

Art Eye Gallery, must visit for any Art Lover

BY OLIVER PETE ON MAR 27, 2017 ART



Art Eye Gallery

The beauty of art is subject to the audience, and as such art is not for everyone, nor is it trying to be. With the growing middle class and the increase in disposable income among the millennial, there is a growing increase in trend to engage with other aspect of one's life other than work, family and death. South Africa's millennial are becoming more vibrant, more engaging in various social activities that that touches the core of who they are, who they want to be and even that which they do not want to be.

Johannesburg, the City of Gold is now regaining its lost spark, reconstruction projects highlights the day to day life of the city that is famous for crime, to an extend that its world renowned "crime capital of the world" – however this is probably media propaganda. We surely can't be worse than some cities in Mexico and Brazil. Newtown and Maboneng are a great example of a new vision that the city has taken, either by private sector as an investment opportunity, but also the government that provides an enabling environment that allows such investment and growth to happen and succeed.



The Maboneng Precinct most became famous through Market on Main, owing such exposure to the growing trend of accessing and consumption of information through social media. Instagram, Facebook and Twitter are probably the main platforms that provided an enabling environment for social engagements and advertising.



Instagram

That is how I became aware of Art Eye Gallery, through Instagram. I visited the gallery on Tuesday 21 March 2017, only to find that it's closed – Human Rights Day. In my mind the rational was that it's a holiday so such would stay open because now people are free to visit. Wrong. And it's a good thing they were not open because I was with my two sons and my almost 3 year old confuse “don't” with “do”.

I visited the gallery again on Friday, after visiting Uber offices in Parktown, just to get the irritation of a corrupt system out of my mind, I needed to see something artistic and good. I was not disappointed. First thing I was offered coffee, which came with a handful of chocolate. Nonhlanhla Mahlangu was tasked with showing me around the gallery, which surprisingly is quite vast and every room we walked into spoke a distinct artistic language that only those who enjoy art, and the intrigue behind every piece, every artist would understand. The use of different mediums and expressions, lines and curves, canvas, oil, wood, beads, and fabrics that transport you to the gates of the various artist's minds. Unfortunately such gates are always wide shut. Artists I have met and known prefer you much rather consume their work from your own perspective.



Art Eye Gallery

Louis van den Heever Acrylic paint on books

Previously based at the Fourways Design Quarters, Art Eye Gallery is now located at 23 Voorhout Street, to ensure that those who make it to their premises are indeed art lovers. My guess is if you have read this article until this point, you love art, and you would find the time to visit the gallery and enjoy the vast collection of artwork that you wouldn't mind seeing again, and again, and again.

About Art Eye Gallery

“Art Eye has directed its focus on being a platform for great expression and storytelling. Art Eye Gallery is known for its rich and cultural diversity as well as fostering the growth of young up and coming talent. We have an incredible stable of artists who consider art to be their home; they live and breathe art and even though art is an opinion and highly subjective our artists raise thought provoking issues relevant to contemporary society through their artwork.



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Juanita Frier, mixed media on brown paper

Our artists question traditional ideas of how art is defined, what constitutes art and how art is made, while creating a dialogue with and in some cases rejecting the styles and art movements that came before them. We believe in their works; our artists are creating multi layered thought provoking artwork and considered strong bodies of work that carries weight in contemporary society.



Art Eye Gallery
Toni Bico Mixed media



Art Eye Gallery
Thokozani Mthiyane Mixed Media



Art Eye Gallery

Schalk van der Merwe Mixed Media

Art Eye Gallery is not just taking artists on a whim, we are building a legacy and that is why we are constantly trying to reinvent ourselves in different ways such. Art is a congested market however there is an untapped market and Art Eye Gallery will reach and access it because we are not afraid of cultivating new talent, working with young artists was not a choice for us but a calling”