia.

18:30 Address: Saleem Badat (The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation)

18:40 Performance: *Umnikelo Oshisiwe* by Khanyisile Mbongwa

*Umnikelo Oshisiwe* (A Burnt Offering) is a sacrifice, a cleansing, a purification. With Tankiso Mamabolo and Breeze Yoko.

18:50 Address: Zethu Matebeni (UCT)

19:15 Performance: *#Untitled* by Owen Manamela-Mogane and Themba Mbuli

*#Untitled* interrogates how masculine characters are performed, constructed, embodied and portrayed.

19:30 Address: Suren Pillay (UWC)

19:50 Introduction to the Institute for Creative Arts: Jay Pather (Director, ICA)

Performance: *Goldendean* by Dean Hutton

*Goldendean* is an exploration of the fascination with the flesh, in particular the flesh of non-normative queer bodies and how they inhabit space, challenging the values we place on normalisation and assimilation.

20:15 Light supper and music by DJ Paul Waxon. *Relocations* will be on sale.
SALEEM BADAT
Saleem Badat is Programme Director, International Higher Education and Strategic Projects, at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Prior to this, Badat served as Director of the Education Policy Unit at UWC, as the first CEO of the Council on Higher Education, and as Vice-Chancellor of Rhodes University. He is a recipient of the Inyathelo Exceptional Philanthropy Award in recognition of Excellence and Leadership in Personal South African Philanthropy.

GABRIELLE GOLIATH
Gabrielle Goliath is an artist and PhD student at UCT whose work centres on the problematic of representing violence – particularly gender-based and sexual violence. Drawing on music’s capacity to both commemorate and evoke nostalgic memory, her current research aims to explore the possibilities and ethical demands of ‘performing’ and making ‘shareable’ traumatic recall, specifically the lived and perpetually relived trauma of rape survivors.

DEAN HUTTON
Dean Hutton is a performance artist and postgraduate student at UCT. Hutton’s Masters research aims to provide a reinterpretation of intersectional experiences of identity, queerness, colonialism and social justice. He proposes that site-specific performances can fluidify boundaries, breaking the fourth wall, where artist and audience collaborate in a dialogue aimed at shifting ideas of power and so-called public space.

OWEN MANAMELA-MOGANE
Owen Manamela-Mogane was born in Johannesburg and received his formal training at the Johannesburg Dance Foundation where he graduated with a Diploma in Dance. He is currently pursuing his Masters Degree in Theatre Making at UCT. The focus of his research is representations of masculinities within theatre.
ZETHU MATEBENI
Zethu Matebeni is the convenor of the Queer in Africa series, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA) at UCT, and a part-time documentary filmmaker. With an interest in LGBT life and activism, black queer studies, photography and African cinema, Matebeni has created works such as Reclaiming Afrikan: Queer Perspectives on Sexual and Gender Identities; Breaking out of the Box, and Jo’burg TRACKS: Sexuality in the City.

KHANYISILE MBONGWA
Khanyisile Mbongwa is a curator, artist and Masters student at UCT. Focusing on performance-based practice, her work engages with the re-imagining of the psychological and physical spaces ekasi – using photomontage, sound and video. Her research focuses on iRhanga ekasi (township alleyways) as a public space that provides another entry or exit point for thinking about blackness and self.

THEMBA MBULI
Themba Mbuli is a choreographer, dancer and teacher and the 2016 Standard Bank Young Artist Award winner for Dance. His works include Trapped, Ashed and Dark Cell – which premiered at the Baxter Dance Festival in 2012 and has since been performed at a number of festivals in South Africa. Mbuli is Co-founder and Artistic Director of the Unmute Dance Company.

SUREN PILLAY
Suren Pillay is Associate Professor at the Centre for Humanities Research at UWC. He currently leads a research project, Migrating Violence, in the NRF Flagship on Critical Thought in African Humanities at UWC. His current research focuses on citizenship, violence and the politics of difference; and experiments in cultural sovereignty in postcolonial Africa in the sphere of knowledge production in the humanities and social sciences.
IQHIYA
iQhiya (Asemahle Ntlonti, Bronwyn Katz, Buhlebezwe Siwani, Bonolo Kavula, Charity Kelapile, Lungiswa Gqunta, Pinky Mayeng, Sethembile Msezane, Sisipho Ngodwana, Thandiwe Msebenzi, and Thuli Gamedze) is a network of young black women based in Cape Town and Johannesburg working across disciplines. At the core of the group are shared personal and professional experiences. iQhiya is a millennial generation of women who choose to define and represent their own narratives.

