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A project for the Arts

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**THUPELO CAPE TOWN TRUST EXHIBITION
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF VISUAL ART WORKSHOPS**

Thupelo is hosting an exhibition celebrating 30 years of professional visual art workshops. David Koloane, founder member and renowned artist, officially opens our exhibition on Thursday 12 November 2015. Art lovers are in for a real treat as the exhibition delivers an international smorgasboard of art. It offers the viewer an insight into the beauty, drama and diversity of these artists led workshops. Donated work on paper, unframed from African and international artists will be available to view and for sale. Video and performance work is included.

All work will be sold in a blind auction over a period of 10 days. Funds raised are for the continuation of Thupelo's workshops. All work will be priced from R500.00 upwards and can be viewed on our website from Thursday 5th November onwards.

http://www.thupelo.com/Thupelo_Cape_Town/About.html

Thupelo exists to drive excellence in the visual arts. All Thupelo Board members are artists, one of whom, Jill Trappler, said: *" I returned from the Triangle workshop in New York in September. This experience confirmed for me that Thupelo is part of a vibrant, relevant art community that encourages, deepens and extends each practice, makes conversation stimulating and engaging and art-making in general an inclusive, creative activity that has ripple effects in urban and rural areas, worldwide"*.

During the past 30 years Thupelo has contributed magnificently to the artistic development of South African art and the creative development of many South African artists. Our artists led workshops offer a safe creative space where artists from around the world can freely debate issues and share their skills and experience.

Trustees:

Lionel Davis Velile Soha Jill Trappler Garth Erasmus Ndikhumbule Ngqinambi
Anthony Cawood ZiphosheNkosi Dayile
47 - 49 Greatmore Street, Woodstock, 7925, Cape Town
Tel: +27 (0)21 447 9699 • Fax: +27 (0)86 663 4830

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Lionel Davis, trustee, says: “ *We live in a world that is actually fractured. We read about it all the time because of people dissing each other race about race, gender and so on but at Thupelo we break down barriers as we are interested in bring people from all over the world to work with us, without asking them about their skin colour. It is our ethos to always treat people as human beings. It is our wish to continue to do that... but we alone cannot do it ... we need your support for a better world. Art does that – it breaks barriers and frees the spirit*”.

ENDS.

Compiled by: Athena Petersen-Sotomi on behalf of Thupelo Cape Town Trust

Email: athenas@mweb.co.za and Mobile: 082 333 1528

Exhibition Information:

Venue: Greatmore Studios, 47-49 Greatmore Street, Woodstock, 7925.

Date & Time : Thursday 12 November 2015 at 18h00

Online viewing of artworks begins on Thursday 05 November 2015.

For further details please phone :

Jano or Zipho on 021 447 9699 at Greatmore Studios, Woodstock

EDITOR'S NOTES

Thupelo workshops is premised on the New York based, Triangle Network's artists led workshops, initiated by the late **Sir Anthony Caro** and **Robert Loder** in the early 1980s. The first workshop was held in up-state New York in 1982 and the first one held on the African continent took place in 1985 in Johannesburg.

Board Member, **Garth Erasmus** wrote: “...*Nowhere else in the world has it flourished and survived for so long as it has in South Africa. This could be ascribed to the uniqueness of the country's cultural makeup and history... the centuries` long effects of colonialism, slavery, Apartheid and social engineering had reached a point of critical mass in the decade following the 1976 Soweto Uprising and 1985 the year of Thupelo`s inception was, ironically, the year of South Africa's state of emergency. ...*”

The late **Bill Ainslie**, founder and director of the Johannesburg Art Foundation and artist, **David Nthubu Koloane**, drove the inception of Thupelo workshops in South Africa. At the end of the 1980s, Thupelo moved to Cape Town, and by May 1995 it registered itself as a nonprofit trust.

Thupelo's **main objective:**

To encourage personal artistic growth in the visual arts in a mutually supportive working environment that encourages freedom to experiment through sharing of ideas, experiences, techniques and disciplines. We aim to create a synergy that will enlarge the artistic community and foster inter-relationships through the Thupelo workshop concept.

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