

EVERARD READ

GERHARD MARX

(b. 1976 Johannesburg, South Africa)

Gerhard Marx's poetic and philosophical visual language is composed through a physical engagement with distinctive material traditions. His process entails careful acts of dissection and rearrangement, which allow Marx to engage the poetic potential and philosophical assumptions of his chosen material in the process of developing original drawing, sculptural and performative languages. A primary focus in his work engages physical depictions of space – 'spatial imaginaries' – with an interest in how these descriptions of space affect and shape that which it describes. Marx uses acts of fragmentation and reassembly to construct alternate and deliberately complicated spatial propositions that aspire to hold multiple positionalities, doubled presences, folded histories, spaces that exist across, in between, and amongst.

Completed in 2022 was *Locus (Richmond)*, a public sculpture for the small town of Richmond in the Northern Cape of South Africa. Previous public sculptures include *Vertical Aerial: JHB* (Hollard, JHB); *The World On Its Hind Legs*, a collaboration with William Kentridge (Beverly Hills, LA); *The Fire Walker*, in collaboration with William Kentridge (Queen Elizabeth Bridge, Johannesburg); and *Paper Pigeons*, in collaboration with Maja Marx (Pigeon Square, Johannesburg).

Marx's work has been shown at international art fairs (Art Basel, Frieze London, FIAC). It is held in numerous public and private art collections, and was included on the South African pavilion at the 2013 Venice Biennale. Recent theatrical work includes scenography and costumes for Lara Foot's reinterpretation of Shakespeare's *Othello* for Düsseldorf Schauspielhaus (2022) and Cape Town's Baxter Theatre (2024) and the Arts Centre, in Abu Dhabi UAE (2025).

Marx completed his undergraduate degree at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, and received his MFA (*cum laude*) from Wits School of Art, Johannesburg, where he was a full time member of staff between 2003 and 2007, lecturing in both the Fine Art and Dramatic Arts Departments. Marx is a fellow of the Eckard Residency, the Sundance Film Institute, the Annenberg Fund and the Ampersand Foundation. He is based in Cape Town, South Africa.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Landscape Would be the Wrong Word, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2024 Thin Places, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2023 TerraTerraTerra, Investec Cape Town Art Fair with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2022 Hold This Distance Close, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2021 Spatial Imaginaries, Propositional Cartographies, Goodman Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 Near Distant, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Soundings and Fathoms, US Woordfees, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2019 Ecstatic Archive, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2017 Transparent Territories, The Viewing Room, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2015 A Geometry of Echoes, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2014 The Garden at Night, NWU gallery, Potchefstroom, South Africa
- 2013 Lessons in Looking Down, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2011 Cumulus, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
The Viewing Room, The Viewing Room, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2007 photo-, Warren Siebrits Modern and Contemporary, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2005 Gerhard Marx, Warren Siebrits Modern and Contemporary, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2003 New Works, Outlet, Pretoria, South Africa

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- 2000 Drawing and Animation, Open Window Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa
1999 You are here, Civic Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 ArtParis, with Everard Read, Paris, France
2025 The Armory Show, with Everard Read, New York, USA
10 Years | Summer Show, Everard Read, London, UK
EXPO CHICAGO, with Everard Read, Chicago, USA
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
Followed by Nine Zeros, Oude Leeskamer, Stellenbosch, South Africa
LANDscape[s] (from the MAPSA collection), curated by Miné Kleynhans, Klein Karoo National Arts Festival, Oudtshoorn, SA
2024 Inner Sanctum, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
Winter Collection, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
Southern Light, Everard Read, London, UK
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town
EXPO CHICAGO, with Everard Read, Chicago, USA
Art Cologne, with Whatiftheworld, Cologne, Germany
2023 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town
Summer, Everard Read, London, UK
FNB Art Joburg, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
2022 Where do I begin, curated by Alexander Richards, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa
The Same Space Three Times, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Turbine Art Fair, with The Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
2021 Fathom, RHE water show, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
In Conversation, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
2020 Burning House, a selection of Antoine de Galbert collection, Muzeum Sztuki, Lodz, Poland
Witness: Afro Perspectives from the Jorge M Pérez Collection, curated by Tandazani Dhlakama, El Espacio 23, Miami, USA
Did you ever think there would come a time, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
Frieze, with Goodman Gallery, New York, USA
Frieze, with Goodman Gallery, London, UK
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
2019 Shutter Speed Reflection/Deflection, South African Indie Scenography, curated by Tamara Guhrs and Jenni-lee Crewe, Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space, Czechia
My Hart is so Leeg Soos 'n Spieël (My Heart is a Void, the Void is a Mirror), curated by Gian Maria Tosatti, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa
I'VE GROWN ROSES IN THIS GARDEN OF MINE, Goodman Gallery, London, UK
Art Basel, with Goodman Gallery, Miami, USA
Art Basel, with Goodman Gallery, Hong Kong
2018 Art Basel, with Goodman Gallery, Miami, USA
2017 Art Basel, with Goodman Gallery, Miami, USA
Art Basel, with Goodman Gallery, Basel, Switzerland
Art Basel, with Goodman Gallery, Hong Kong
2016 7 Rewind Films, Williams College, Massachusetts, USA
2015 Skelet, de armatuur van het lichaam in de hedendaagse beeldhouwkunst, Museum Beelden aan Zee, The Hague, Netherlands
2014 Between Subject and Object, Michaelis Galleries, Cape Town, South Africa
300 Years of Botanical Art, Standard Bank Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Sitting to Selfie, Standard Bank Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
2013 Imaginary Fact: South African Art and the Archive, South African Pavilion, Venice Biennale, Italy
My Joburg, Maison Rouge, Paris, France

