

# Terry Kurgan

**Artist and Writer. Born in Cape Town, lives in Johannesburg.**

## Education

- 2016**    **MA in Creative writing** – University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg
- 1992**    **MFA** – Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 1984**    **BAFA** –California College of Arts, Oakland/San Francisco, California, USA

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2014**    **Let's Talk: 30 Days At The Spreefeld**—Nine Urban Biotopes Project, Urban Dialogues, Spreefeld Boathouse, Spreecker, Berlin
- 2013**    **Public Art/Private Lives**—Gallery AOP, Johannesburg
- 2011**    **Still, life**—Gallery AOP, Johannesburg
- 2009**    **(I promise) I love you**—Gallery AOP, Johannesburg
- 2006**    **Terry Kurgan Photographs 1924 – 2006**—Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg
- 2003**    **Skip**—Bell – Roberts Gallery, Cape Town
- Lost and Found**—Durban Art Gallery, Durban
- 2002**    **Lost and Found**—Goodman Gallery, National Arts Festival, Grahamstown
- 1999**    **Family Affairs** —*Gertrude Posel Gallery, Johannesburg*
- Family Affairs** —Mark Coetzee Fine Art Cabinet, Cape Town
- Maternal Exposures**—Groote Schuur & Mowbray Maternity Hospitals, Cape Town
- 1997**    **Home Truths** —Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg

## Recent Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018** **Collaboration. A Potential History of Photography**—A project by Ariella Azoulay, Wendy Ewald, Susan Meiselas, Leigh Raiford, and Laura Wexler. Aperture Gallery-New York, Brown University, and Ryerson Image Centre, Toronto
- 2014** **Public Intimacy: Art And Other Ordinary Acts In South Africa** —San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA), San Francisco
- Nine Urban Biotopes: Negotiating the Future of Urban Living**—A project of Urban Dialogues-Berlin, and travelling to London, Paris, Turin, Johannesburg
- 2013** **Sharp-Sharp Johannesburg**—La Gaité Lyrique, Paris
- Splice: At the Intersection of Art and Medicine**—Pratt-Manhattan Gallery, New York
- Makers in Print**—University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Museum
- 2012** **Featured artist, Johannesburg Art Fair**—Represented by AOP Gallery
- 2011** **Figures & Fictions: Contemporary South African Photography**—curated by Tamar Garb & Martin Barnes, Victoria & Albert Museum, London
- Wide Angle: Photography as Public Practice**—Substation Gallery, Wits School of Arts, Johannesburg
- 2010** **Hotel Yeoville**—Yeoville Public Library, Rokeby Street, Johannesburg
- Featured artist, Johannesburg Art Fair**, Represented by AOP Gallery
- 2009** **Capital: How Heads Talk**, Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg
- 2008** **Idensitat 07: Home/Away**, Barcelona, Calaf, Manresa & Mataro- Catalunya, Spain

## Publications: Books & Articles by Terry Kurgan

- 2018** *Everyone is Present: Essays on Photography, Memory and Family*, Terry Kurgan, published by Fourthwall Books, Johannesburg, 2018
- 2018** ‘Object Lessons’, published in a special issue of *Critical Arts* on vernacular photography: Terry Kurgan (2018), ‘Object Lessons’, *Critical Arts* 32:1, 107–121, <https://doi.org/10.1080/02560046.2018.1437195>
- 2016** “Relational Politics: Zen Marie and Terry Kurgan in conversation” published in *Public Intimacy: Art And Other Ordinary Acts In South Africa*, published by SFMOMA and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, 2016.

