

Jill Trappler CV and Bio

Awards

Annual cultural affairs awards, Western Cape cradle of culture. Contribution to Visual, audio-visual and interactive media.

Education

1975- 1979: Bill Ainslie, Johannesburg Art Foundation,

1975- 1978: UNISA, three years BA and FA subjects

Apprentice in various craft studios, including weaving, ceramics, dyeing, spinning, knitting, fabric painting/printing, embroidery, sewing, beading.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

November/December 2025: Solo presentation at the JSE offices

May/June 2024: Sisonke, Gallery, In the stillness of time, wood meets water

February/March 2021: 6 Spin Street gallery, Water and the Moon

February, March, April 2019: Gallery South exhibition, Title, “Stoep”

November 2019: AVA, Reverberations

February 2016: AVA gallery Cape Town

May 2015: AVA, Unfolding her

May/June 2015: Canteen Arts on main

2013: Knysna fine arts Gallery, Knysna, Western Cape

2012: Casa Labia Gallery, Muizenberg, Cape Town

2010: Irma Stern Gallery, Cape Town

2010: SMAC Stellenbosch

2009: SMAC Stellenbosch, Abstract art in South Africa, pre-1990.

2008: Joe Wolpe selects Jill Trappler’s work for a show at the AVA, Cape Town

2008: Studio exhibition, Orange Street Studios, Gardens, Cape Town

2007: Bag Factory Gallery, Johannesburg

2007: Kwa Zulu, Natal Association of Arts Gallery (KZNSA), Durban

2006: Bellville Art, (Art B) Cape Town

2003: Fordsburg artist's studio (Bag Factory Gallery,) Johannesburg

2002: Tatham Gallery, Pietermaritzburg, KZN

2000: Prime Art Gallery, Cape Town

1995: Gallery International, Cape Town

1990 - Ongoing every two years: The Association for Visual Arts Gallery (AVA Gallery), Cape Town

Selected Group Shows:

November 2025-March 2026, Intersections: Bill Ainslie & the Johannesburg Art Foundation, Wits Art Museum

2025, Iziko South African National Gallery, Motherhood

2023, Iziko South African National Gallery, Breaking down the walls

2023. SMAC. Kevin Atkinson, (from canvas workshop exhibition. Zeitz Mocaa)

March 2023 Spin street gallery shared space with ceramic artist Howard Minne.

2023, Africa Nova gallery, selected work.

2023 Art under the bed , summer and winter,

2023 May group show. Nel gallery

2023 February Prince Albert Gallery, ongoing.

2 February to 08 March 2022: Barnard Gallery, Abstract_ed

18 to 20 February 2022: Investec Cape Town Art Fair, LL Editions

2 December 2021 to 29 January 2022: Nel Gallery, Summer Salon

1 December 2021 to 25 January 2022: Barnard Gallery, A Pattern Language

22 OCTOBER 2020 to 31 OCTOBER 2021: Home is where the art is, Zeitz MOCAA

August 2021. Ava Gallery; Circle exhibition.

July 2021. latitudes on-line

February /March 2021: 6 Spin Street gallery, Exhibition of children's work in partnership with Home from Home and Orange art project

February /March 2021: 6 Spin Street gallery, Exhibition of Orange art group

January 2020; Canvas Workshop residency at Zeitz Mocaa with Lionel Davis and Garth Erasmus

November /December 2019 Nel gallery, Cape Town

December 2018: AVA

October 2018: Greatmore Sheet

Nov 2018: Africa Nova

July 2018: Artvark

November 2017: Threads run through us; backpackers, Buitengracht Street, Cape Town

November 2017: Through lines; Curated by Lindsey O'Connor for Greatmore street event space

October 2017: Pieces of Eight, Africa Nova

September 2017: Abstraction. For the Marilyn Martin lecture series. Greatmore street event space

