

## Jabulani Dhlamini



### Biography

Jabulani Dhlamini (b. 1983, Free State, South Africa) lives and works in Johannesburg. Dhlamini majored in documentary photography at the Vaal University of Technology, graduating in 2010. He is an alumni fellow of the Edward Ruiz Mentorship programme and the Market Photo Workshop in Johannesburg. His work focuses on his upbringing while also reflecting on various communities within contemporary South Africa. Dhlamini's approach is meditative and subtly provokes a closer look at what lies on the edges through an exploration of personal and collective memory. Incorporating landscape imagery and intimate portraits, his work captures historical moments — such as the recollection of the Sharpeville Massacre, the effects of land dispossession and the funeral of anti-apartheid activist Winnie Madikizela-Mandela — while also documenting the quieter moments in the lives of everyday South Africans.

Dhlamini's *Umama* series was exhibited as part of his Edward Ruiz award at the Market Photo Workshop in 2012, and at Goodman Gallery Cape Town in 2013 – his first solo exhibition with the gallery. In *Umama*, Dhlamini pays homage to single mothers and explores the challenges faced by women raising children on their own in South African townships. For his *Recaptured* series, which was exhibited at Goodman Gallery in 2016, Dhlamini turned to the community of Sharpeville, asking people to bring objects that reminded them of the 1960 massacre. Over the course of several years, Dhlamini interviewed and photographed a number of individuals who traced their movements and emotions on the day of the Sharpeville Massacre, relocating themselves within the collective memory.

In 2018 Dhlamini's work was featured on the Five Photographers, A Tribute to David Goldblatt group exhibition at the Gerard Sekoto Gallery at the French Institute. In his 2018 exhibition at Goodman Gallery, *iXesha!*, Dhlamini explored how memory is created and archived within a community where the memory has been localised. This exhibition included images from Dhlamini's recent series *iQhawekazi* documenting the events around Winnie Mandela's funeral.

In his most recent exhibition with the Gallery, the everyday waiting, Dhlamini photographed his community in Soweto during the first four months of the national lockdown, drawing attention to the psychological impact of COVID-19.

### Solo Exhibitions

2020 *The Everyday Waiting*, Goodman Gallery, London

2019 *Isisekelo*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Goodman Gallery

2018 *Ixesha!*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2018 *iQhawekazi*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
2016 *Recaptured*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2013 *uMama*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2012 *uMama*, Market Photo Workshop Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Group Exhibitions

2021 *Le Grand Chemin #2*, Cité des Arts, Reunion Island  
2020 *Of Soul and Joy Photography Project South Africa*, Arles Photo Festival, Arles, France  
2019 *Le Grand Chemin #1*, Cité des Arts, Reunion Island  
2019 *Five Photographers*, National Art Festival, Makhanda  
2019 *Five Photographers*, Durban Art Gallery, Durban  
2019 *Five Photographers*, Café What?, Maseru, Lesotho  
2019 *Five Photographers CCFM Maputo*, Mozambique  
2019 *Five Photographers Mali*, Institute François du Mali, Bamako, Mali  
2018 *Five Photographers. A tribute to David Goldblatt*, Gerard Sekoto Gallery, French Institute of South Africa and the Alliance Française of Johannesburg, Johannesburg, South Africa  
2016 *New Revolutions: Goodman Gallery at 50*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
2010 *Bonani Africa Photographic Festival*, Cape Town, South Africa  
2008 *Cape Town Months of Photography Festival*, Cape Town, South Africa

## Awards and Merits

\*2011\*\_Edward Ruiz Mentorship  
\*2011\*\_Ernest Cole Award, Honorable Mention  
\*2010\*\_Bonani Africa, Honorable Mention  
\*2010\*\_Photo Imaging Education Association, Honorable Mention  
\*2009\*\_Fujifilm Southern Africa Photographic Awards

## Academic Record and Residencies

2007 – 2011 *Vaal University of Technology, Vereeniging, South Africa*  
\*2018\*\_Artist in Residence, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town  
2018 *Artist in Residence, Cité des Arts, La Réunion, Réunion Island*