- 2015** *Wide Angle: Photography as Participatory Practice*, edited by Terry Kurgan and Tracy Murinik, eBook, published by Fourthwall Books, Johannesburg 2015. <http://fourthwallbooks.com/wide-angle-photography-as-participatory-practice-2/>
- “Acts of Intimate Exposure: The Making of Hotel Yeoville” and “Relational Politics: Zen Marie and Terry Kurgan in conversation, June 2012” are also published in *Wide Angle: Photography as Participatory Practice*, edited by Terry Kurgan and Tracy Murinik, eBook, published by Fourthwall Books, Johannesburg 2015.
- “My Father, and a Fish,” ITCH – The Creative Journal, Issue 14 - *VALUE*, published online by University of the Witwatersrand's School of Literature, Language and Media. <http://www.itch.co.za/writing/my-father-and-a-fish>.
- “Nine Urban Biotopes, or, a view of Johannesburg from Berlin”  
<http://openengagement.info/terry-kurgan/>
- “Public Art/Private Lives : The Making of Hotel Yeoville” co-authored by Terry Kurgan, Tegan Bristow, and Alexander Opper in *Museum Transformations*, Annie E. Coombes and Ruth B. Phillips (Eds.) Volume 4 of a 4 volume publication: *The International Handbooks of Museum Studies*, published by Wiley-Blackwell, UK 2015.
- “Hotel Yeoville-Reflections on the advantages of working together,” co-authored by Terry Kurgan and Alexander Opper, in *New Spaces for Negotiating Art and Histories in Africa*, Kerstin Pinther, Ugochukwu Smooth C. Nzewi, Berit Fischer (Eds.), published by LIT Verlag, Berlin 2015.
- 2013** *Hotel Yeoville*, Terry Kurgan (ed.) published by Fourthwall Books, Johannesburg, 2013
- “Public Art/Private Lives”, in a special issue of *Cultural Studies Journal*, *Private Lives and Public Cultures in South Africa*, Kerry Bystrom & Sarah Nuttall (eds.) published by Routledge, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA.
- "Checking into Hotel Yeoville", Alexandra Dodd and Terry Kurgan, in a special issue of *Third Text, The Art of Change in South Africa*, Nomusa Makhuba & Ruth Simbao (eds), Volume 27, Issue 3, 2013
- 2012** “Park Pictures” in the book *UNFIXED: Photography and postcolonial perspectives in contemporary art*, Asmara Pelupessy and Sara Blokland (eds) published by Jap Sam Books, August 2012, Netherlands.
- 2010** “Park Pictures: on the work of photography in Johannesburg”, Louise Bethlehem and Terry Kurgan, in the book *Rethinking Labour in Africa, Past and Present*, Lynn Schler, Louise Bethlehem, Galia Sabar (eds.), published by Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, UK 2010
- “Hotel Yeoville” in *On Making: Integrating Approaches to Practice-Led Research in Art and Design*. Leora Farber (ed.), published by the Research Centre, Visual Identities in Art and Design, University of Johannesburg, 2010
- “Hotel Yeoville : Pleased to Meet You” *Art South Africa*, volume 9, Issue 2, December 2010
- 2009** “Park Pictures: on the work of photography in Johannesburg”, Louise Bethlehem and Terry Kurgan, in the journal *African Identities*, volume 7, number 3, August 2009, Special Issue: *Rethinking Labour in Africa, Past and Present*, Lynn Schler, Louise Bethlehem, Galia Sabar (eds.), published by Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group, UK, 2009

- 2008** "A Dialogue Between Two People Who Never Met", Terry Kurgan/Aida Sanchez de Serdio, in *Home/Away: Art in Social Space*, Idensitat – 4, Published by Editorial Tenov, Barcelona, 2008
- "Testing the Rhetoric" *Rhodes Journalism Review*, Volume 28, September 2008
- 2005** *Johannesburg Circa Now: Photography and the City*, Terry Kurgan and Jo Ractliffe (eds.), published by Terry Kurgan and Jo Ractliffe, ISBN 0-620-34177-7, Johannesburg 2005
- 1998** "Mothers and Others" Catalogue Essay, *Bringing Up Baby: Artist's survey the Reproductive Body*, Terry Kurgan (ed.), published by the *Bringing Up Baby project*, Cape Town 1998

