

# Diane Victor



## Biography

Diane Victor (b. 1964 in Witbank, South Africa) has established herself as a major figure in the South African and International art communities and is renowned for her expert printmaking and draughtsmanship. Victor positions herself within the South African art scene through her bold confrontations with difficult and at times taboo subject matter. Her large scale drawings and etchings demonstrate a command of mark-making, which she uses to render her subjects in affecting detail. At times, her work seems to pose challenges to social and political life in contemporary South Africa, considering issues of corruption, violence and an unequal power distribution.

Having received her BA Fine Arts Degree from the University of the Witwatersrand, with a major in Printmaking, and graduating with distinction – Victor has gone on to win various prestige awards including the Sasol New Signatures Award in 1987. In 1988, Victor became the youngest recipient of the prestigious Volkskas Atelier Award which granted her a ten-month stay at the Cité Internationale des Artes in Paris, France. Over this period, Victor was able to work collaboratively with other experienced printmakers and to observe and reflect on a society very different from her own.

Victor has exhibited at numerous venues around South Africa and internationally, some of which include the UNISA Gallery, Fried Contemporary, MoMA New York, Faulconer Gallery, The Highpoint Center for printmaking, The Gus Fisher Gallery, National Museum of Contemporary Art Oslo, Yale University Art Gallery, The Contemporary Museum Honolulu, and Australia and Adelaide Central Gallery. Victor's work is part of a number of important collections, including Sasol, Pretoria Art Museum, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Durban Art Museum and Santam.

Since 1990, Victor has been a lecturer, teaching Fine Art, at various South African institutions including the University of Pretoria, Tshwane University of Technology, Open Window Academy, the University of the Witwatersrand, Rhodes University and the University of Johannesburg.

Victor lives and works in Johannesburg, South Africa. At present, she is a senior Fine Art lecturer at the University of Pretoria's Department of Visual Art.

## Collections

Billiton, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Bundeskonzelamt, Vienna, Austria  
Durban Art Museum, Durban, South Africa  
Gauteng Department of Legislature, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Gertrude Posel Gallery, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
Johannes Stegeman Gallery, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa  
Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Library of Congress, Washington, USA  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA  
Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa  
Pretoria Technikon, Pretoria, South Africa  
Santam Bank Collection, Cape Town, South Africa  
Sasol Collection, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
South Africa Natal Technikon, Durban, South Africa  
Tatham Gallery, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa  
The Minneapolis Museum of Modern Art, Minneapolis, USA  
University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa  
Volkskas Bank Collection, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Conference and Workshop Participation

**1987** Participated in 2nd International Plein Air Workshop, Ryn, Poland

## Curated Exhibitions

**2002** Drawing Conclusions, The Association of Art, Pretoria, South Africa

## Teaching, Lectureships and Workshop

**1994 – 1997** Part-time Lecturer in Drawing, Technikon Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1992-1994** Part-time Lecturer in Drawing, Technikon Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

**1991-1999** Part-time Lecturer in Drawing and Printmaking, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa

**1990** Johannesburg Art Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Solo Exhibitions

**2015** *One Pound of Flesh*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2013** *No Country for Old Women* – Absa KKNK Oudtshoorn – Festival artist, South Africa

**2013** Benefit Auction – Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2013** *Tom Waits for No Man show*, curated by Gordon Froud, traveling exhibition.

**2012** *Ashes to Ashes and Smoke to Dust*, University of Johannesburg (UJ) Art Gallery, South Africa

**2012** Recent work, David Krut Projects, New York, USA

**2012** University of Pretoria staff exhibition – AULA, University of Pretoria, South Africa

**2012** *This Place /displace*, The George Bizos Foundation Benefit Auction, UJ Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2011** *Fables and Folly*, Faulconer Gallery, Grinnell College, Iowa, USA

