
IN A DIFFERENT TIME

fried contemporary is proud to present a solo exhibition by johann van der schijff

IN A DIFFERENT TIME | JOHANN VAN DER SCHIJFF

26 january - 25 february 2017

In a Different Time deals with ways in which we confront one another and ourselves. Partly autobiographical, this exhibition reflects on the dualities of growing up and living in South Africa. The underlying violence of a scarred society is set off against the simple routines of my daily life, interposed with childhood memories.

The bigger metal and bronze pieces speak about South African society at large and continue themes I have worked with since 2007 and the unveiling of the *Arm-Wrestling Podium*, a public sculpture in Cape Town's city centre. These works deal with power relationships and make reference to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the public foot washing phenomenon and the never-ending political jostling that is often accompanied by violence. The look of these pieces, made in a combination of weather-resistant steel, stainless steel and bronze, was influenced by the ultra-utilitarian design of the military and police riot vehicles of my youth.

By contrast, the other works on the exhibition, made of a combination of European and African hard woods, reveal more about myself. As I go about my daily life performing the everyday simple routines that keep me going

– feeding the dogs in the morning, having my first morning coffee – the line between these daily routines and flights of fancy influenced by my youth becomes blurred.

Thus, a concave security mirror made in European *linde hout* (lime wood), ringed by a halo of coloured pencils, might make reference to the rainbow nation. It could equally make an art historical reference to Jan van Eyck's *Arnolfini Portrait*, or simply refer to the gorgeous German colour pencil sets in the window of Schweickerdt art supply store in the central Pretoria of my childhood.

This play on double meaning and ambiguity flows through the entire exhibition. I hope that it opens up an insight into my imagination and my own confrontation of the violence that is so much part of living here as I try to make sense of my own place in South Africa.

- Johann van der Schijff, Associate Professor,
Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town

JOHANN VAN DER SCHIJFF

Johann van der Schijff is an artist living and working in Cape Town, South Africa. As an Associate Professor at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, he teaches in the sculpture section of the school. He holds a Master of Fine Art (new media), Frank Mohr Instituut, Groningen, The Netherlands; a Master of Fine Art (sculpture), University of Cape Town; and a Bachelor of Fine Art, University of Pretoria. His sculptural/new media works have been exhibited nationally and internationally.

Johann's research interests are in the areas of computer-aided design and manufacturing techniques and the design of interactive systems. Growing up in South Africa, questions of power relations in society underlie much of his work, forcing the viewer into a position of choice in their engagement with his artworks. His work has been concerned with the effects of apartheid and the pervasiveness of violence that continues in its wake. Central to his exhibitions has been the presence of interactivity as

he tempts his viewers to interact with his sculptures even as they realise such interactions are suggestive of aggression and complicity in violence.



JOHANN VAN DER SCHIJFF



Motion Sensor,
2016,
Kiaat wood, Beech wood,
13cm wide x 18.5cm high x 6cm deep
Edition 1 of 7

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Security Camera (Kiaat),
2015,
Kiaat wood, stainless steel screws, aluminium bracket, enamel paint,
76cm wide x 169cm high x 64.5cm deep
Edition 3 of 5

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Security Camera (Beech),
2015,
Beech wood, stainless steel screws, aluminium bracket, enamel paint,
76cm wide x 169cm high x 64.5cm deep
Edition 3 of 5

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Feed the Dogs,

2014,

Beech wood, weather resistant steel, aluminum, enamel paint,

Two objects randomly positioned on the floor within a 50cm x 50cm wide square area,

object a.) 30cm x 30cm wide x 7cm high, object

b.) 25cm x 25cm wide x 5cm high



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I to I,
2015,
Wooden folding chair, wooden baby chair, enamel paint, Beech wood, Kiaat wood, stainless steel,
76cm wide x 169cm high x 64.5cm deep