## Publications: Bibliography – book chapters & articles about Terry Kurgan

- 2017** *Affective Images: Post-apartheid documentary perspectives*, by Marietta Kesting. Published by State University of New York Press, 2017. The book includes *Hotel Yeoville* as a case study.
- <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0725513617720314> Terry Kurgan's *Hotel Yeoville*, is included in this interesting academic article by Naomi Roux on the subject of "Writing Johannesburg".
- Home, family and intimacy in recent writings on and from South Africa*, by Carli Coetzee, in the journal *Africa*, Volume 87, Issue 2, May 2017, pp. 407-418.
- <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/africa/article/home-family-and-intimacy-in-recent-writings-on-and-from-south-africa/25978F66001E230AA165387B9968AA21>
- 2015** *A Cup of Tea and a Marriage Proposal*, by Valentina Rojas Loa. An essay on my work within this ePublication: *Nine Urban Biotopes: Negotiating the Future of Urban Living*, Published by Stefan Horn, urban dialogues e.V., Berlin 2015. The multi-media e-publication can be downloaded as a tablet-app in Google Play and Apple Store. A pdf-Version is provided here: <http://www.urbandialogues.de/uploads/pdf/biotopes/9UBePublicationflat.pdf>
- Democracy at Home in South Africa: Family Fictions and Transitional Culture*, by Kerry Bystrom. Published by Palgrave Macmillan, New York, 2015.
- 2014** *Between Politics and Poetics: Terry Kurgan's Hotel Yeoville*, by Federico Freschia, in *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*, Vol. 15, Iss. 2-3, 2014, published by Routledge, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA
- Johannesburg Interiors* by Kerry Bystrom, in a special issue of *Cultural Studies Journal*, *Private Lives and Public Cultures in South Africa*, Kerry Bystrom & Sarah Nuttall (eds.) published by Routledge, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, USA.
- Terry Kurgan-Hotel Yeoville/Public Intimacy*. Video Profile produced by Ben Leon of the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in association with the exhibition "Public Intimacy: Art And Other Ordinary Acts In South Africa" San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA), San Francisco, USA. <http://www.terrykurgan.com/2014/05/san-francisco-yerba-buena-center-for-the-arts-a-video-on-public-artprivate-lives/>

- 2013** *Hotel Yeoville*, reviewed by Gavin Younge in [De Arte, Volume 2013, Issue 88](https://journals.co.za/content/dearte/2013/88/EJC153557), Jan 2013, p. 93 - 95  
<https://journals.co.za/content/dearte/2013/88/EJC153557>
- 2011** *Figures and Fictions: Contemporary South African Photography*, by Tamar Garb, published by Steidl Verlag Publishers to coincide with the exhibition (of the same name) opening at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, April 2011.
- Visual Century: South African Art in Context, Volume 4 1990 – 2007*, edited by Thembikosi Goniwe, Mario Pissarra, and Mandisi Majavu, Wits University Press, 2011
- 2010** *Mail & Guardian Book of South African Women*, edited by Barbara Ludman, published by Mail & Guardian, Johannesburg 2010. <http://bookofwomen.mg.co.za/>
- 2006** *Number Four: The making of Constitution Hill*, Segal, L, Martin K and Court S (eds.) published by Penguin Books, South Africa 2006
- 2005** "Material Ghosts: Terry Kurgan's Park pictures" by Ruth Rosengarten, in *Johannesburg Circa Now: Photography and the City*, Terry Kurgan and Jo Ractliffe (eds.), published by Terry Kurgan and Jo Ractliffe, ISBN 0-620-34177-7, Johannesburg 2005
- 2004** "Terry Kurgan" by Tracy Murinik, in *10 years 100 artists: Art in a Democratic South Africa*, Sophie Perryer (ed.), Published by Bell-Roberts Publishing, Cape Town 2004
- Through the Looking Glass: Representations of Self by South African Women Artists*, by, Brenda Schmahmann, Published by David Krut Publishing, Johannesburg 2004
- 2003** "Skip: present company included : a space between 'private' and public" catalogue essay, By Kathryn Smith, 2003
- 2000** "Terry Kurgan" catalogue Essay by Rory Bester, FNB Vita Art Prize exhibition, published by FNB, Johannesburg 2000
- Cilliers, Pieter (2000) "Kunskafee" No's. 19 and 22 – Video profile by Pieter Cilliers Production for the arts magazine programme Kunskafee on DSTV
- Williamson, S. "Artbio" [www.artthrob.co.za](http://www.artthrob.co.za), Issue 36, August 2000
- 1999** Atkinson, B. (Ed) (1999) "Wash 5 – Family" Chalkham Hill Press, Johannesburg
- 1997** "To Have and To Hold: Recent Drawings by Terry Kurgan". By Ruth Rosengarten, Exhibition Catalogue essay, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg 1997
- "Lifetimes: Kunst aus dem sudlichen Afrika". Ruth Sack (ed.), Exhibition catalogue, Aktionsforum Praterinsel: Munich 1997
- "Printmaking in a transforming South Africa", by Phillipa Hobbs and Elizabeth Rankin, published by David Philip Publishers, Cape Town and Johannesburg, 1997
- 1996** "Don't mess with Mister Inbetween: 15 Artistas da Africa Do Sul". Ruth Rosengarten, Exhibition Catalogue Essay. Published by Culturgest: Lisbon 1996