**2011** Contemporary prints from South Africa – Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), New York, USA

**2011** *The butcher, the undertaker and the dealer*, Absa KKNK Oudtshoorn, South Africa

**2011** Artist's book show – KKNK Sasol, South Africa

**2011** *Brief lives*, at halls abattoir Innibos Nelspruit civic center, Festival artist, South Africa

**2011** *Collateral: printmaking as social commentary*, Gus Fisher Gallery, University of Auckland, New Zealand

**2010** *Transcend*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2010** *Transgressing the page* book art show, Potchefstroom University, South Africa

**2010** *Out of [south] Africa*, printmaking show, Highpoint center for printmaking, Minneapolis, USA

**2010** Center for contemporary print residency exhibit – CCP, Connecticut, USA

**2010** *Smoke Screen: Frailty and Failing*, David Krut Projects, Chelsea, New York, USA

**2010** *Peek a boo*, contemporary art from South Africa, Helsinki, Finland

**2010** IEEB4 international experimental engraving biennale, Romania

**2010** 2010 Soccer World Cup exhibition, UNISA gallery, Pretoria, South Africa

**2009** Woordfees – Stellenbosh, South Africa

**2009** *Art and Violence*, SPIER, Stellenbosh, South Africa

**2009** New work – Fried contemporary, Pretoria, South Africa

**2009** Lesotho, SA High commission, Maseru, Lesotho, South Africa

**2008** *Diane Victor*, Goodman Gallery Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

**2006** *Diane Victor*, The Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2003** *Diane Victor*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1994** *Diane Victor* Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1992** *Diane Victor* Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1990** *Diane Victor* Gallery on the Market, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1990** *SA Association of Arts*, Pretoria, South Africa

**1989** Two-person show with Geoff Grundlingh, Cité Internationale des Arts, Paris, France

**1989** *Triad Graphics Exhibition*, Paris, France

**1989** *City Group show*, Paris, France

**1989** *Prints with a point 1989*, Off Centre Gallery, Bristol, England, UK

**1989** *Intergrafik 90*, Solidarity Graphics Show, Berlin, Germany

**1989** *Giuseppe Cattaneo Retrospective*, Gertrude Posel Gallery, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Artist Statement

"My interest in image making is linked to my interest as observer, as voyeur. Through the media of drawing and printmaking in which I normally work, I explore ways to exorcise the mass of images that build up in memory/minds eye.

"To 'draw out' these figures allows me to re-confront them in my own terms/territory. The physical and psychological interactions between people and the damage that these interactions invite is interesting to me, the surface of the human body acting as a recording device of the history/s of its owner. Flesh as document of desires and weaknesses." (2002)

<http://www.artthrob.co.za/03feb/artbio.html>

## Group Exhibitions

**2016** *New Revolutions: Goodman Gallery at 50*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2016** *New Revolutions: Goodman Gallery at 50*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2015** *South African Pavilion at 56th Venice Biennale, What remains is tomorrow*, South Africa

**2014** *Earth Matters*, Bowdoin Museum of Art, Brunswick, Maine, USA  
**2014** *From Sitting to Selfie*, Standard Bank Gallery, South Africa  
**2014** *Contemporary Art / South Africa at Yale University Art Gallery*, USA  
  
**2012** *Celebrating 20 years of artists proof studios*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**2012** *Terra incognita*, Fried Contemporary, Pretoria, South Africa  
  
**2011** *Designs of self*, Fried gallery, Pretoria, South Africa  
**2011** *Altered pieces*, Thompson gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
  
**2009** *In Black and White*, Bell-Roberts Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
**2009** *Dystopia*, UNISA gallery, Pretoria, South Africa  
**2009** *Domestic*, Goethe institute, Krakow Print Triennale, Krakow, Poland  
  
**2006** *Personal Affects*, Power and Poetics in Contemporary South African Art, The Contemporary Museum Honolulu, Honolulu, Hawaii  
  
**2004** *Personal Affects*, Power and Poetics in Contemporary South African Art, Museum for African Art, Long Island, USA  
  
