

FRIED

CONTEMPORARY
ART GALLERY & STUDIO

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Cities in transition

Titus Matiyane

Eric Duplan

Lucas Thobejane

29 July - 22 August 2010

Gallery hours: Thur: 10h00 - 18h00 Fri 10h00 - 18h00 Sat 10h00 - 14h00

Exhibition Essay

This exhibition of recent work of Titus Matiyane, Eric Duplan and Lucas Thobejane reflects on South African cities in transition and provide a pertinent picture of culture in the making and the state of the world, its ideologies and power structures. As the celebrated author, JG Ballard (2001:33), remarked, cities are 'the scar tissue of history' and carry within and on them the traces of historical, ideological and world changes. Although visually on the outside cities seem like impersonal mounds of concrete, tar and technology, they are the repositories of the makings and doings of human beings and have been created in the image of humankind - as such becoming anthropomorphic spaces.

In South Africa inner city areas and the rural areas surrounding cities reflect the harsh realities of everyday life as well as the processes of globalisation and internationalisation, evident in conditions of people-on-the-move, homelessness, violence and even xenophobia. Very different in style an approach, the artworks on exhibition "map" and depict the contemporary city in transition. Yet, in a certain sense such mapping is always provisional and subjective, since cities and especially third-world spaces have become compounds of diverse cultures, experiences, nationalities and economies, and reflect cultures that are continuously changing. Donald (in Westwood and Williams 1997:181) goes so far as to argue that the city 'is a place that is everywhere and nowhere, a place you cannot get to from here. Sooner or later ... the effort of mapping is interrupted by an encounter with the unmappable.'

Having been territorialised under the apartheid regime of segregation and living in Atteridgeville just outside Pretoria, Titus Matiyane embarks on a kind of symbolic remapping of these histories in his panoramas of the cities of world. In his rendering of panoramas of cities and the surrounding rural areas from a bird's-eye view, Matiyane imaginatively reworks and represent commercially available tourist and Google maps. In the map on exhibition, *Panorama of Limpopo province with soccer stadiums* (2010), the landscape is flattened out into a subjective city picturesque adorned with its most famous markers as well as the soccer stadiums that featured so prominently in the recent Fifa World Cup events.

Notions of the imaginary, myth and memory have always been central to the articulation of the psychospace of the city, just as the sociological imagination is continually recast in the changing realm of new technologies which has fundamentally altered the ontology of the city as space of travel, mobility and transitivity. Eric Duplan's mapping of the city becomes a form of individualist symbolic language that in abstract way relates to journey, discovery and road, always probing deeper and peeling off and stripping the layers of the city. His work deals with a kind of posturban condition where life in the city is a restless, disrupting state of being in-between places or liminality.

Lucas Thobejane's work speaks about contemporary conditions of living in small towns and villages. His hybrid creatures - half-man, half-animal - are wretched, creolised players in the survival game where third-world necessities such as clean water and work intermingle with the imposing presence of global technologies and ideologies.

Sources quoted

Ballard, J G. 2001. Welcome to the virtual city, in Urban myth. *Tate, The art magazine* 24 (Spring):33.

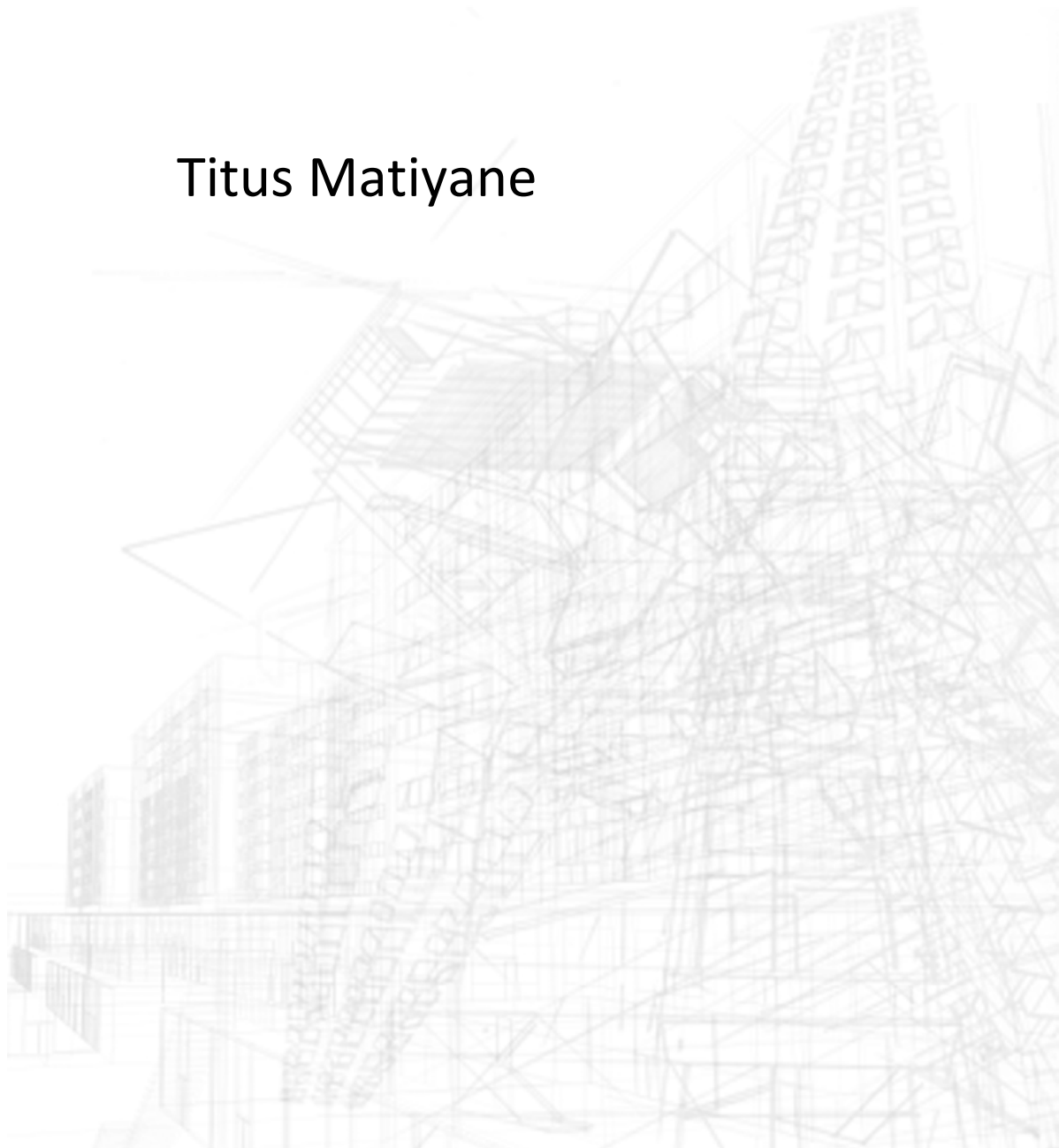
Westwood, S and Williams, J (eds). 1997. *Imagining cities: scripts, signs, memory*. London/New York: Routledge.