## Awards & Grants

- 2016** *Wide Angle* nominated for the inaugural National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences awards for book, creative and digital collections in the category: digital humanities
- 2015** Wits / Wiser Writing Fellowship  
Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Award  
Christa Maria Trust Award  
Yellowwoods Art Trust Award
- 2012** Winner - 2012 Mbokodo Awards – for Photography  
*Hotel Yeoville* Shortlisted for the first “International Award For Excellence in Public Art” (IAPA)
- 2010** Puma Mobility Award  
*Hotel Yeoville* nominated for The Institute for Justice & Reconciliation’s 2010 award  
Goethe Institut Johannesburg (project partnership grant)
- 2009** Business & Arts South Africa/Business Day Award (winner)
- 2008** Force Migration Studies Programme (Wits University) Fellowship  
National Arts Council (project grant)  
Sasol Wax Art Award (semi-finalist)  
Goethe Institut Johannesburg (project partnership grant)  
Johannesburg Development Agency (project grant)
- 2007** Ford Foundation (3 year Hotel Yeoville project grant)
- 2006** Business & Arts South Africa/Business Day Award (nominated finalist)
- 2005** Business & Arts South Africa /Business Day Award (nominated finalist)
- 2000** Winner - FNB Vita Art Prize

## Fellowships

- 2018** Ampersand Foundation Fellowship
- 2016** Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research (WiSER ) writing fellow/artist in residence
- 2015** Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research (WiSER ) writing fellow/artist in residence
- 2009** The African Centre for Migration & Society/ Wits University/Research Fellow
- 2008** The African Centre for Migration & Society/ Wits University/Research Fellow

## Public Presentations & Lectures

- 2019** **South African Jewish Museum, Cape Town.** Book Talk: *Everyone is Present*. Terry Kurgan in conversation with writer and scholar, Steven Robins.

**Magnum Foundation, New York.** Book Talk: *Everyone is Present*. Terry Kurgan in conversation about her recent publication, with curator, writer and scholar, Remi Onabanjo.

**Institute for Advanced Studies, UCL, London.** Book Talk: *Everyone is Present*. Terry Kurgan in conversation about her recent publication with curator, writer and scholar Tamar Garb & Polish writer and scholar Eva Hoffman.

**Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WiSER)** Discussion: *Everyone is Present* by Terry Kurgan. Join Terry Kurgan in conversation with scholars and writers: Pamila Gupta, Sarah Nuttall and Hlonipha Mokoena.

- 2018** **A4 ARTS Foundation, Cape Town.** Book Talk: *Everyone is Present*. Terry Kurgan in conversation about her recent publication with writer and journalist Mark Gevisser.
- Johannesburg Holocaust and Genocide Centre.** Book Talk: *Everyone is Present*. Terry Kurgan in conversation with Isabel Hofmeyr, Anton Harber and Bronwyn Law-Viljoen.
- Love Books, Johannesburg.** Book Launch: *Everyone is Present*. Terry Kurgan in conversation with Professor Gerrit Olivier.
- WiSER: Governing Intimacies Project, Telling Lives: Trust, Lies, History.** Discussant, with Shireen Hassim, Gail Smith and Sisonke Msimang on Msimang's book, *Always Another Country*.
- Columbia University, New York.** Presentation of my upcoming publication *Everyone is Present* (in the context of its relationship with my larger body of work) to the *Cultural Memory Seminar*, convened by Marianne Hirsch and Andreas Huyssen.
- 2016** **Ford Foundation, Johannesburg: Colloquium: "Art of Change – Disrupting Narratives, Claiming I** presented a talk, "Intimate Exposures" on the panel: "Art and Identity- Disrupting Narratives."
- 2015** **Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research, (Wiser)** "Family Affairs: Acts of Memory and Imagination" Lunchtime Seminar Series. Presentation of my writing project in progress.
- Goethe-Institut Johannesburg, "9 URBAN BIOTOPES - THE FUTURE OF URBAN LIVING",** Public presentation on this South African /European artists exchange and residency programme. It ran through 2014. I was both South African creative coordinator and one of the artists selected to work in Europe (Berlin).
- Wits Institute of Social and Economic Research (WiSER) Wits University:** A symposium curated by Pamila Gupta. Collections, Preservation, Dialogue - Vernacular Photography – Africa and India. I presented a paper: "My Father, and a Fish."
- 2014** **San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA)** "Acts of Intimate Exposure" – Conference presentation at 3 day *Visual Activism Symposium*, programed in association with: *Public Intimacy: Art and Other Ordinary Acts in South Africa*,
- University of Johannesburg, "Between Writing and Drawing"** Roundtable presentation as part of the Practice-Led Writing Conference convened by the Research Centre - Visual Identities in Art and Design, Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture.
- 2013** **ECLA Bard University, Berlin: Artists' Talk: "Public Art/Private Lives: The making of Hotel Yeoville".**
- Storefront for Art And Architecture, New York: Hotel Yeoville :** Book Launch and Public Event. Part of Storefront's Interrogation Series: "The Interrogation Series develops questions and interviews between institutionalized modes of inquiry and/or emerging discourses. The events aim to produce multiple methodologies of inquiry and ultimately extract a confession or obtain information from certain suspects in relation to a particular crime [book, building, photograph, thought,...] through a series of arguments, questions and [hopefully] answers".
- Columbia University, New York: Centre for Social Difference – Seminar presentation "Archive, Photography and Public Practice"** to the group *Engendering the Archive* (a three-year interdisciplinary research project focusing on gender, sexuality, race, and archival practices).