September 2017: Drought, Artvark, Kalk Bay, Cape Town

August 2017: AVA Salon exhibition

2017: Cape Town art fair; Seippel gallery

2017: Greatmore street studios; @large group exhibitions

2017: Turbine art fair; LL editions

2016: Cape Town Art Fair (Seippel gallery)

February 2016: The Cape Town Art Fair, Seippel Gallery (C3)

February 2016: That Art Fair, Cape Town

February 2016: Gallery Mojo, Dubai

February 2016: Kim Sacks Gallery Johannesburg

2016: Irma stern gallery. Unfolding into spring

2016: AVA gallery. Eunice Geustyn and Jill Trappler, half-light and shadows.

2014: Seeking Eden Casa Labia, Muizenberg

2014: Equus gallery, Cavalli estate. Cape Town

2013: Imibala, Somerset West

2013: Somerset West, Western Cape. Imibala Gallery

2013: Cape Town Art Fair (INC) 1990, 1995, 1996, 2005, 2007, 2011 Thupelo workshop exhibitions

2012: In Bloom 2 Casa Labia gallery Cape Town

2012: Cape Town, Casa Labia Gallery

2012: Prince Albert festival. Western Cape (Vulnerable Landscape)

2011, 2012, 2013: [JHB Art Fair/Seippel gallery](#) 2011 WATERS/VASIA, Finland
2011: Finland (waters/Vasia)

2011, 12,13: Johannesburg Art Fair/Seippel gallery

2010: Thupelo, Greatmore street Cape Town [2010 WATERS/VASIA, AVA Cape Town, Durban Art ...JHB Bag Factory.](#)

2010: Cape Town, Durban Artspace Gallery ...JHB Bag Factory. (Vasia/waters)

2010: Stellenbosch, Spier Gallery (end conscription Campaign)

2010: Cape Town, (these four walls)

2010: Cape Town, Greatmore Street Gallery

2009: 7th annual British International mini print exhibition

2008: Group show of non-figurative work, Seippel Gallery JHB

2007,08,09: Lessedra contemporary art projects, Bulgaria

2008, 09: 7th British international mini print exhibition
March 2008 2004: “time, memory and desire” Standard Bank gallery JHB

2004: “strangers” a group show including artists from SA, New Zealand and Canada

2004: Cape Town; SA, New Zealand and Canada. (Strangers)

2004: Johannesburg, Standard Bank Gallery, (time, memory, desire)

2002: The mythic image, Bellville, Cape 2001 3/3 AVA

2002: Cape Town ART B, (the mythic image)

2002: Wales (Spirit of the place)

2001: BrainStorm, Cape Town

2001: Cape Town AVA Gallery. (Spirit of the place)

2001: Cape Town AVA Gallery (Brainstorm)

2001: Cape Town AVA Gallery (3/3)

2001/2002: Spirit of the Place, with artists from Wales

1999: Workshop show, Kampala, Uganda

1998: Group show in Switzerland

1996: Thupelo International workshop exhibition, Michaelis School of Fine art UCT

1994: Group show in Munich Switzerland 1991 Newtown gallery, JHB

1988: Johannesburg FUBU Gallery, Newtown

1991: Johannesburg Newtown Gallery

1994: Switzerland, Munich

1996: Cape Town. Michaelis School of Fine art, University of Cape Town

1998: Selected artist show at Munich Book Fair. Switzerland

1999: Uganda, Kampala. (Workshop exhibition)

Work Experience Teaching

2023; monthly sessions at Kirstenbosch Goldfields centre; ongoing

2023 Wildekrans Lodge weekend workshops

2022: Weekend workshops; Wildekrans country lodge.

2020/2021: On line, Orange art project and Orange art Group.

2020/2021: Weekend workshops; Wildekrans country lodge.