Artists

Lucas Thobejane

Eric Duplan

Titus Matiyane



Lucas Thobejane

Artist CV

Born: Ga-Nkoana Village, Sekhukhune District, 1973. Lives and works in Ga- Nkoana Village.

Major exhibitions:

Polokwane Art Museum;

ABSA Art Gallery, Johannesburg;

Franco Mozambique Museum;

Sasol Gallery, Stellenbosch;

Gordart Gallery, Johannesburg;

Sasol New Signatures Competition;

Absa L'Atelier; Spier Contemporary 2007/08;

Spier Contemporary 2009/10.





Lucas Thobejane
By car
2010
Stinkwood
20cm x 44cm x 20 cm



Lucas Thobejane
Education is knowledge
2010
Ironwood
48.5cm x 15cm x 11cm



Lucas Thobejane
Gone, world cup
2010
Ironwood
69cm x 18.5cm x 17cm



Lucas Thobejane
Outside bathroom
2010
Stinkwood
57cm x 27cm x 13.5cm



Lucas Thobejane
From the river
2010
Ironwood
50.5cm x 16cm x 14.5cm



Lucas Thobejane
Agriculture's place
2010
Stinkwood
52cm x 24cm x 19cm



Lucas Thobejane
Small Golf Player
2010
Redwood
33.5cm x 11.5cm x 11.5cm

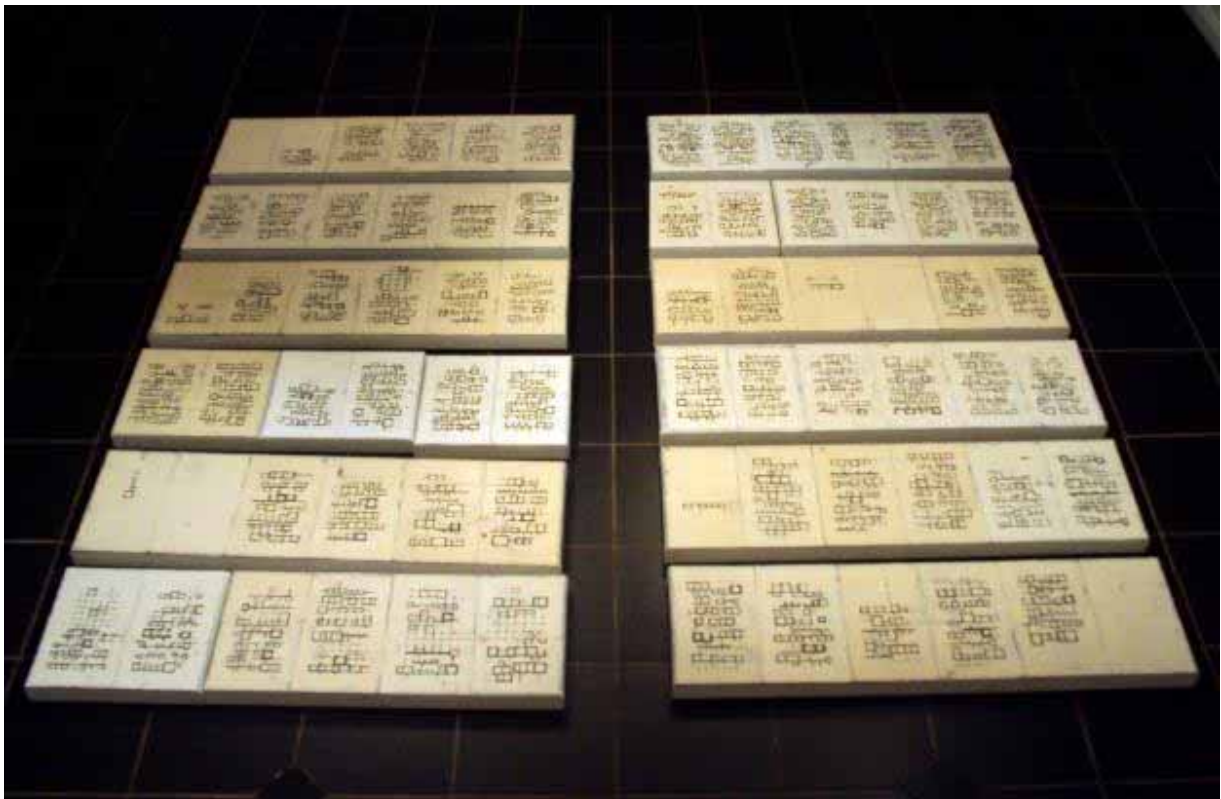


Lucas Thobejane
Optional referee
2010
Stinkwood
79cm x 24cm x 11cm

Eric Duplan

Artist CV

- 1989 Design Animation Rosebank, Johannesburg.
- 1990-1991 Seapoint, Cape Town.
- 1992 Framework Norwood, Johannesburg.
- 1993-1994 Primeart Claremont, Cape Town.
- 1995 Bordeaux Street Gallery, Franschoek, Cape.
- 1996 Gallery 68, Church Street, Cape Town.
- 1998 Millennium Gallery. Pretoria
- 1999 Albertein Gallery, Simon's Town, Cape.
- 2000 Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch
- 2000 The Changing Screen Exhibition, Johannesburg
- 2001 Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch
- 2003 Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch
- 2003 Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch
- 2004 Art CoZa, Parktown North, Johannesburg
- 2004 Art Space, Johannesburg
- 2004 Commission for Bellingham Winery
- 2004 Art Now, South Africa, (selected group show) Gallery Morena, Chicago, USA
- 2004 Art Space @ Harries, Pretoria
- 2005 Art Space, Fairlands, Johannesburg
- 2005 Dawid's choice KKNK 2005
- 2005 Dawid's choice, AARDKLOP 2005
- 2006 Dawid's choice, KKNK 2006
- 2006 Yearly Spring exhibition Held at the studio on the farm.
- 2006 Carol Lee Fineart, Johannesburg
- 2006 Thea Skukan Gallery, Pretoria, Group show with Rebecca Tetley
- 2007 Karoo Art House Gallery, Pretoria, group show (Eric Duplan, Rebecca Tetley, Johan Moolman and Cecile Heystek)
- 2007 Carol Lee Fineart, Johannesburg
- 2007 Riaan Bolt, Johannesburg – Antique Fair
- 2007 Carol Lee Fineart, Johannesburg
- 2008 Dawid's Choice Johannesburg, Third one man show
- 2008 Carol Lee Fineart, Encounter Exhibition, Johannesburg
- 2008 Unisa Art Gallery, Intervention, Pretoria
- 2009 Suburb, Fried Contemporary, Pretoria
- 2009 Carol Lee Fineart, Johannesburg
- 2009 Posters, Investment Art Gallery, Loop Street, curated by Carlla Crafford



Eric Duplan

The writing is on the wall

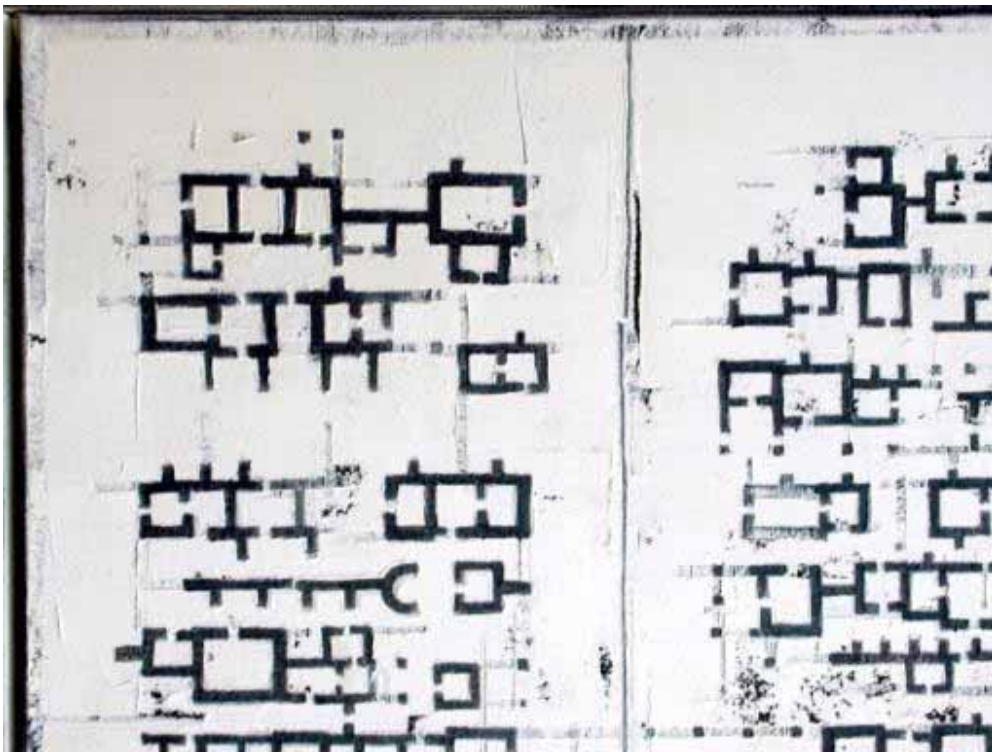
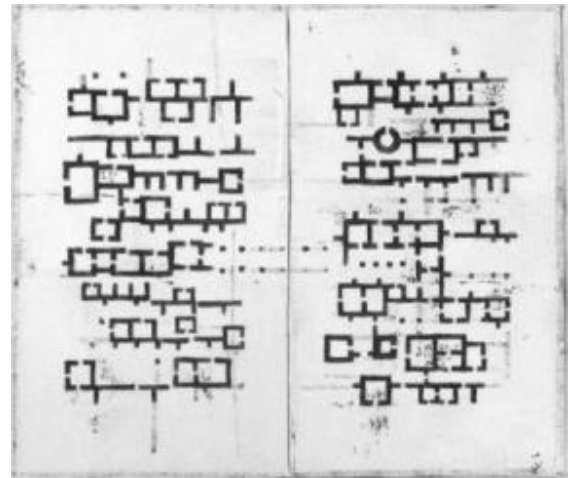
2010

Oil paint on stretched canvas

210cm X 205cm



Eric Duplan
The writing is on the wall
2010
Oil paint on stretched canvas
210cm X 205cm



Eric Duplan
The writing is on the wall (detail)
2010
Oil paint on stretched canvas
210cm X 205cm