PAUL WAXON
Paul Waxon is a record collector, DJ and promoter of the Waxon and Afrobeat Goes On events. Waxon’s sets call on many different influences and references, with special attention to African music. His broad collection of music has allowed him to play at varied events.
Background

Based in the Humanities Faculty at the University of Cape Town (UCT), the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA) was established in 2008 with a generous fixed-period grant from the Donald Gordon Foundation. GIPCA was established with the aim of facilitating new collaborative research projects, particularly in the Creative and Performing Arts, and with Interdisciplinarity, Live Art and Public Spheres as the Institute’s key themes.

GIPCA’s contract with the Gordon Foundation came to an end in December 2014. The Institute will now continue its work as a result of a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and under a new name – the Institute for Creative Arts (ICA).

Cognisant of South Africa’s legacy of separation and cultural isolation, the ICA seeks to facilitate interdisciplinary research projects in the creative and performing arts that disrupt boundaries, while underscoring creative education and practice across discipline and faculty.

Under this new name, the Institute will continue its work but with an extended and ever-diversifying programme. The development of GIPCA into the ICA takes place through six major projects geared towards innovative research in the creative arts. These are outlined in brief below.

1. Postgraduate Programme

The ICA’s MA and PhD Programme in Live Art, Interdisciplinary Art and Public Spheres, launched in February 2016, is intended for a wide range of artistic practitioners. Through the integration of creativity and research, the ICA offers students the opportunity to pursue research across disciplinary boundaries. The ICA also offers scholarships to enable promising applicants to enroll in the programme.

2. The 2016 and 2018 Live Art Festival & Symposium

The biennial Live Art Festival (LAF) – which has its beginnings in the Institute’s successfully-run LAFs of 2012 and 2014 – is a trailblazer in Africa as one of only a few festivals on the continent dedicated to live art. The 2016 and 2018 Festivals will again showcase the innovative artworks, both in content and form, of emerging and established performance artists.

3. Anthology of writing on contemporary South African performance art

The ICA is in the early stages of producing a pioneering anthology of writing on contemporary South African performance art, to be published in early 2017.
4. Public lecture series

**Great Texts/Big Questions lecture series:** Great Texts/Big Questions, originally conceptualised by Imraan Coovadia, is a public lecture series that engenders an exchange of ideas and opinion, structured around a specific piece of work that is of interest or importance to the public. It offers the public and UCT staff and students opportunities to engage with a diverse range of prominent speakers.

**Medical Humanities lecture series:** Presented in association with UCT’s School of African and Gender Studies, Anthropology and Linguistics, this lecture series speaks to the growing interdisciplinary field of medical humanities, in pursuit of intellectual synergies and their application to medical pedagogy and practice.

5. Fellowships

The ICA’s fellowships provide artists and academics with time on the University’s campus and access to UCT’s facilities, the opportunity to engage extensively with UCT’s research community, and interaction with the ICA’s Live Art, Interdisciplinary and Public Art postgraduate cohort. These fellowships both enhance the professional development of fellows by affording them the time and resources to delve into a specific area of their work, and allow the ICA’s postgraduate cohort the opportunity to engage with, and be mentored by, outstanding artists, curators and researchers. National, International, Curatorial and Live Art Fellowships are available.

6. Interdisciplinary events and public spheres

The ICA will continue to host unique interdisciplinary projects including colloquia, performances, exhibitions, and film screenings. Upcoming events include The Third Space Symposium – which will explore the imperative to decolonise curriculum, and the role of the creative arts in provoking change. Other events include a collaboration with the Africa Centre in its Infecting The City programme, and collaborations with the Iziko Museums of South Africa for June 16, Women’s Day and Heritage Week.