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Walk the Line,
2015,
Bronze, weather resistant steel, mild steel, stainless steel, wood, enamel paint,
314.5cm wide x 41cm high x 53cm deep

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A shrine to my Lunch,
2015,
Beech wood, Kiaat wood, wood, enamel paint,
76cm wide x 169cm high x 64.5cm deep

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In a Different Time,
2015,
Beech wood, Kiaat wood, wood, enamel paint,
35cm wide x 37cm high x 18cm deep

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Skerpunt Ammunisie (Sharp Point Ammunition),
2015,
34 x Remington .223 bullets (disarmed), Beech wood, Kiaat wood, wood, enamel paint,
35cm wide x 23cm high x 18cm deep
Edition 1 of 2



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Confession Podium,
2015,
Bronze, weather resistant steel, mild steel, stainless steel, wood, enamel paint,
76cm wide x 169cm high x 64.5cm deep

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17, 116 Days of Art (11 January 1969 to 28 November 2015),
2015,
Beech wood, Kiaat wood, wood, enamel paint,
76cm wide x 9.5cm high x 64.5cm deep

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Panic Button,
2016,
Kiaat wood, Beech wood,
8cm wide x 20cm high x 4cm deep
Edition 1 of 5



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Foot-Washing Podium,
2015,
Bronze, weather resistant steel, mild steel, stainless steel, wood, enamel paint,
79cm wide x 115cm high x 59cm deep

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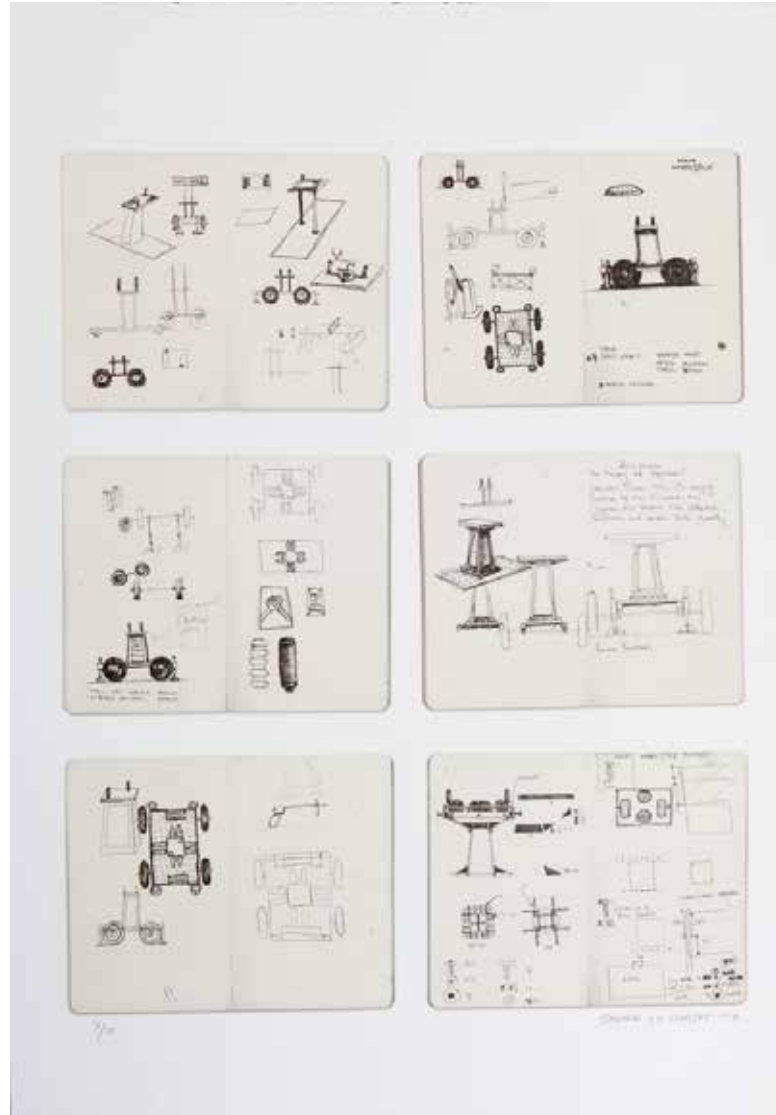
Ebony & Ivory Pear Ball,
2008,
Aluminium, stainless steel, plywood, tanned leather, stuffing,
90cm wide x 66cm high x 38cm deep.