Titus Matiyane

Artist CV

- PRETORIA ART MUSEUM: 1984. Models. Article in *Beeld* by Piet Muller. 1985 Article in SA Today: *Makorakora: Shaping wire into vehicles*, featuring photograph of model of spacecraft "Challenger" made by artist.
- AFRICANA MUSEUM: 1985. Concord model, sponsored by BMW.
- DURBAN ART MUSEUM: 1985. Models, including concord.
- SA NATIONAL ART GALLERY: 1986. Exhibition of all models.
- UNISA ART GALLERY: 1992.
- GRAHAMSTOWN ART FESTIVAL: 1992. *Panorama of Pretoria*. Workshops on models, sponsored by Transnet.
- JOHANNESBURG ART GALLERY: 1993. *Attridgeville Panorama*
- TOTAL GALLERY: 1993. *Pretoria panorama*, sponsored by TV-BOB.
- NEW TOWN GALLERY: 1995: *Panorama of Western Cape*.
- GRAAFF REINET ART GALLERY: 1995. Exhibition of small works, mainly portraits.
- GRANDSWELL ART GALLERY, UK: 1996. *Panorama of Pretoria*.
- GOODMAN GALLERY: 1996. Exhibition of models, Boeing727 and 747
- EARTH AND EVERYTHING, UK: 1996. *Panorama of Pretoria* and models. Sponsored by the Council of Wales. Recommendation by Dr Lydia de Waal, director of Museums and Cultural Development.
- REMBRANDT VAN RIJN ART GALLERY: 1997. *Panorama of Gauteng*.
- AFRICAN WINDOW: 1998. *Panorama of the Netherlands*. The Royal Netherlands Embassy.
- NETHERLANDS ARCHITECTURE INSTITUTE, Netherlands: 1998. *Panorama of Johannesburg*.
- SA INSTITUTE OF ARTISTS AND DESIGNERS: 1998. *Panorama of Gauteng*.
- KEMPTON PARK TEMBISA METROPOLITAN LOCAL COUNCIL: 1999. *Panorama of London*. Landscape of Gauteng. Top-100 Fine arts award.
- MARKET THEATRE GALLERY: 1999. Sponsored by the TRC: *Commissioning the Past*.
- BANG THE GALLERY (CT): 2000. Sponsored by Hewlett-Packard: *Painting a Printer*: Artist brief to create artwork of one of their range printers. Work was auctioned and exhibited at gala event in Johannesburg.
- CULTURE AND RECREATION OF PRETORIA: 2000. *Panorama of Pretoria* sponsored by the City Council of Pretoria AND Sammy Marks Museum.
- NETHERLANDS ARCHITECTURE INSTITUTE, Netherlands: 2000. *Panorama of the Netherlands*.
- ART ON PAPER: 2001.
- MUSEUM AFRICA, Witwatersrand: 2001
- Fried Contemporary Art Gallery and Studio: *Art from Two Metropolises* (2005). Group exhibition.
- SA EMBASSY, in Japan. 2001. *Panorama of Pretoria* 2001, incomplete version (7 meters); Complete version is 18,5 meters, and includes Mamelodi and Atteridgeville.
- UNISA ART GALLERY: 2002. Fringe Exhibition of *Land art* exhibition, including aerial views of Maseru, London and New York.
- THE PREMISES, Johannesburg, 5-26 June 2004.
- FRIED CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY, Pretoria, *Art from two Metropolises*, group exhibition. 30 July – 21 August 2005.
- DELFT University of Technology, Faculty of Architecture, Delft, The Netherlands, 06 December 2007- 24 January 2008. *Cities of the world*.
- AEDESLAND, BERLIN, Germany, May 12- June 12, 2008. *Cities of the world*.
- NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MALI, Bamako, Mali, February 9-April 3, 2008. *Cities of the world*
- FRIED CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY, Pretoria, *On the globe* with Pieter Swanepoel and Diek Grobler. 4 – 27 October 2008.

COMMISSIONS

Panoramic view of the city centre of Pretoria from Muckleneukrant, Pretoria (2006). W& J van Zyl Commission.

Panorama of Western Cape (2007). For Iziko National Gallery.

Panorama of Delft (2008).

Panorama of Southern France (2008).

WORKSHOPS AND TEACHING

- PRETORIA TECHNIKON: 1984. Workshops and Exhibition.
- CAPE TOWN UNIVERSITY: 1991. First National Sculpture Symposium. Demonstration.
- DURBAN UNIVERSITY: 1992. Demonstration and exhibition.
- WITS UNIVERSITY: 1993. Demonstration. Article in *University Galleries* by Elizabeth Rankin.
- TECHNIKON OF NATAL: 1993. Teaching Workshop.
- PIETERSBURG CIVIC THEATRE: 1998. HSRC Yeast Exhibition. Demonstration
- PRETORIA UNIVERSITY: Demonstration and workshop. Motivated by Anita Storck.

PANORAMAS SOLD

- *Western Cape Panorama* (1985). Mixed media on paper, 4m. Collection: Market Gallery.
- *Attridgeville Panorama* (1990). Mixed media on paper, 6m. Collection: University of Cape Town.
- *Witwatersrand* (1992). Collection: Museum Africa.
- *Grahamstown Panorama* (1995). Mixed media on paper, 4m. Collection: WITS University.
- *Panorama of Pretoria (city only)* (1995). Mixed media on paper, 3m. Collection: National Cultural History Museum.
- *Panorama of Pretoria* (1996). Mixed media on paper, 12m. Collection: Groundswell Gallery, London.
- *Panorama of Atteridgeville* (1999). Mixed media on paper, 3m. Collection: The Bang Gallery.
- *Panorama of Gauteng* (2001). Mixed media on paper, 23m. Collection: Melville Art Centre.
- *Panorama of the Netherlands: Rotterdam to Amsterdam* (2000). Private collection. Mentioned in *Images of Metal: Post War Sculptures and Assemblages in South Africa*, by Prof Liz Rankin.
- *Pretoria from Atteridgeville to Mamelodi* (2003). Mixed media on paper, 18m. Collection: Spier Wine Estate.
- *Panoramic view of the city centre of Pretoria* from Muckleneukrant, Pretoria (2006). Private collection.
- *Panorama of Western Cape* (2007). Collection: Iziko National Gallery.
- *Panorama of Soweto* (2008). Hollard Art Collection.
- *Panorama of Johannesburg, city of Gauteng* (2008). Hollard Art Collection.

PUBLICATIONS

Rankin, E. *Images of metal: Post-war sculptures and Assemblages in South Africa*.

Published on the occasion of an exhibition held December 6, 2007-January 25, 2008 and the manifestation "African Perspectives" held December 6-8, 2007, both commissioned by the Faculty of Architecture of Delf University of Technology.