2020: Monday session at Ruth Prowse

January 2020; Summer school, UCT

2017: Summer school, UCT

2017: FynArts festival Hermanus; workshop

January 2017: part-time director Greatmore street studios/Thupelo workshop projects

2013, 2014, 2015: Thupelo coordinator

Thupelo assembly for Triangle network participants

Print workshop with Joe Leshoka at the Bag factory studio

2011: Philani employment project

2009: ongoing Art Source studio Observatory

2003, 2008: Cape Town, Orange street open studios

2000 - 2005: Cape Town South African National Gallery Annex. Part-time classes

2000: Zurich Workshop for the Peace movement

1998: Pietermaritzburg, KZN Tatham Gallery Workshop for local artists

1981 to 1984: Cape Town, Private studio and CAP

1976, 1977: (FUBA) The Federated Union for Black artists.

Johannesburg Art Foundation Johannesburg School for Autism Johannesburg,
Newtown Indian primary school

Coordinating

2023; connections workshops at Zeitz Mocaa

2023; orange art project ongoing

2023. Wildekrans group exhibition co ordinated with Voni Baloyi and Andrew Lambrecht

2023. Orange art project exhibition Artscape Foyer.

2019/2020/2021: Initiated Orange art project In partnership with Home from Home.

2018/2019: Greatmore street and Thupelo Interim manager.

2017: Thupelo, managing trustee for the project including Nyanga workshop

2015: Water and me; partnership with Greatmore street studio s and UCT Chemical engineering department

2014 March, 5th - 7th: Caversham Press, 3 Day Residency Prince Albert Festival

2013: Summer School - 2013 (previous years)

2012 & 2014: Group Exhibition @ the Residency of the Spanish Embassy

2012: Contemporary South African Artists 2, DMEC, Devon Learning & Development Partnership

2011: [Creative Blocks - 2010 on going](#) Thupelo Workshop Project - 1
2010: Ariel Worker's Day Festival

2010, 2012: Group exhibition at the Spanish Ambassadors' Residence, Cape Town

2007: Triangle Africa Arts Trust conference in Cape Town

1998 - 2010: Ongoing Bag Factory Artists' Studios

1998: Trans figurative exhibition, AVA

1995: Launch of Greatmore street Studio's project

1986: Thupelo International Art Workshop Project

1985: Part-time to 2013 Philani Project Khayelitsha

1985 - To date: Thupelo Workshop project

1985 - 2018: Greatmore Street Artists' Studios

1980: Co-founder Thupelo Cape town workshops

Consulting

2022: Truth, Beauty and Justice: Bill Ainslie and David Koloane 1965-2019 at Gallery South, Muizenburg

2020: Robert Loder collection

2018/2019; Thupelo workshops and Greatmore street studios.

2016/2017: Greatmore street studios

2010: Philani employment project

2009: Real stories gallery website; HIV in the SADAC region

2009, 2010: Echo shelter project. Coral, crocheting project

1997: Switzerland for Pro Helvetia; studio exchange programs

1991: Cape Town Exhibition coordinator. Valkenburg hospital at UCT

Lecturing

2026 UCT summer school

2025 UCT summer school

2024 UCT summer school

2017/2018/2019: UCT Summer school

2013: Part-time lecturer Michaelis art school, UCT Lecturing at UCT Summer School, (2000 to 2004, 2009, 2010, 2012 and 2014, 2015)

2010: Drawing project. Ruth Prowse School of art. Cape Town.

2006: Occupational Therapy Department, Groote Schuur Hospital

Research

2023; words are too small; publication on art in education.

2015: Making art in Africa, Polly savage

2012: Benetton's; 10 x 12 @ SA

2012/2014: Publications x 3 Mike Gardiner, (Bill Ainslie) Robert Loder, (various local artists) Bag Factory; (Greatmore street.)

2007: Appointed to attend a donor meeting in Amsterdam, Arts Collaboratory

2006: Documentary video on GMS and Thupelo

2005, 2007: Research and interviews for a book about Bill Ainslie

1997: Research studio exchange projects in SA and Switzerland for Prohelvetia

Workshops

2024. Connections workshop Zeitz Mocaa

2023, Partage workshop Mauritius.