**2003** *Contact Zones*, Michael Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
  
**1998** Akademie der Bildende Künste, Schillerplatz, Vienna, Austria  
**1998** *Donaldson, Diedericks, Victor*, NSA Gallery, Durban, South Africa  
**1998** *Vitiate: Vestiges, Volition*, Association for Visual Arts, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1998** *Printmakers Guild*, Campus Gallery, University of Pretoria, South Africa  
**1998** *Absolute 3*, AVA Cape Town, South Africa  
**1998** *Photo-graphics*, The Open Window Group Show, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1998** *Lower East Side Printshop*, Celebrates 30 years, Chelsea Gallery, New York, USA  
**1998** *Resident show of Work*, Johnson Studio Centre, Vermont, USA  
**1998** *ROC Biannual of Drawing and Printmaking*, Republic of China  
**1998** The Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
  
**1997** *Women's Printmaking Guild*, Centurion Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1997** *Eurovirus I-IV*, Carfax experience, 2nd Biennale, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1997** *Kempton Park Art Competition*, Kempton Park, South Africa  
**1997** *Works on Paper*, Gallery on Tyrone, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1997** *Recreation*, Print Collaboration, Robin Silverman, USA  
**1997** *Printmaking in a Changing South Africa*, travelling show, South Africa  
**1997** *Erotic Miniature Show*, Thompson Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
  
**1996** *Female Printmakers*, Museum St. Nicolaus, Belgium  
**1996** Two-person printmaking exhibition, Gallery Sonja Mertens, Antwerp, Belgium  
**1996** *Body Talk*, SA Arts Association, Pretoria, South Africa  
  
**1996** *Loving, Diving, Purging*, The Open Window Art Academy, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1996** *Recent Drawing*, Gallery on Tyrone, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1996** *World Environment Day*, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1996** *The Open Window inaugural exhibition*, The Open Window Art Academy, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1996** *Fiftieth Anniversary Show*, Friends of the Pretoria Art Museum, Cafe Palette, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1996** *Staff Show*, Department of Visual Arts, University of Pretoria, Campus Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1996** *Small Spaces*, Carfax, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1996** *Boxed*, Lyttelton Art Gallery, Centurion, South Africa  
**1996** 30 x 30, Cafe Palette, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1996** *Contemporary South African Art*, Oslo, National Museum of Contemporary Art Oslo, Norway  
  
**1995** *Rapture*, Dubbo Regional Gallery, Australia and Adelaide Central Gallery, Adelaide, Australia  
**1995** *Edge*, Fringe Gallery, Johannesburg Biennale, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1995** *Cunning Stunts*, Fringe Group show, Johannesburg Biennale, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1995** *Volatile Alliances*, International Print Exchange, Johannesburg Biennale, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1995** *Vita Art Now*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1995** *WHIPPS*, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1995** *Some Artists*, De Villiers Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1995** *Women's Day Group Show*, Paarl Art Museum, Paarl, South Africa  
**1995** *Gay Rights Exhibition*, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1995** *Masters and Protégés*, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa  
  
**1994** *Bite the Ballot*, Market Theatre Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1994** *Whipped Cream*, Chelsea Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1994** *Arts Alive*, WHIPPS, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1994** *Jo'burg in the Cape*, Chelsea Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1994** *Art Contemporain d'Afrique du Sud*, Paris, France  
**1994** *February Show*, ICA Gallery, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1994** *Festival of Laughter*, Civic Theatre, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1994** *Staff Show*, Department of Visual Arts, Campus Gallery, University of Pretoria, South Africa  
  
**1993** *Women on Women*, Seeff Trust Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1993** *The Neglected Sex*, Gallery on Tyrone, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1993** *Drawing with Light*, ICA Gallery, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1993** *IGI Vita Art Now*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1993** *The Cleveland Drawing Biennale*, Cleveland, England, UK  
**1993** *Corporate Art*, Midrand, South Africa  
  
**1992** *101 (or more) Miniatures*, ICA Gallery, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1992** *Artists Co-operative*, Midrand, South Africa

**1992** *ICA Inaugural Exhibition*, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1992** *Paris the Catalyst*, Alliance Francaise, Durban, South Africa  
**1992** *AIDS -The Exhibition* ICA Gallery, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1992** *19 Artists*, Department of Visual Arts Lecturer's Show, Campus Gallery, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1992** *Graphics Group Exhibition*, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa

**1991** Two-person show with Giulio Tambellini, University of the Orange Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa  
**1991** Gallery on the Market, Newtown, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1991** Rembrandt van Rijn Cape Town Triennale, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1991** Lecturer's group show, Department of Visual Arts, Campus Gallery, University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1991** *A Life Vita Art Now*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1990** Two-person show with Guy du Toit, Gallery International, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1990** F I G Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1990** *Art Foundation lecturer's show*, Thupelo Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1989** Two-person show with Geoff Grundlingh, Cite International des Arts, Paris, France  
**1989** *Triad Graphics Exhibition*, Paris, France  
**1989** *City Group show*, Paris, France  
**1989** *Prints with a point 1989*, graphics exhibition, Off Centre Gallery, Bristol, England, UK  
**1989** *Intergrafik 90*, Solidarity Graphics Show, Berlin, Germany  
**1989** *Giuseppe Cattaneo Retrospective*, Gertrude Posel Gallery, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1988** *Volkscas Atelier Award exhibition*, SA Association of the Arts, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1988** *Rembrandt van Rijn Cape Town Triennale*, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1988** *23rd International Prix of Contemporary Art of Monte Carlo*, Monte Carlo, France

**1987** *Corona del Mar*, Young Artist of the Year Exhibition, Uvongo, Kwa-Zulu, South Africa  
**1987** *Standard Bank Drawing Festival*, Grahamstown, South Africa  
**1987** *Four-person show of graphics*, Melville Place Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Academic Record and Residencies

### Residencies

**1998** Unesco, Vienna, Austria Johnson Studio Vermont, USA

### Postgraduate

**1986** BA, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

### Awards and Merits

**2012** KykNET Fiesta award. Beste prestasie in visuele kuns vir Innibos Feeskunstenaar & KKNK Uitstallings.

**2011** Festival artist – Innibos arts festival Nelspruit.  
**2011** Herrie Kanna award at ABSA KKNK.

**2010** CCP printmaking residency – Connecticut, USA.

**2009** Festival artist – Aardklop, Potchestroom.

**2006** Statutory award of MTG – Krakow Print Triennial. Krakow Poland.  
**2006** Finalist of the SASOL wax in Art Award.

**2005** Gold Medal Award for Visual Art – SA Academy of Arts and Sciences.

**2002** WAM Sasol Wax Award winner.

**2000** Windsor and Newton Millennium competition – Finalist.

**1999** Vermont Studio center residency – Vermont, USA.

**1998** UNESCO residency – Vienna Austria.

**1997** Fellowship to the Ampersand Foundation, New York/ Johannesburg, USA/South Africa  
**1997** Joint second place, Kempton Park Art Competition, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1995** Civic Theatre Commission, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1989** Financial Mail/J & B Rare Achievers Award for Art, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1988** Volkscas Atelier Award, winner, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1987** Reeves Award, Rolfe's Graphics Prize  
**1987** Corona del Mar Young Artist Award, joint second prize, KwaZulu Natal, South Africa

**1986** SASOL New Signatures Competition, winner, SA Arts Association, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1986** Gunther van der Reis prize for Graphics, New Signatures Competition, S A Arts Association, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1986** Martienessen Prize, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1986** Merit Student, Graphics IV, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1985** Anya Millman Scholarship for travel in Europe, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1985** Student Prize, NSA Paper Works exhibition, Durban, South Africa  
**1985** Merit Student, Graphics II, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Selected Articles and Reviews

**2013** Oliver Roberts, *The fightback of an escape artist*, Sunday Times, Johannesburg, December 8

**2006** Catherine Green, *Diane Victor*, Art South Africa, (Review of solo exhibition, Goodman Gallery)  
<http://www.artsouthafrica.com/?article=155> June

**2008** Tavish McIntosh, *Diane Victor at Goodman Gallery Cape*, Artthrob  
<http://www.artthrob.co.za/08mar/reviews/goodmanc.html> March  
Daniel Thöle, *Social statements cross boundaries*, Business Day, (Review of 'Transmigrations' at Pretoria Art Museum)