Titus Matiyane: Cities of the World, by Titus Matiyane, Annemieke de Klerk, Melinda Silverman, Stephen Hobbs, Wytze Patijn, Afdeling Bouwkunde, Technische Hogeschool Delft. Published by 010 Publishers, 2007. ISBN 906450640X, 9789064506406. 56 pages. Published for the purposes of the *Cities of the World* travelling exhibition.

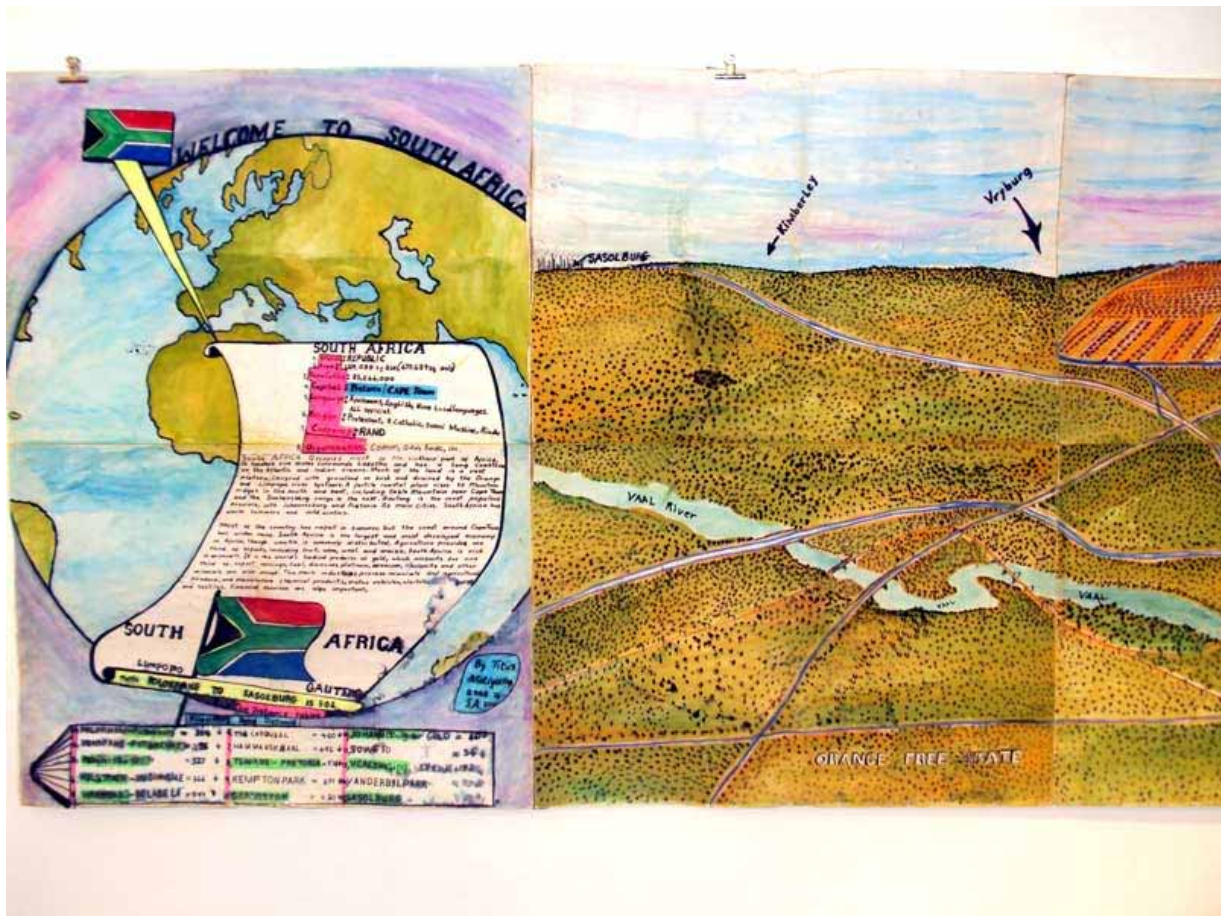
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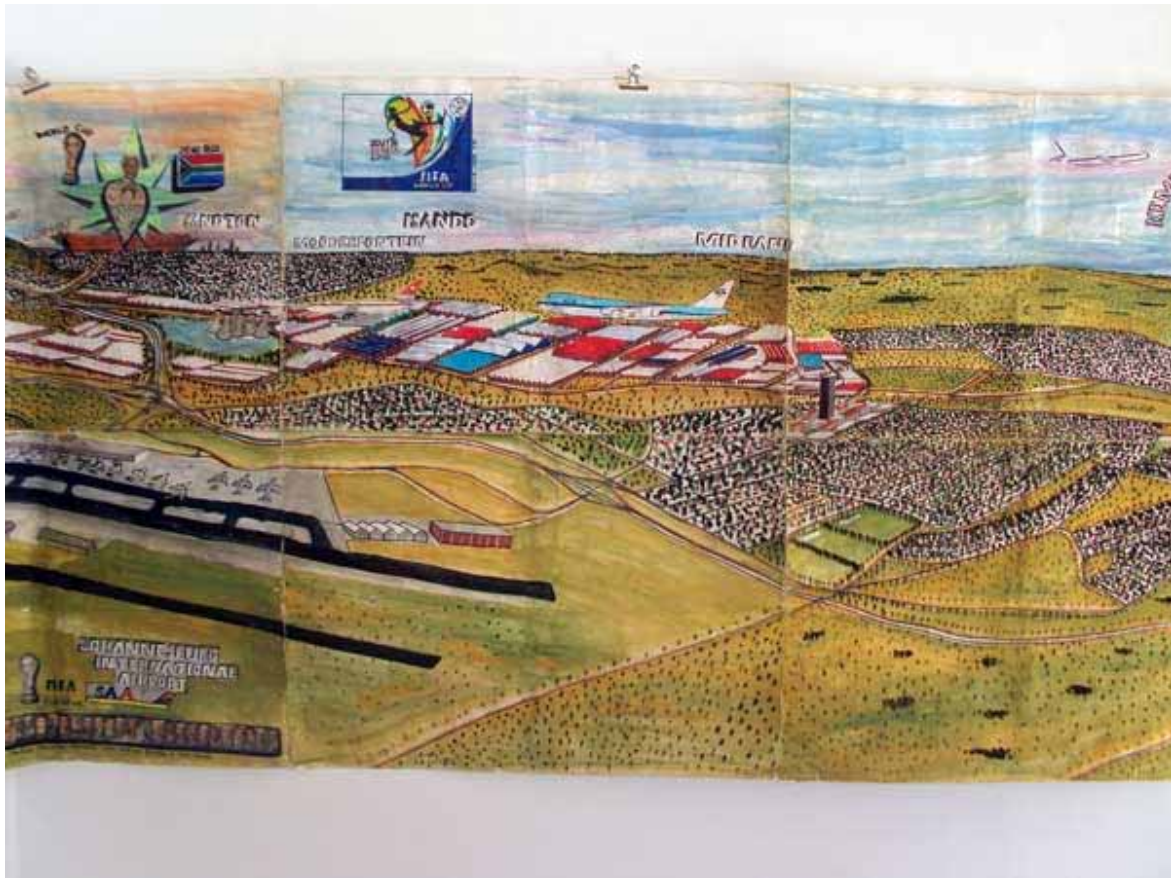
Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm



Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm



Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm



Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm

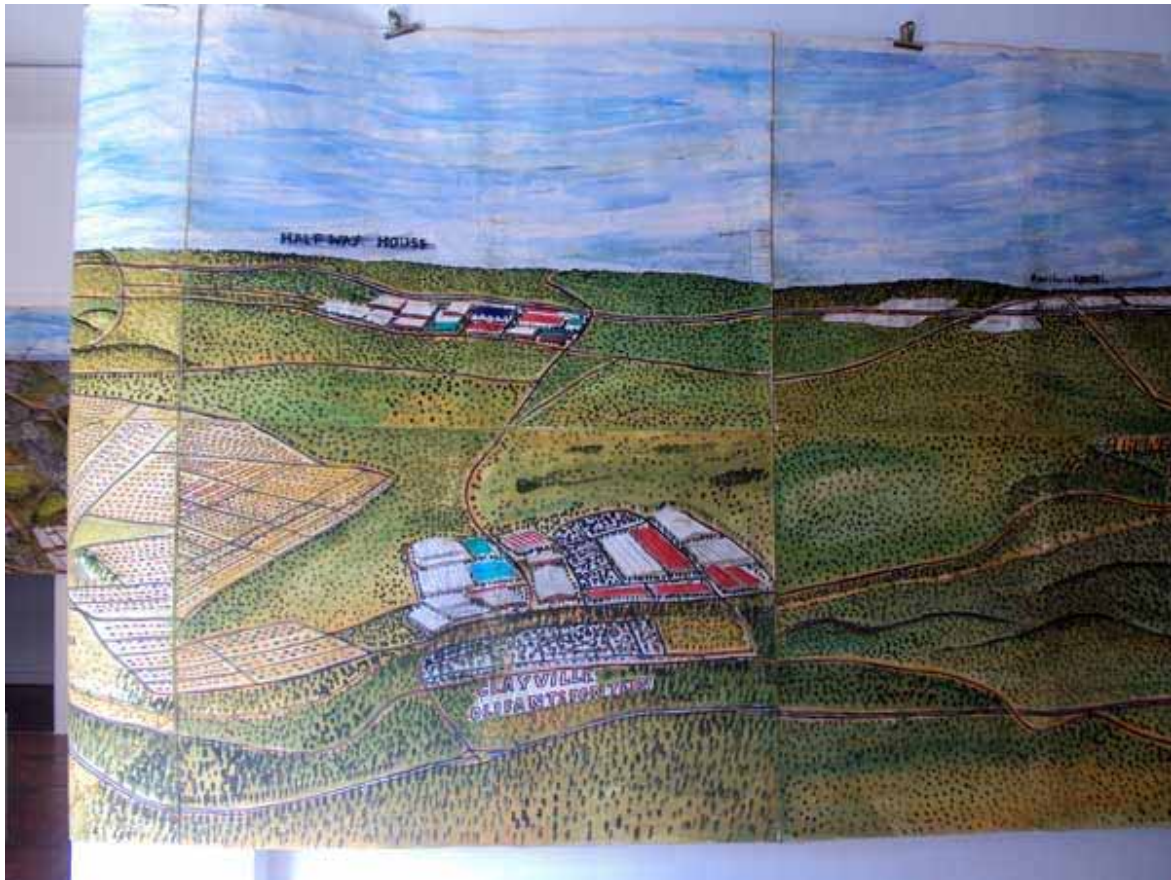


Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm





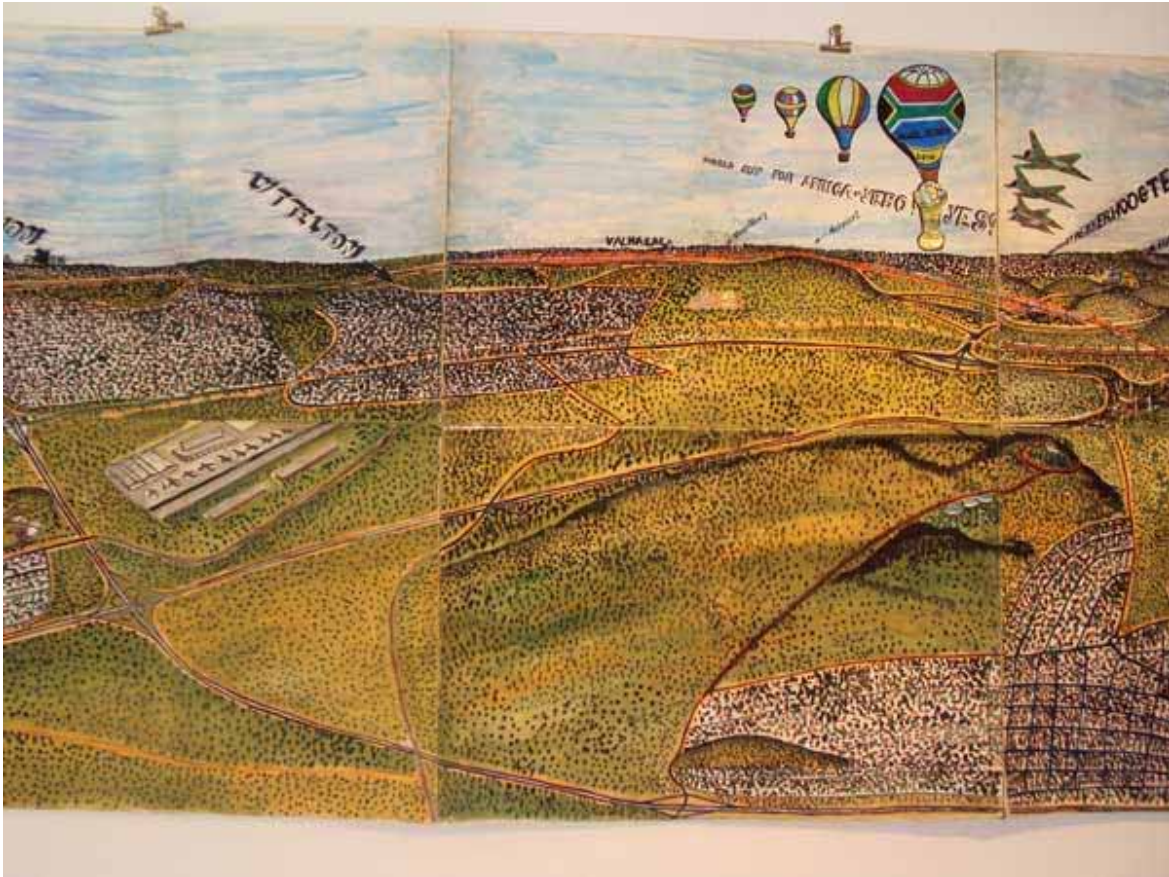
Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm



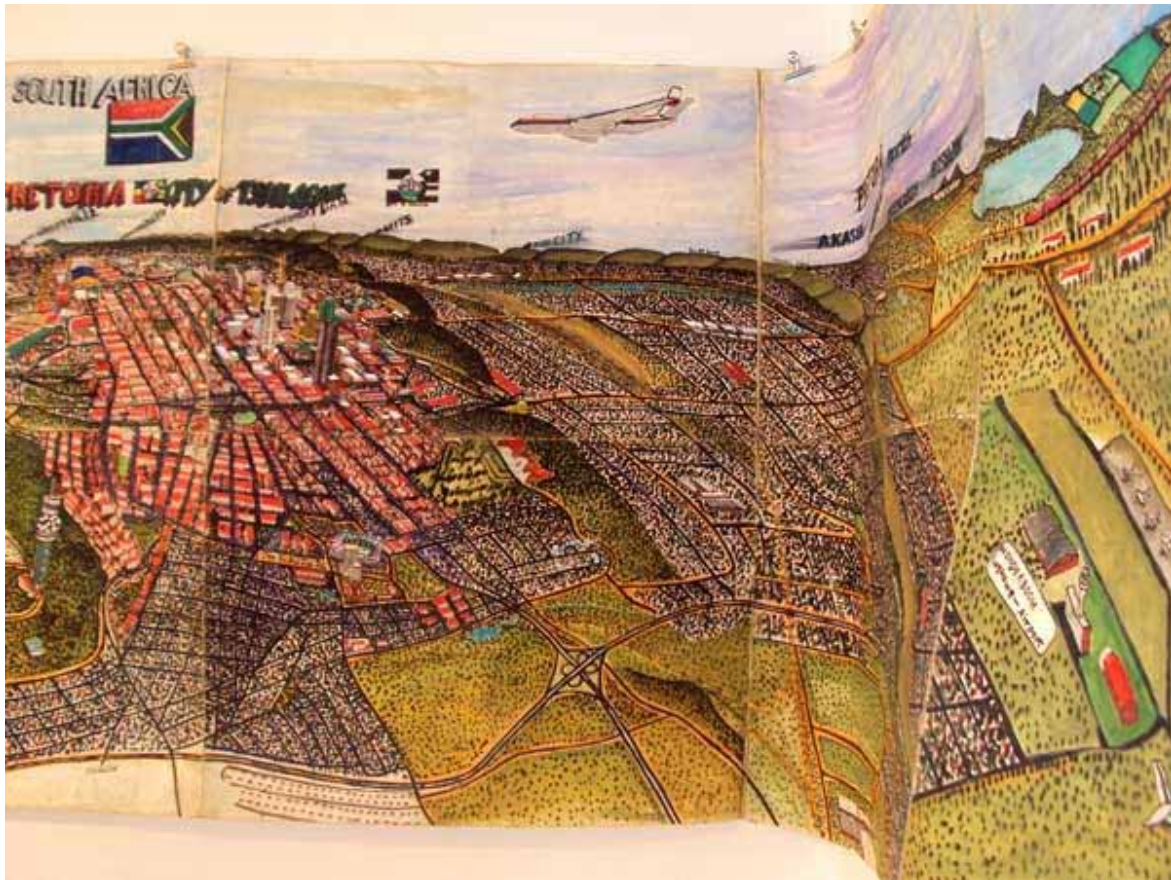
Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
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3600cm X 126cm