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- The Beautiful Ones, Nolan Judin Gallery, Berlin, Germany
2011 The Life of Bone, Origins Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa
2010 The Marks We Make, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
The Land Revisited, Klein Karoo Arts Festival, Oudtshoorn, South Africa
2009 Adding Subtractions, curated by Daniella Geo (Belgium), Bag Factory, Johannesburg, South Africa
Capital: How heads speak, curated by Fiona Rankin Smith, Wits University Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
Sources: Contemporary sculpture in the landscape, Nirox, Johannesburg, South Africa
2006 Figuring Faith, curated by Fiona Rankin Smith, Standard Bank Art Gallery, Johannesburg; National Arts Festival, Makhanda, South Africa
2004 Ten Years of Democracy, Klein Karoo National Arts Festival, Oudtshoorn, South Africa

PERFORMANCE AND THEATRE

- 2025 OTHELLO directed by Lara Foot Newton for The Arts Centre (scenography and costumes), Abu Dhabi, UAE.
2024 OTHELLO directed by Lara Foot Newton for Baxter Theatre (scenography and costumes), South Africa
2022 OTHELLO directed by Lara Foot Newton for Düsseldorf Schauspielhaus (scenography and costumes), Germany
2020 VEHICLE, with Shane Cooper, Kyle Shepherd and Toast Coetzer, US Woordfees, Stellenbosch, South Africa
2019 VEHICLE, with Shane Cooper and Diamanda La Berge Dramm, Frascati Theatre, Holland Festival, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2018 VEHICLE, with Shane Cooper, Kyle Shepherd and vocals by Toast Coetzer, Centre for the Less Good Idea, Johannesburg, South Africa
2019 VEHICLE, conceived, created and directed by Gerhard Marx, with performances by musicians Shane Cooper and Diamanda La Berge Dramm, spoken word poetry written and performed by Toast Coetzer, performed at The Frascati Theatre, Holland Festival, Amsterdam, Netherlands
2018 VEHICLE, conceived, created and directed by Gerhard Marx, with performances by musicians Shane Cooper and Kyle Shepherd, spoken word poetry written and performed by Toast Coetzer, as part of the Season 4 programme, curated by Jane Taylor, Centre for the Less Good Idea, Johannesburg, South Africa
2008 REwind, a Cantata for Voice, Tape and Testimony, composed by Phillip Miller, directed by Gerhard Marx, with interactive film by Gerhard and Maja Marx, Market Theatre, Johannesburg, South Africa
They Say, written, designed and directed by Gerhard Marx for Aardklop National Arts Festival (winner: Bravo Award - Most Memorable Moment, Aardklop 2008), Potchefstroom, South Africa
2007 REwind, a Cantata for Voice, Tape and Testimony, Celebrate Brooklyn NY and the 62' Centre, Williamstown, Massachusetts, USA
2006 The Collision Project, directed by Gerhard Marx, composed by Clare Loveday, The Substation, Wits Theatre Complex, South Africa
Truth in Translation, directed by Michael Lessick (NY), set design by Gerhard Marx, tours internationally 2006-2008
2005 Hear and Now, written by Lara Foot Newton, co-directed by Lara Foot Newton and Gerhard Marx, scenography by Gerhard Marx, tours internationally 2005-2006
2003 Tshepang, written and directed by Lara Foot Newton, scenography by Gerhard Marx, tours internationally 2003-2019