**2002** [www.geocities.com/SoHo/Coffeehouse/6702/transmigration/reviews/bdreview.htm](http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Coffeehouse/6702/transmigration/reviews/bdreview.htm) Tuesday, April 9

**2002** Sue Williamson, *Grime at Bell-Roberts Art Gallery*, ArtThrob,  
[www.artthrob.co.za/02jul/reviews/grime.html](http://www.artthrob.co.za/02jul/reviews/grime.html) July

Andrea Jonker-Bryce, *More than meets the eye*, Dispatch Online, (Review of 'Transmigrations' at Ann Bryant Art Gallery)

**2002** [www.dispatch.co.za/2002/11/21/features/EYE.HTM](http://www.dispatch.co.za/2002/11/21/features/EYE.HTM) Thursday, November 21

**2001** Brenda Atkinson, *Clean: An Exhibition of De-saturated Contemporary Art*, ArtThrob,  
[www.artthrob.co.za/01nov/reviews/millennium.html](http://www.artthrob.co.za/01nov/reviews/millennium.html) November

Brenda Atkinson, *Some gems at the end of the rainbow*, Mail & Guardian, (Review of Winsor and Newton Millennium Painting Competition)

**1999** [www.chico.mweb.co.za/mg/art/fineart/9904/990408-winton.html](http://www.chico.mweb.co.za/mg/art/fineart/9904/990408-winton.html) April 8

**1998** Chris Roper, *Each to his/her own*, Mail & Guardian, May 8,

**1996** Herlo van Rensburg, *Purging in the work of Diane Victor: Contradiction and Convergence*, Gallery Page, [www.up.ac.za/academic/arts/gallery.html](http://www.up.ac.za/academic/arts/gallery.html), June

## Publications

**2012** *Burning the candle at both ends*, David Krut Publication S.A

**2012** VON VEY, K, *Loss and Transience in the work of Diane Victor*, Diane Victor: Burning the Candle at Both Ends. Johannesburg: David Krut. pp.5-78.

**2012** VON VEY, K, *Diane Victor, Tracey Rose, and the Gender Politics of Christian Imagery*. African Arts. Winter Vol.45. no.4. pp.22-33

**2012** VON VEY, K, *The intersection of Christianity and Politics in South African art: a comparative analysis of selected images since 1960, with emphasis on the post-apartheid era*, De Arte 85, pp.5-25.

**2011** ALLARA, P, *Diane Victor and Paul Emmanuel: Lost Men, Lost Words* (I) ds, African Arts 45/4, (winter), 34-45.

**2011** RANKIN, E, *Human rights and human wrongs: public perceptions of Diane Victor's Disasters of Peace*, South African Journal of Art History 26.1: 85-95.

**2011** RANKIN, E, *Collateral: Printmaking as Social Commentary*, Gus Fisher Art Gallery, University of Auckland

**2009** VON VEY, K, *Saints and Sinners: Re-Evaluating gendered power bases entrenched by religious imagery*, In A.A. du Preez (ed.) Taking a Hard Look: Gender and Visual Culture. Newcastle on Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. pp.47-70.

**2008** RANKIN, E. AND VON VEY, K, *Taxi Book 13 – Diane Victor*, David Krut Publications S.A.

**2007** VON VEY, K, *Considerations on the Sasol Wax Art Awards*, De Arte 75, September, pp. 64-72.

**2007** VON VEY, K, *Transformations of Religious Icons in the work of Diane Victor*, Proceedings of Transformation/s in Visual Culture. The 22nd Annual Conference of the South African Association of Visual Arts Historians, Published by VUT pp: 179-188.

**2008** Rankin, E and von Vey, K, *TAXI 013 – Diane Victor*, David Krut Publishing, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2008** Bingham, N and Crossley, L. *Diane Victor: Soft Ground Techniques*, David Krut Publishing, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2006** VON VEY, K, *Is there a place for Feminism in contemporary South African Art?* De Arte, No.73, pp.28-42.

**2004** PERRYER, S, *10 years 100 Artists: Art in a Democratic South Africa*