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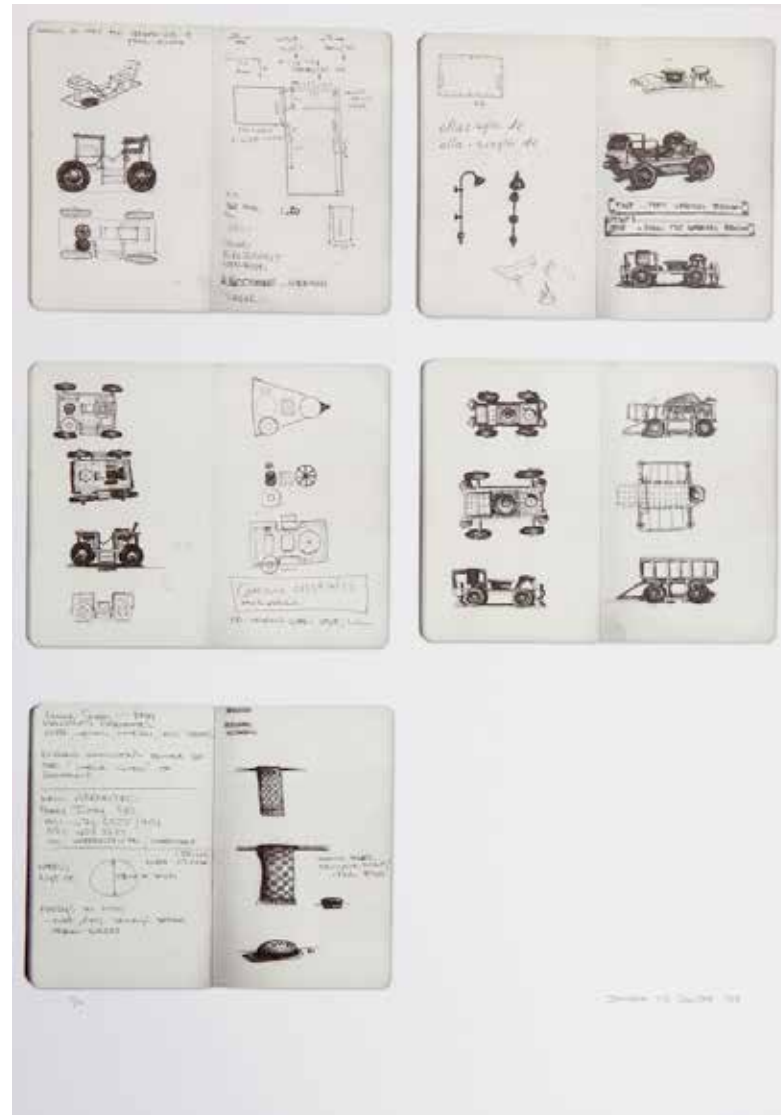
Yellow & Ivory Pear Ball,
2008,
Aluminium, stainless steel, plywood, tanned leather, stuffing,
90cm wide x 66cm high x 38cm deep.