PUBLIC ART

- 2022 Locus (Richmond), Richmond, Northern Cape, South Africa

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- 2020 The World on its Hind Legs, in collaboration with William Kentridge, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2019 Vertical Aerial: Johannesburg, Hollard, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2017 The World on its Hind Legs, in collaboration with William Kentridge, Beverley Hills, Los Angeles, USA
- 2015 Vertical Aerial: Johannesburg, Old Fort, Constitution Hill, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2013 Vertical Aerial: Johannesburg, commissioned by Spier Architectural Arts for the Johannesburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
90 Grayston, facade of 90 Grayston building, with GLH Architects, Sandton, South Africa
- 2010 The World on its Hind Legs, in collaboration with artist William Kentridge, Nedbank Campus, Sandton, South Africa
- 2009 The Fire Walker, in collaboration with William Kentridge, Queen Elizabeth Bridge, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2009 Paper Pigeon, in collaboration with Maja Marx, Pigeon Square, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2019 'Ecstatic Archive', with texts by Sean O'Toole, Edgar Pieterse and Alex Dodd (published by Goodman Gallery)
- 2015 'Depths in Feet', catalogue (co-published by the artist and Goodman Gallery)
- 2009 'A Matter of Life and Death: The Function of Dysfunction in the work of the Handspring Puppet Company' in Taylor, J (ed) 2009, Handspring Puppet Company, Johannesburg, David Krut Publishing
- 2005 'Gerhard Marx', catalogue (published by Warren Siebrits Modern and Contemporary Art)

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Fondation Antoine de Galbert, France
South African Foundation for Contemporary Art, South Africa
Renee and Robert Drake Art Collection, Netherlands
Wits Art Museum, South Africa
Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa
ABSA Bank, South Africa
SABC, South Africa
Nedbank, South Africa
Sasol Art Collection, South Africa
The Perez Collection, Perez Art Museum, USA
21 C collection, USA
Spier Collection, South Africa
Scheryn Collection, South Africa

ART AWARDS

- 2020 Festival Artist, Woordfees, *Soundings and Fathoms*, Stellenbosch
- 2014 Festival Artist, Aardklop Festival, *The Garden at Night*, NWU gallery, Potchefstroom
- 2012 Visual Artist Award, KYKNET, Aardklop Art Festival, Oudtshoorn
- 1998 Michaelis Award; Best Student, Michaelis School of Art, UCT
Simon Gershwin Award; Most Promising Art Student
- 1997 Michaelis Award; Best Student, Michaelis School of Art, UCT

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SELECTED FILM AWARDS

- 2007 And There in The Dust, with Lara Foot Newton: Best Animated Film, and Best International Short Film at the Bird's Eye Festival in London
- 2006 And There in The Dust, with Lara Foot Newton: Best Short Film at the Latin, African and Asian Film Festival, Milan; 3 Golden Horn awards at the South African Film Awards (Best Animation, Best Direction, Best Screenplay, short film)

THEATRE AWARDS

- 2009 Naledi Award, Best Set Design (*REwind: A Cantata for Voice, Tape and Testimony*)
- 2008 Bravo Award, Most Memorable Moment, Aardklop National Arts Festival (*They Say*)
- 2005 Naledi Award, Best Set Design (*The Tempest*)
- 2004 Naledi Award, Best Set Design (*Tshepang*)

FELLOWSHIPS & RESIDENCIES

- 2022 Ekard Residency, Netherlands
- 2009 Cinema du Monde Pavillion fellow, Cannes Film Festival, by invitation of the French Institute, France
- 2008 Sundance Institute Fellowship: Sundance Film Directors' Laboratory, Utah, USA
Annenberg Film Fellowship, University of Southern California, USA
- 2007 Sundance Institute Fellowship, Sundance Screen Writers' Laboratory, Utah, USA
- 2004 Ampersand Fellowship, New York, USA

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2004–07 Lecturer, Wits School of Art, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- 2001–03 Lecturer, School of Art, Pretoria Technikon (currently known as Tshwane University of Technology), South African