



## Alex Hamilton

<http://www.houseandleisure.co.za/almost-everyone-exhibition/>

Alex Hamilton was born in 1969 in the Great Karoo, went to high school in the Little Karoo and then moved to Cape Town to study Textile Design in 1988. After a year in the army he pursued a career in the arts and has been a full time artist since 1993. In 1997 he opened his own gallery, the contentious Bang the Gallery, specialising in young emerging artists and Pop art.

In 1999 he moved into his first *über*-studio and closed Bang in 2002 to concentrate on his own work. During this time Hamilton exhibited extensively in Europe with solo exhibitions in Mallorca, Spain; Stuttgart, Germany; and Dublin, Ireland. During this period he also formed a professional relationship with Knysna Fine Art Gallery and has, to date, presented six solo exhibitions at the various venues of this gallery.

In 2005, Hamilton moved into his first studio with a specific gallery space attached. It is at this location that he first exhibited his now signature stencil Street/Pop art style with an exhibition entitled *Cast & Crew – The History of Popular Culture* with a 1000 individual, hand-cut stencil portraits. The success of this show led to numerous other exhibitions, commissions and projects, and Hamilton has since diversified the portrait theme into landscape and architectural layered stencil studies.

In 2011, he moved into a bigger studio space occupying the entire top floor of an industrial building in Woodstock, Cape Town and created a studio gallery where today he hosts solo and informal group exhibitions with emerging artists and also houses his increasingly varied personal collections and library. He also creates a bi-monthly informal exhibition event, Margarita Night Mash-Up, providing a platform for independent and alternative artists to exhibit their work.

In 2012, Hamilton produced a series of architectural stencil works with the Karoo town of Prince Albert as subject matter and after the opening of the exhibition was presented with his own permanent gallery space: The Alex Hamilton Gallery – Prince Albert.

Earlier this year (2013), he extended the now 2000+ stencil archive to focus on South African iconography for a solo exhibition *Amper Alma* at the 19<sup>th</sup> Absa KKNK arts festival in Oudtshoorn.





### Selected solo exhibitions

- 2013 *Amper Almal*, ABSA Klein Karoo Nationale Kunstefees
- 2012 *Hello Piketberg*, The Art Business, Piketberg
- 2012 *Topless in da Hood*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2012 *Prince Albert, Karoo Collection*, Prins Albert
- 2011 *Year of the Bunny*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2011 *Both side of the Track*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2010 *Roadtrip*, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna
- 2010 *Roadtrip*, Zietsies Johannesburg,
- 2010 *Collected Celebrity*, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna
- 2009 *CAST & CREW*, Gordart Gallery, Johannesburg
- 2009 *AFROTIZE*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2008 *CAST & CREW*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2008 *Trinkets and Trash*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2007 *Flight School*, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa
- 2007 *You are what you hear*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2007 *Everybody Angel*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town
- 2006 *The Princess and the Pea*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2006 *How the fairies baked a cake*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2005 *Aquaplane*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2005 *Rebels Saints and Divas*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2005 *How to do the Hamilton Hush-Hush*, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa
- 2004 *Silhouette of a Song*, Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2003 *Play Room/Pray Room*, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa
- Kerry work*, Bond Restaurant, Dublin, Ireland
- Paperdoll-part II*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2002 *Paperdoll*, Articles and Frames Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa
- Girl annual (duo)*, Millennium Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Mandalas @ Azara*, Azara Restaurant, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2001 *Soulsearch (duo)*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- Eat drink love think*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- Colores de mi tierra*, Casa de Arte, Mallorca, Spain
- Worth of the sky-colour of my land*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- Worn world*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2000 *Kitsch Sin Art*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- Work on paper (duo)*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 1999 *Fruitwraps*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- Chilliestrip*, Dino Verlag, Stuttgart, Germany
- 1998 *Fever*, Houtbay Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- Double reality*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 1997 *In pursuit of fruit*, The Dinner club, Cape Town, South Africa
- Solo exhibition: Sanlam art gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 1996 *Eat Art*, The Dinner club, Cape Town, South Africa

### Selected Group exhibitions

- 2013 *Mash-up: Type*, Alex Hamilton Studio Gallery, Cape Town  
 2012 *Mash-up: 8-Bit*, Alex Hamilton Studio Gallery, Cape Town  
 2012 *Mash-Up*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town  
 2012 *Flesh*, The Art Business, Piketberg  
 2011 *Collaborate, Participate, Celebrate*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town  
 2011 *Both Sides of the track*, Alex Hamilton Studio, Cape Town  
 2007 Opening Exhibition, GAIA Gallery, Whales  
 2007 Opening Exhibition, David Brown Fine Art, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 2006 Group exhibition, Gallery 34 Long, Cape Town, South Africa  
 2006 Group exhibition, What if the World Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 2003 Opening exhibition, Envision Gallery, Toas, USA  
 2003 *Signed 2003*, Old Arts Gallery. Pretoria, South Africa  
 2002 Group Exhibition, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa  
 2002 Group exhibition, Dutch Art, Delft, Holland  
 2001 *A 4000 - A 8000*, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa  
*The fine line between here and there*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 2000 *Blaze - exhibition heat*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Big Bang, - The theory of art*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 1999 *Angels blue*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 1998 *A colourful explosion*, Houtbay Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 1998 *Hot Chillies, Naked Man, Boom Chiki Boom*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 1997 *The holy banana and other relics*, Bang the Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
 Group exhibitions: Frederich Nauman Foundation, Lauenburg, Germany  
 Group exhibitions: general consulate of South Africa, Hamburg, Germany

### Projects and Workshops

- 2007-2009 Contributing illustrator to GQ Magazine  
 2007 Contributing illustrator to WANTED Magazine  
 2005-2007 Contributing illustrator to GQ Magazine  
 2003 Cill Rialaig Artist Retreat, selected to spend 4 weeks at this exclusive artist retreat in Co. Kerry, Ireland  
 2000 Hewlett Packard - A celebration of art and technology  
 Curated and participated in this exhibition for Hewlett Packard, Johannesburg, South Africa  
 1999 Artswitch Artist Exchange Workshop, attended this two week workshop and exhibited at the Freidrich Naumann Foundation, Lauenburg, Germany  
 1997 Founded Bang the Gallery, taking position as curator and director.

### Corporate Collections

- Mettle Group Limited  
 Oasis Group Holdings  
 Finsource  
 MWeb  
 German Language Centre