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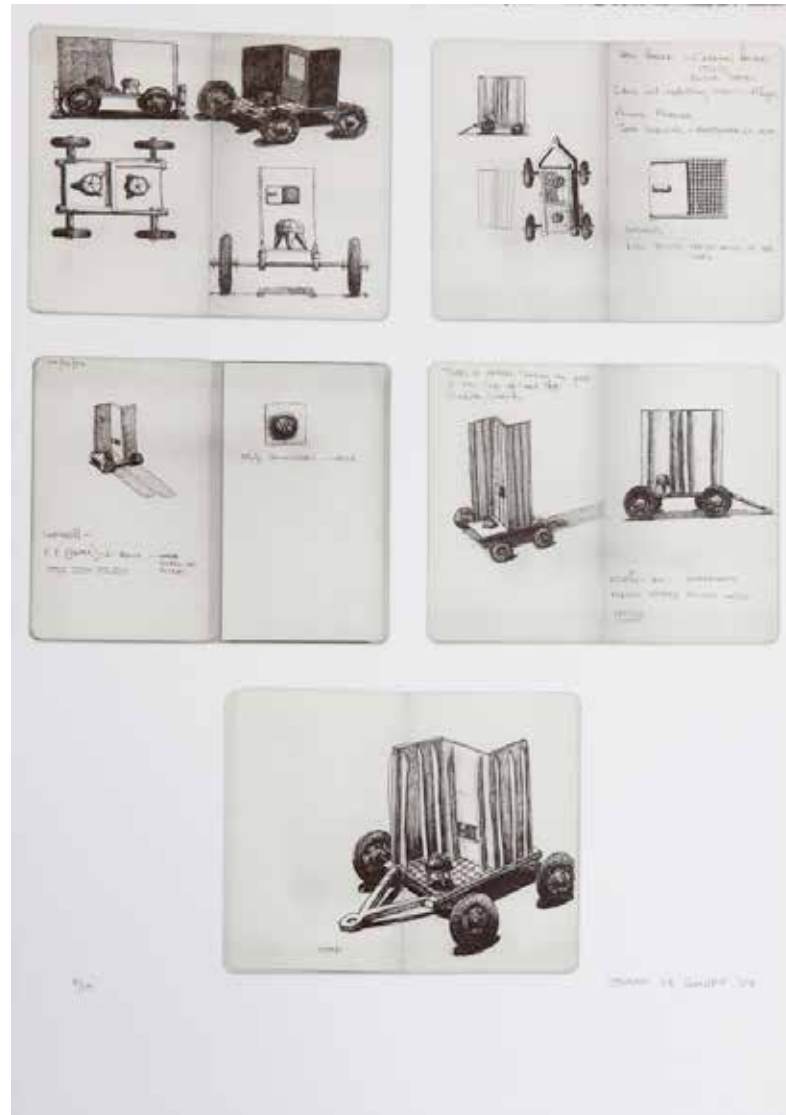
Arm-Wrestling Podium (AWP),
2007,
Photolithograph,
Edition 9 of 10,
50cm wide x 70.5cm high.

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Public Foot-washing Podium (PFP),
2007,
Photolithograph,
Edition 8 of 10,
50cm wide x 70.5cm high.

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Truth and Confession Podium (TCP),
2007,
Photolithograph,
Edition 8 of 10,
50cm wide x 70.5cm high



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Arnhem Mirror,
2011,
Convex security mirror, Linde Hout (Lime wood), 120 colour pencils, magnets
75cm wide x 75cm high x 70cm deep,
Edition of 5 + AP

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Monument Podium (MP),
2007,
Bronze,
Edition 1 of 10,
17cm wide x 26.5cm high x 14.5cm deep

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Arm-Wrestling Podium (AWP),
2007,
Bronze + stainless steel,
Edition 8 of 10,
16cm wide x 14.5cm high x 14cm deep.

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Public Foot-washing Podium (PFP),
2007,
Bronze + stainless steel,
Edition 1 of 10,
18cm wide x 9.5cm high x 14.5cm deep

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Truth and Confession Podium (TCP),
2007,
Bronze + stainless steel,
Edition 1 of 10,
18cm wide x 9.5cm high x 14.5cm deep

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Walk the Line,
2015,
Bronze + stainless steel,
Edition 1 of 10,
18cm wide x 17cm high x 156cm deep.



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