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## **UCT's Institute for Creative Arts launches first book on live art in the country**

*Acts of Transgression: Contemporary Live Art in South Africa*

The Institute for Creative Arts (ICA), an interdisciplinary institute at the University of Cape Town's (UCT) Faculty of Humanities, kickstarts its rich programme for 2019 with the launch of its highly anticipated new book, *Acts of Transgression: Contemporary Live Art in South Africa* – the first book on live art in the country – on Saturday, 16 February at UCT's Hiddingh Campus.

The launch starts at 17:30 for 18:00, and will feature an immersive line-up of performances, addresses, and reflections.

Okwui Enwezor, former director of Haus der Kunst, Munich and artistic director of the 56th Venice Biennial, has described *Acts of Transgression* as: "an illuminating and indispensable gathering of the most critical voices thinking today about the role of performance in the shaping of the self, identity, agency, community, and nation."

Acclaimed visual artist Sikhumbuzo Makandula and renowned singer/songwriter Mthwakazi will present a new iteration of Makandula's performance *Ingoma ka Tiyo Soga*, with an installation created specifically for the event, that draws from, and responds to, hymns composed 160 years ago by pioneering intellectual, composer and evangelist Tiyo Soga.

Fresh off the back of their latest single 'No Match', released on 18 January, experimental performing artist Mx Blouse will present a musical performance that transforms the stage into a sonic fusion of electro, R&B, hip-hop, kwaito, gqom and house.

Associate Professor Shose Kessi, Deputy Dean of Humanities at UCT, will place the publication of *Acts of Transgression* in the context of the university's decolonisation project, and editors Associate Professor Jay Pather and Ms Catherine Boule will speak about the vision for the book and its significant contribution to developing a discourse for reading and critiquing the burgeoning field of live art in South Africa.

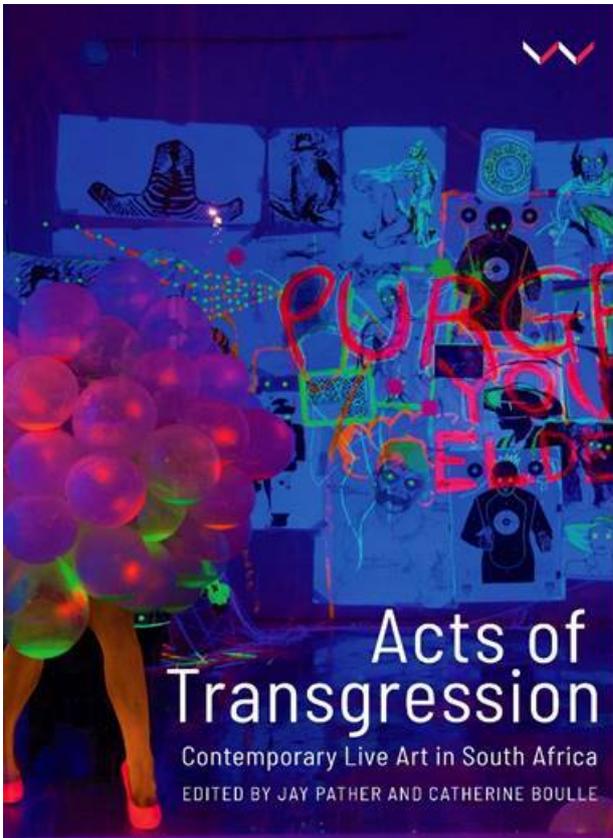
The audience will be drawn into the process of writing for the book – the difficulties and thrills of capturing experimental and often anarchic interdisciplinary performances in words

– with reflections by three contributors: writer, artist and academic Bettina Malcomess; performer, writer and educator Mwenya B. Kabwe; and performance artist and provocateur Nondumiso Lwazi Msimanga.

The event will also feature a question and answer session between the editors and audience, facilitated by award-winning writer and playwright Nadia Davids.

The ICA, formerly the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts, invites artists, art enthusiasts, students, academics, writers, researchers and members of the public to join the Institute on the penultimate day of Cape Town Art Week to celebrate the launch of this remarkable publication – positioned to become the definitive text for explorative, nuanced readings of contemporary live art in South Africa, and the go-to reference for future studies.

### **Invitation:**



You are invited to the launch of  
***Acts of Transgression:  
Contemporary Live Art in South  
Africa***

**Sat 16 Feb | 5.30 for 6pm**  
**UCT Hiddingh Campus**  
RSVP by 11 Feb to [ica@uct.ac.za](mailto:ica@uct.ac.za)

**Welcome:** Shose Kessi, Deputy Dean, Humanities | **Performances:** Sikhumbuzo Makandula & Mthwakazi; Mx Blouse | **Contributors' reflections:** Mwenya B. Kabwe, Bettina Malcomess, Nondumiso Lwazi Msimanga | **Q&A** with editors, facilitated by Nadia Davids



### **Johannesburg Book Launch**

The Johannesburg launch of *Acts of Transgression* will take place on the evening of Wednesday, 20 February at the Keyes Art Mile, where editors Jay Pather and Catherine Boule will be in conversation with multi-media artist Donna Kukama.

More information [about the ICA](#).

Have a look at the *Acts of Transgression: Contemporary Live Art in South Africa* [flyer](#).

*ENDS*

***Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department***

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