- Columbia University, New York:** Global Africa Lab – A programme within the Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning (GSSAP) - Lecture presentation - *“Acts of Intimate Exposure: The making of Hotel Yeoville”*.
- Columbia University, Johannesburg:** Studio- X Johannesburg: A global programme of the Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning (GSSAP) Laboratory. Lecture presentation to students participating in this 3-week workshop (Columbia & Wits students).
- 2012 Wits University:** Max Planck Institute and ACMS’s Global Divercities Workshop: *Public Art/Private Lives A.K.A. Hotel Yeoville*, presentation at *“Negotiating, Transgressing or (Re)Asserting Boundaries of Difference”*.
- 2011 V & A Museum, London:** One of 5 invited artists to participate in a panel discussion with exhibition curators Tamar Garb & Martin Barnes, based around themes of *Figures & Fictions: Contemporary South African Photography*.
- Wits University, Johannesburg - Wide Angle: Photography as Public Practice**, multi platform project produced in partnership between Goethe-Institut, Market Photo Workshop, Wits School of Arts and Hotel Yeoville Project. Presented a talk entitled, *Hotel Yeoville: Pleased To Meet You*,
- 2010 Oriol College, Oxford.** *Strangers, Aliens and Foreigners - A Diversity and Recognition Project*, Conference held at convened by Inter-Disciplinary.Net. Lecture co-presented with Alexandra Dodd: *Checking in to Hotel Yeoville: Undoing xenophobia through fresh constitutions of self in the trans-national public sphere*.
- University of Cape Town.** *Personal Experience and Artistic Processes:* A lecture on my practice at this MFA seminar chaired by Virginia McKenny, The Michaelis School of Fine Art.
- Wits University School of Architecture and Urban Wits School Planning .** *Research into Spatial Change in Johannesburg:* A lecture presentation. *Hotel Yeoville: Public Art Project in Progress*, Conference held by Wits School of Architecture and Gauteng City-Region Observatory.
- Goethe Institut, Johannesburg:** *Urban Niches: Small Paradises and Beyond:* A Project by Marietta Kesting and Aljoscha Weskott, Goethe on Main, Jhb. Panel discussion and lecture presentation.
- Jo’burg Art Fair - Artist Talks** schedule *Public/Private/Me- Practice in Progress*, a public lecture presentation on my practice.
- 2009 University of Johannesburg.** Lecture presentation *Art of Negotiation*, at the conference: *On Making: Integrating Approaches to Practice-Led Research in Art and Design*, Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture, Visual Identities in Art and Design Research Centre.
- 2008 Hochschule Luzerne, School of Art & design, Switzerland.** Keynote Speaker, lecture presentation, at conference: *Action and Reflection in Art Research in inter- and transdisciplinary contexts*, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.
- ECAV- HESS (Switzerland) and JPP – WITS (Johannesburg)** conference; *“Art, Social Work and Publics: Encounters in an Extreme Situation”*, WITS, *Hotel Yeoville: a public realm project in progress*.
- National Arts Festival, Grahamstown.** Winter School Programme. *Hotel Yeoville: a public realm project in progress*.



