



Souvenirs from Earth TV is pleased to present a selection of works from the Michael Stevenson Gallery in Cape Town, South Africa.

MICHAEL STEVENSON has been dealing in South African art since 1990. In 2003, the business expanded to encompass contemporary South African art with the opening of a gallery in Green Point, Cape Town. The gallery celebrated its fifth birthday in May 2008 with a move to new premises in Woodstock, Cape Town.

The gallery has hosted a series of widely acclaimed solo and group exhibitions, most of which have been accompanied by catalogues. A stable of leading contemporary South African artists has also been assembled, and the gallery has broadened its ambit to include work by artists from elsewhere in Africa.

Special thanks to Fiona Mauchan and JoostBosland.

www.michaelstevenson.com

Souvenirs from Earth – TV Station for Film and Video Art
10 rue du Plâtre / F-75004 Paris / www.souvenirsfromearth.tv



Simon Gush - In the Company of (2008) excerpt 32min

In the Company Of was filmed in Belgium, where Gush currently resides, and the two teams were largely made up of immigrants to that country, as is the case with so many European soccer teams. Here the players must continuously adapt to the unusual circumstances of a terrain full of obstacles

Simon Gush graduated with a BA (FA) from the University of Witwatersrand in 2003, and in 2008 completed his postgraduate studies at the Hoger Instituut van SchoneKunsten, Ghent, Belgium. He held two collaborative exhibitions with DorotheeKreutzfeldt, at the João Ferreira Gallery, Cape Town, and the Point Blank Gallery/Twist Street Drill Hall, Johannesburg, in 2007. Gush founded and curated the Parking Gallery, an artist-run temporary project space, in Johannesburg for six months of 2006.

www.simongush.net



Lerato Shadi - Hema (2008) 5min

Hema (or Six hours of out-breath captured in 792 balloons) takes a public space as its starting point. The work is based on footage of a performance staged by Shadi at the offices of the advertising agency Ogilvy in Cape Town. She relates the choice of context to the nature of the modern working environment, where our primary needs of proper breathing and physical posture are too easily forgotten. For the performance, the artist spent exactly six hours seated on the staircase in the centre of the building, exhaling every single breath into balloons. This feat was possible because

of her experience with meditation and breathing techniques, but it left her physically and mentally exhausted. On top of this, her fingers developed bloody blisters from tying the balloons. By the end of the performance, a colourful collection of nearly 800 balloons had formed on and around the staircase, physically encapsulating six hours of Shadi's breath. For the video, Shadi has played with the editing process to capture the essence of the performance, rather than document it in its entirety. Like the green screen in Aboleleng, Hema's method of production indicates an awareness of and concern with the medium of video.

Lerato Shadi graduated from Johannesburg University in 2006 with a B-Tech honors degree. She lives and works in Johannesburg.