2021/2022; Canvas workshop Zeitz MOCAA.

2020; Canvas workshop Zeitz MOCAA.

2015: Triangle New York. Salem September

2014: Mauritius Triangle workshop; I was not able to attend.

2014: Caversham press, KZN; two weeks printmaking

1996: Johannesburg, Thupelo (participant)

1995: Uganda, participant and facilitator

1981-84: Cape Town Community Arts Project (CAP) Facilitator

Studio employment

2023/2024, self employed

2017 to 2022; self employed

2014, 2015 and 2016: Resident artist at Greatmore street studios

1998, 2008: Cape Town Philani nutrition clinic, Greatmore street studios

1995: Cape Town Established art studios at Valkenburg hospital

1995,96: Cape Town Facilitator De Lorentz Clinic

1987: Cape Town Flagship, printmaking Employment project, Crossroad

1980: Established the Intle weaving co-operative, Crossroads. Cape Town
Establishing the Wolani papier-mâché project for HIV

1981: Philani Nutrition Clinics Crossroads and Khayelitsha.

1981: Hannes Hares, weaving studio Cape Town.

1980: Devon UK. The Care Village; art/craft studio facilitator London; Adult
Institute Islington (weaving) St Helena Island and Tristan de Cunha Island

1976,77,78: Baragwanath hospital, Soweto, (occupational therapy department)

1975,76: Professional weaver for Peter Soldati, Helen de Leeuw plus private Clients

Committees

2020/2024; Board member Orange art project.

2022/2024; Board member Ruth Prowse school.

2020/2021; Board member Ruth Prowse school of art.

2010 to 2019; Greatmore street studios and Thupelo; Board member and chair.

2009: Chair of Africa region Commonwealth Foundation awards

2007: Selection panel, Commonwealth foundation awards

2007/2013: Board member of Bag Factory Studios, Johannesburg

2002, 03: Appointed to the Board of the National Arts Council

1996-2009: Trustee and committee/founder member: Greatmore Street Studios.

1996- 2007: Association for Visual Arts (AVA), Cape Town. 1

1988 to 2018: Greatmore street/Thupelo (not ongoing)

Bibliography

Zeitz MOCAA, Home is where the art is Art Owned and Made by The People of Cape Town, 2021

A resilient visionary; David Koloane; Standard Bank publication

Water and the moon; 2021, ISBN 978-3-940440-26-6

Reverberations; 2019

Making art in Africa ISBN 9781848221512

South Africa: 10 x 12@SA ISBN 9788898764099

Abstract by Nature Oct 2005 AVA in partnership with Spier

Artthrob.co.za/01sept/listings-cape

Notions of being/moments of being ISBN 9783940440

Unfolding Her copyright Jill Trappler 2015

Familiar places. copyright Jill Trappler 2015

Familiar places. copyright jill Trappler 2012

William (Bill) Ainslie ISBN 9780620655972

Mantis volume 26 Number 2 winter 2015

waters-Vasia-amanzi 2010-2011

Busan Biennale 2008 Expenditure

Art South Africa August 2015, Marilyn Martin

Abstract art from the isolation years; 9780620442091

Cambridge Scholars Publishing - [Practices of Abstract Art](#)
Unfolding into spring 2015/2016 ISBN 978-3-940440-22-8

Assembly 2016, Thupelo Cape Town. The Triangle networks

South Africa, the art of a nation. John Gibling and Chris Spring
The British Museum ISBN 978-0-500-29283-9

Collections

Various private, locally and abroad; Corporate and public collections including:

Art Bank, South Africa.

Iziko South African National Gallery

Vodacom

SABC

Investec

Nandos UK

University of Cape Town

Spier Foundation

Creative blocks

British Museum. London

British Museum. London, (Cosmos 2)

Yellowwood's collection

UCT collection