**Goethe Institut, Johannesburg:** International Public Art Symposium. *Practice in Progress*.

**University of the Witwatersrand Johannesburg, School of Architecture and Planning.** Lecture presentation on my practice, in the series *Practise Makes Pefect : Architecture Situations Processes Offices Gauteng*.

**University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.** Lecture presentation at the conference : *Paradoxes of the Postcolonial Public Sphere: South African Democracy at the Crossroads*. Convened by the Constitution of Public Intellectual Life Research Project.

**2007 Goethe Institut, Johannesburg.** *Intimate Exposure:* Lecture presentation on my practice to the cultural directors of all of the Goethe Institute's in sub-Saharan Africa.

**IDENSITAT'07, Centre d'Art Santa Monica, Barcelona.** Lecture presentation, *Hotel Yeoville: project in progress* to *Idensitat'07, Home & Away - Projects from Johannesburg, Liverpool, Tirana, Manresa, New York* .

**University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.** *Park Pictures Project & Hotel Yeoville*, a lecture presentation to the HSRC & WITS Forced Migration Studies Programme conference, *Youth And Migration*, Johannesburg.

## Curated & Public Sphere Projects

**2014 *Nine Urban Biotopes: Negotiating the Future of Urban Living***

I was the South African creative co-ordinator of this 2-year Berlin based project, which brings together cultural exchange with artistic research in a multi-layered and networked project. An artist-in-residence program between the three biggest cities in South Africa - Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town - and four European metropolises - London, Paris, Turin and Berlin. (<http://www.culturefund.eu/projects/nine-urban-biotopes-negotiating-the-future-of-urban-living>)

**2012 *Wide Angle: Photography as Public Practice***

This was a partnership between The Wits School of Arts, Goethe Institut Jhb, The Hotel Yeoville Project and The Market Photo Workshop. We designed a multi-platform project exploring photography as public practice. It began with a conference, and an exhibition and concludes with an E-Book publication (forthcoming).

**2007/10 *Hotel Yeoville***

I directed and curated this multi-disciplinary, participatory art project through its research, production, exhibition and publication phases. I based the project at WITS, and collaborated with colleagues in The Schools of Arts, Architecture and Planning, and was appointed Research Associate for a 3-year period within the graduate ACMS Programme.

**2005 *Park Pictures***

A participatory public sphere project made with 40 street photographers who were based in Joubert Park, inner city Johannesburg. It was curated in relation to the Johannesburg Art Gallery —and its early 20<sup>th</sup> century foundation collection— which is also situated in the park.

**2004/5 Johannesburg Circa Now: photography and the city**

This was a multiplatform project curated in collaboration with artist Jo Ractliffe. It included an exhibition, a 3 month long education programme, and finally a publication. Johannesburg Art Gallery (JAG).

**1999 Maternal Exposures**

This was a series of permanent installations into the densely trafficked antenatal waiting areas of Groote Schuur and Mowbray Maternity Hospitals in Cape Town.

**1998 Bringing Up Baby: Artists Survey The Reproductive Body**

Exhibition I curated for Standard Bank National Arts Festival -Grahamstown (toured thereafter to The Castle in Cape Town, and The Standard Bank Gallery in Johannesburg).

## Selected Reviews

“Terry Kurgan is one of South Africa’s most accomplished and sophisticated theorists of her own photographic practice. Her projects, both studio-based and publicly engaged, have frequently explored the mediations of power relations at play in domestic photography. In *Everyone is Present* she offers a set of sensitive readings of a small cache of family photographs from the mid to late 1930s and early 1940s as its own kind of experimental art practice. The result is a deeply personal meditation on authorship, memory, and photography.” **Andrew van der Vlies, Africa in Words**

<https://africanwords.com/2019/04/15/review-terry-kurgans-everyone-is-present/>

“Daar is lesers en daar is boeklesers. Laasgenoemde, weerbarstig teen die banaliteit van skerms en kindle, het ’n kontrak met die gedrukte produk, ’n fisieke verhouding met die sien- én tasbare wat die leesproses met boek-in-die-hand eksistensiëel verruim en bevredig. Boeke soos Fourth Wall se prag-uitgawe van Terry Kurgan se serebraal-elegante *Everyone is Present: Essays on Photography, Memory and Family* is ’n voortreflike bewys van daardie pand. Drukversorging tot in die fynste, netjiesste detail, sober en moderne ontwerp en die bladsyplan wat die teks tussen prente laat voortstu, sorg vir ’n perfekte estetiese onderbou vir my boek van die jaar.” **Melvyn Minnaar, Die Burger**