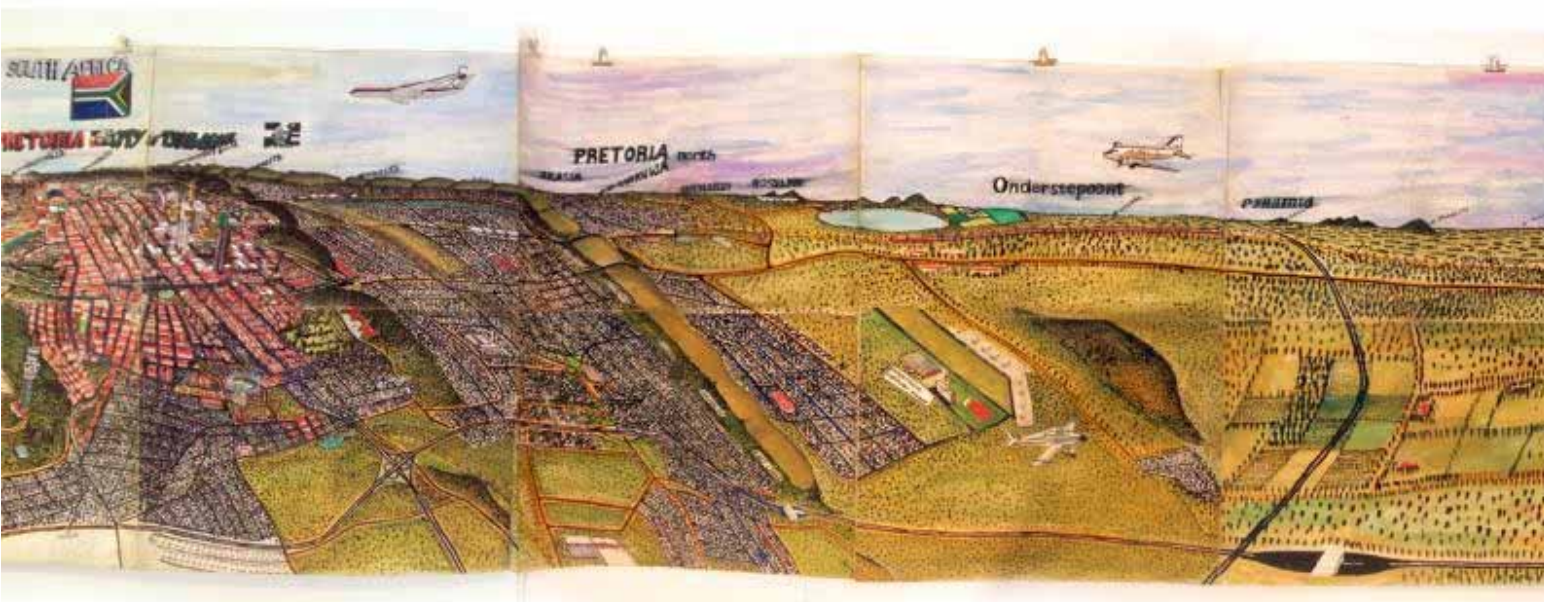
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Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
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3600cm X 126cm



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Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
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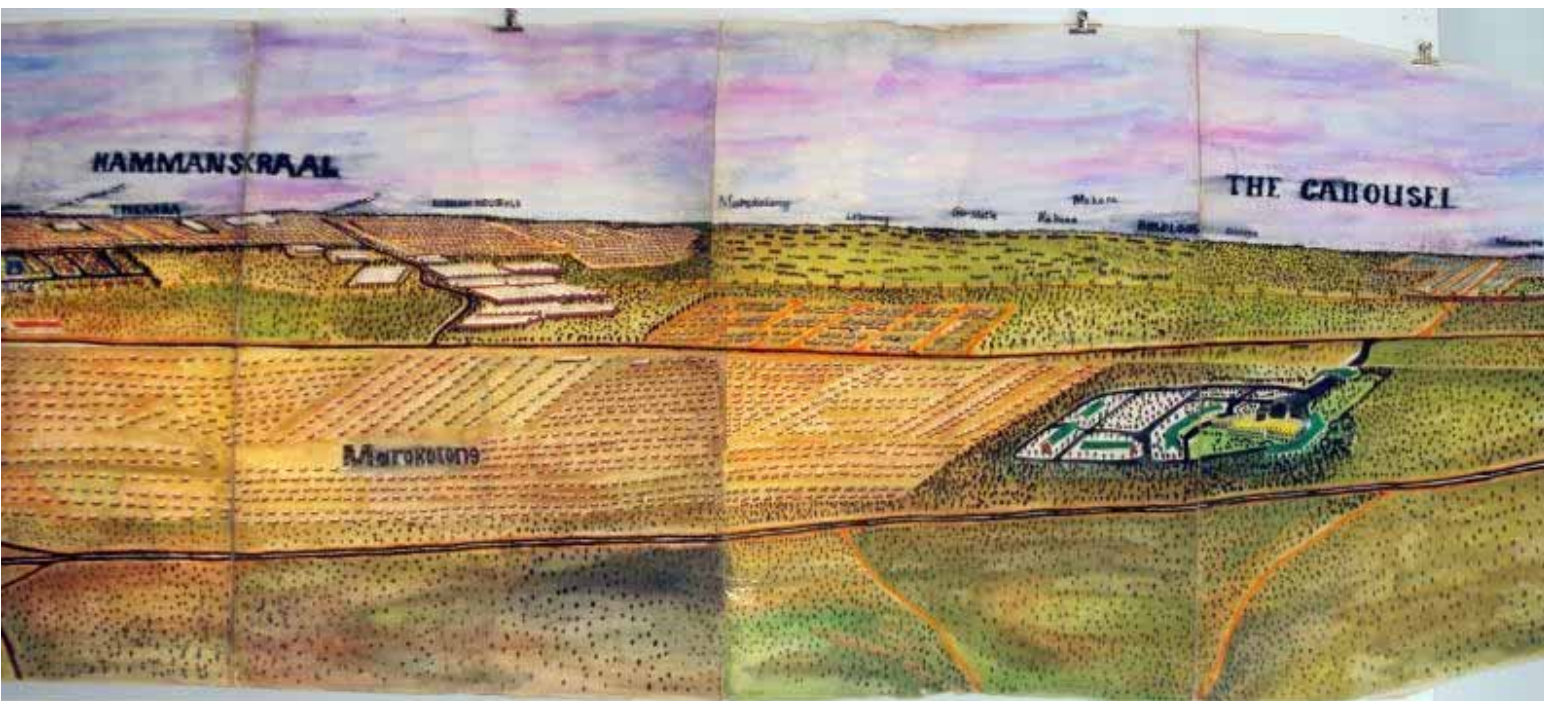
Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm



Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
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Mixed media on paper
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Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
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Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm



Titus Matiyane
Panorama of Gauteng (detail)
2010
Mixed media on paper
3600cm X 126cm

The background of the entire page is a complex, light grey architectural wireframe. It consists of numerous overlapping lines and planes that create a sense of depth and structure, resembling a modern building's framework or a technical drawing. The lines vary in thickness and orientation, creating a dense, geometric pattern.

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