

My objective as a creative professional is to investigate, exploit and initiate projects that will realize the potential of arts and culture in Zimbabwe.

With my initial training in design, I have developed the skills to examine and re-interpret the world around us, continually finding fresh and original ways to expose these ideas both visually and aurally.

This speaks directly to my development as a filmmaker, allowing the creation of an infrastructure of inquiry and versatility that has led to the production of a number of successful short films ranging in genre from experimental art based film to factual education driven documentary.

The latter has led to the development of a series of cutting edge theories examining the potential of contemporary forms of education through the use of arts and culture, combined with a rich and valuable cultural knowledge.

In recognition of this work, I was awarded the Chevening Scholarship by the British Council, Zimbabwe pursue an MA in Audio Visual Production at London Metropolitan University. The aim of this course of advancement is to explore and create stronger and more dynamic links between the visual medium and valuable information delivery, specifically for developing countries. This has been completed and has been awarded an overall distinction.

As of May 2007 I have been appointed the Curator of the National Gallery of Zimbabwe, in Harare. This position includes the traditional roles of Curator and strengthening links with educational and new developmental issues.

The interdisciplinarity of my experience has afforded an eclectic and significant development of skills that will prove useful and valuable to the development of the arts and educational fields in this country.

Work Experience

Coordinator, The Film Forum

The Zimbabwe International Film Festival Trust

1999 – 2004

From its inception the role of The Film Forum was to provide training and development for veteran and new comers to filmmaking in Zimbabwe. My role as Coordinator was to research and document the needs of a growing film fraternity. This research was then translated into a series of year round workshops, seminars and practical initiatives that would allow the furthering of the knowledge of both the theoretical and practical aspects of filmmaking.

This responsibility included conceptualizing and producing The Film Forum, a week of intensive discussion and training with local and international trainers and guests on aspects relevant to the Zimbabwean film industry, which ran concurrently with the annual Zimbabwe International Film Festival.

This position at The Zimbabwe International Film Festival Trust has provided a valuable knowledge of:

- Time, resource management and effective multi-tasking.
- Working creatively under budgetary and practical constraints.
- Ingenuity and originality in the creation of a new enterprise.
- The importance of creating and maintaining a local and international network of support and feedback.
- Teamwork and its importance in the workplace.

Curator, wONDERwANDERLAND

HIFA

2005

wONDERwANDERLAND was conceived as a showcase of the very best of Zimbabwean contemporary arts. The exhibition included works of visual art, soundscapes, installations and a 'touch' exhibit formulated with a selection of visually impaired artists.

The aim of this exhibition was to question the perception of Zimbabwean art by setting up a showcase that would initiate discussion with the audience. In doing so, the geography of the Gallery was exploited to highlight the work on show to the greatest potential while also challenging traditional ideas of exhibition and spatial usage.

Value was further added by providing a guided tour option, peopled by Zimbabwean teenagers, who after an intensive training, were encouraged to run tours, stating both the facts and, their own, often fresh and controversial, opinion of the work on show.

The exhibition ran for six days and saw a record high attendance and initiated numerous discussions and debates of the state and direction of Zimbabwean contemporary art.

Project Manager & Evaluator

Anno's Africa Arts Project

Nairobi, Kenya

January – February 2007

Anno's Africa is an UK based arts charity primarily involved in exposing and celebrating the innate artistic potential of under-privileged and disenfranchised youth in developing countries. Anno's Africa thus endeavours to expose and stimulate the talent of youth the world over, assisting them in realizing their utmost creative potential through a dynamic and interactive arts programme that aspires to equip young artists with the necessary stimulation and skill to continue towards a possible and productive career in the arts. The programme at St Johns Non-Formal School followed a multidisciplinary approach incorporating visual arts, dance, music, drama and acrobatics. The programme involved approximately 129 students ranging in age from 7 to 16 years old, most of who are orphaned or have one surviving parent. All the students come from disadvantaged and poverty stricken backgrounds.

Curator,

National Gallery of Zimbabwe [Harare/Bulawayo/Mutare]

Current

My appointment at this esteemed institution comes in the wake of the 50th anniversary of the Gallery and the launch of a new era. My responsibilities include:-

- Traditional arts duties of surveying, exhibiting and collecting works for the national collection
- Developing arts educational programmes for primary, secondary and tertiary institutions in the country that expound the value of the arts in a wholesome education
- Supervising the National Gallery Visual Arts School and 2 resident artists
- Marketing and audience building programmes that expose the arts to new public interests
- Speaking into dynamic and effective structural, organizational and administrative development, especially in the light of current socio-political changes the country is facing.

Founder/Creative Director,

masalamedia

2000 - present

masalamedia is an independent production company set up to explore the potential of film and live performance work in Zimbabwe and abroad. The company mandate requires that all projects must inspire creativity, originality, innovation and continual

education and in doing so produce work of the highest standard. This has led to an incredible and varied resume of projects, which range from hybrid experimental film and performance work to educational documentary work in the field of HIV/AIDS. *masalamedia* productions have been nominated for regional awards and have drawn an audience globally.

Projects include :-

'I am the rape' – Educational film developed with a facilitation guide and supporting thesis. An adaptation/interpretation of the work of Zimbabwean author, Dambudzo Marechera, for a university and high school syllabus.

'5ive times' – Experimental short film investigating inappropriate expressions of emotion in the context of the breakdown of a relationship.

'roast' – leni-style – short documentary exploring the ideas of vegetarianism, Leni Riefenstahl style propaganda films and interpretation of Eisenstein's emotional/impact montage theory, applied for this project between sound and picture.

A Day in the Life of an Orphan – Magazine programme insert for UNICEF & ECCO, Zimbabwe

The lives of Women and Children in Zimbabwe – a music clip, set to a track by Yossour N'dour for UNICEF & ECCO, Zimbabwe

"... ." [a.k.a. Tandy/Rudo] - Experimental Short Film for The Short Film Project 2003 exploring lost dreams and the un-serendipitous nature of life.

'sweetie..is this art or S&M' – performance art investigating the nature of violence and seduction in the city.

heads & tales – a series of short documentary testimonials with young Zimbabweans, both infected and affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. These films are being in schools and regionally to instigate discussion and education amongst the attending audience. To date the films have been distributed to over 20 countries, translated into seven languages and have been nominated of regional awards. Made for SAfAIDS, Harare, Zimbabwe.

[A detailed list of the filmography is available upon request.]

Education:-

2006 – MA [Distinction] Audio Visual Production – London Metropolitan University, London, UK.

2000 - Video Production Training Workshop, UNESCO ZFVTP, Harare.

1992 - BA Design and Merchandising – American Intercontinental University, London, UK.

Prince Edward High School, Harare, Zimbabwe.

1987 - 'A' levels - Mathematics, Biology; Chemistry

1985 - 'O' levels - Mathematics, English, Biology, French, Geography, Physics, Chemistry, English Literature, Latin.

References: -

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