<https://www.pressreader.com/similar/281814285103462>

“He took us only as far as Auschwitz’—Read an excerpt from *Everyone is Present: Essays on Photography, Memory and Family* by Terry Kurgan, published by Fourthwall Books, and distributed by Jacana Media. The JRB patron Ivan Vladislavić wrote of *Everyone is Present*, ‘Kurgan has achieved something rare in this book: a truly dynamic fusion of text and image. She brings a deep knowledge of craft to everyday images, whether she’s teasing fugitive meanings from a creased pre-war snapshot or taking the pulse of an apparently impersonal digital image. The result is both a moving family memoir and an illuminating reflection on photography and memory.” **The Johannesburg Review of Books**

<https://johannesburgreviewofbooks.com/2018/11/05/he-took-us-only-as-far-as-auschwitz-read-an-excerpt-from-everyone-is-present-essays-on-photography-memory-and-family-by-terry-kurgan/>

“The first photograph in Terry Kurgan’s *Everyone is Present* shows what appears to be a mid-20th century idyllic scene of a young family at a spa in southern Poland. It’s a scene that puts one in mind of the reverie in old photographs described by French theorist Roland Barthes in *Camera Lucida* and the nostalgic fragments used so evocatively by the Anglo-German novelist W.G Sebald in *Austerlitz* and elsewhere. But Kurgan, the Johannesburg-based artist, writer and curator, is more forceful in her efforts to wrest meaning from this and other images ... “

**Michael Godby, The Conversation** <https://theconversation.com/silent-images-speak-through-time-in-one-family-story-of-poland-under-the-nazis-107201>

“In this fascinating portrait of a family, Terry Kurgan, a well-known South African artist uses the medium of writing for a series of meditations on photography that give us startling insights into how photographs work: what they conceal, how they mislead, and what provocations they contain ... It is a powerful, intimate and beautiful portrait of a family, and an important historical document ... “ **Lore Watterson, Creative Feel** <https://creativefeel.co.za/2019/01/everyone-is-present/>

“Jointly organized by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) and Yerba Buena Center for the Arts (YBCA), *Public Intimacy: Art & other Ordinary Acts in South Africa*, brings together 25 artists and collectives who disrupt expected images of a country known through its apartheid history. The exhibition features an arc of artists who look to the intimate encounters of daily life to express the poetics and politics of the “ordinary act,” with work primarily from the last five years as well as photographic works that figure as historical precedents.”

**Marcus Bunyan, Art Blart** <https://artblart.com/tag/terry-kurgan/>

South African artist Terry Kurgan creates a participatory public art project inspired by the vast community bulletin boards and internet cafes that served the Johannesburg suburb of Yeoville. From the exhibition, *Public Intimacy: Art & other Ordinary Acts in South Africa* in collaboration with SFMOMA at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco. <https://vimeo.com/91982374>

“A Johannesburg, quartiers libres pour les artistes. La cité sud-africaine est un puzzle où, en dépit de la misère et de la violence, les arts s’épanouissent. C’est une ville en pleine mutation. Une ville fondée en 1886 autour des mines d’or, et qui ressemble aujourd’hui à un puzzle de banlieues juxtaposées les unes aux autres. Dans le cadre de la saison culturelle de l’Afrique du Sud en France, deux événements organisés à Paris et en région parisienne permettent de prendre le pouls de cette Johannesburg en mouvement : le Festival d’Ile-de-France, dimanche 8 septembre à Chaussy (Val-d’Oise), et le programme multiculturel “Sharp Sharp”, du 12 octobre au 8 novembre, à la Gaîté-Lyrique à Paris.” **Stephanie Binet, Le Monde** [http://www.lemonde.fr/culture/article/2013/09/07/a-johannesburg-quartiers-libres-pour-les-artistes\\_3472838\\_3246.html](http://www.lemonde.fr/culture/article/2013/09/07/a-johannesburg-quartiers-libres-pour-les-artistes_3472838_3246.html)

“Hotel Yeoville shows the possibilities that manifest when one combines high art and human tragedy with popular culture. Artist Terry Kurgan and collaborators instruct visitors to a website that their site-specific intervention, housed at the Yeoville library, is to be a chronicle of experience. Yeoville residents are encouraged to tell stories of Jo’burg, home, loss, love and longing. The public art project was launched last May and has been developed by Kurgan in partnership with Wits University’s Forced Migration Studies Programme.” **Percy Zvomuya, Mail & Guardian** <http://mg.co.za/article/2010-04-23-you-can-check-out-any-time-like>

“Hotel Yeoville both echoes and deviates from these representations of alienation, foreignness, xenophobia, migrancy and otherness that have rippled through South African public life in the aftermath of May 2008. If there is any binding impulse or shared strategy that informs this diversity of contemporary responses, it might be a reluctance to revert to directly representational modes of documentary figuration, which are tainted by a heritage of colonial representations of the other and an incapacity to shake off the unequal author/subject power relations implicit in the ethnographic gaze.” **Alex Dodd, Archive & Public Culture** <http://www.apc.uct.ac.za/news/hotel-yeoville-book-documents-multiplatform-archive-urban-life>

I spent Saturday morning at Hotel Yeoville, one of the most exciting interactive exhibitions I have seen. Hotel Yeoville is the brainchild of photographer and artist Terry Kurgan ... Its aim is to create a social map of the migrant or immigrant experience of Johannesburg – to track the experiences of those who have travelled from all over and now call Joburg home. Ironically home is not always a refuge – and the exhibition uses popular social media technologies to create safe spaces in which the complex emotions people have about home can be articulated and shared. **Laurice Taitz, To Do In Joburg** <http://todoinjoburg.co.za/2010/05/hotel-yeoville-a-digital-space-to-call-home/>

There is a meticulous continuity in the nature of Kurgan’s questionings. Her vigorous engagement over the years with what photographs mean – of how subjects perform for and within the act of consciously being photographed – has been extensive and significant. She has, and continues to probe, refract and deepen her complex reading and articulation of the nature of photography ... they are keenly perceptive inquiries into the nature of subjectivity and representation. **Tracy Murinik, Gallery AOP** [http://artonpaper.co.za/oid%5Cdownloads%5C1%5C90\\_2\\_10\\_54\\_49\\_AM\\_Kurgan%20brochure%20web.pdf](http://artonpaper.co.za/oid%5Cdownloads%5C1%5C90_2_10_54_49_AM_Kurgan%20brochure%20web.pdf)

In 1999, Terry Kurgan’s *Family Affairs* show included revealing, intimate photographs of her two young children. There were accusations of exploitation, of perverting innocence and young sexuality for the ends of art. Other juicy analyses attempted to give a bit of spice to that sometimes-banal transaction that is art appreciation in South Africa. One photograph from that earlier show stood out ... **Chris Roper, Mail & Guardian** <http://mg.co.za/article/2011-05-13-capturing-lifes-elusive-images>

“This series of images returns your focus to Kurgan’s images, which bear the stains of her process. The red oxide smudges or pink gouache washes that bubble like water at the surface don’t simply evoke a self-conscious engagement with art making, but are discreet markers of time. They age her canvas and steep it in a history while she tries to negotiate representing a subject suspended in another time.” **Mary Corrigan, Sunday Independent** <http://corrigan.blogspot.com/2011/05/art-roundup-goodman-marx-kurgan-and.html>

Terry Kurgan and Ruth Rosengarten both engage in the photographic discourse generated in the space created between the publication of Susan Sontag’s *On Photography* (1977) and Fred Ritchin’s *After Photography* (2009). Kurgan and Rosengarten fill that creative space by, what seems to be their *translation* of photographs in their respective drawings on exhibition at GALLERY AOP. **Wilhelm van Rensburg, Gallery AOP** <http://www.artonpaper.co.za/view.asp?ItemID=53&name=tblComponent1&oname=Exhibitions&pg=front>

## Public Collections

Wits Art Museum (WAM)  
Hollard Corporate Collection  
Spier Corporate Collection  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art  
Johannesburg Art Gallery  
Durban Art Gallery  
MTN Corporate Collection  
Ellerman House Contemporary Art Collection, Cape Town.  
Sasol Corporate Collection  
Katrine Harries Print Cabinet University of Cape Town  
Irma Stern Museum, Cape Town  
Cape Town Centre for African Studies, University of Cape Town  
IDC Corporate Collection  
RMB London Corporate Collection  
Mary and Leigh Block Gallery, Northwestern University, Chicago