



AGSA presents major exhibition of world-renowned artist William Kentridge

William Kentridge is a powerhouse within contemporary art today. His works speak directly to the human condition, laying bare the intrinsic connections across art and history. What an honour and privilege it is to bring work of this depth and calibre to South Australian audiences.

-Rhana Devenport, ONZM, Director, AGSA

Adelaide, Australia: From 6 July until 8 September 2019, the Art Gallery of South Australia presents *William Kentridge: That which we do not remember*. This landmark exhibition, curated by the artist himself, traces the arc of Kentridge's prolific thirty-year career, providing rare insights into the artist's creative processes.

Considered one of the most powerful voices in art today, William Kentridge emerged as an artist during the apartheid regime in South Africa. Grounded in the violent absurdity of that period in his country's history, Kentridge's practice spans drawing, collage, animation, performance, theatre, tapestry and sculpture. Significant to the exhibition, a selection of artworks from the Naomi Milgrom Collection presents a union of art, ideology, history and memory formed throughout the artist's career.

Designed by Sabine Theunissen, the exhibition is ingeniously installed as a series of intimate encounters. Visitors are invited to step into cork-lined pods for a transformative experience of the moving image. Kentridge brings his drawings to life, with visitors surrounded by sound and image throughout this immersive exhibition. Audiences will also experience a rare insight into Kentridge's working methods, with a re-creation of the artist's studio situated within the exhibition.

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Australian first: Opening weekend performance

In an Australian first, internationally acclaimed performance artist and long-time collaborator with William Kentridge, Joanna Dudley, will perform *The Guided Tour of the Exhibition: for Soprano and Handbag* from within the exhibition space. This anarchic and expansive performance was developed by Dudley and Kentridge over a six-year period and will be performed five times over the opening weekend.

Of the performance, Dudley says, 'The spoken or written word can't always convey the non-linear narratives of a visual or sound world... My role is to reach outside the frame and bring the audience in, helping to connect them to William's visual world.'

William Kentridge explains, 'Performance has become part of the language available to visual artists. One can also think of performance as kind of a moving kinetic sculpture, in which the movement of the performer is a vital part.'

Joanna Dudley was born and raised in Adelaide and has been exclusively invited by William Kentridge to respond to his work through performance. This collaboration marks Dudley's first performative work at the Art Gallery of South Australia, and the first time *The Guided Tour of the Exhibition: for Soprano and Handbag* has been performed to Australian audiences.

Generosity of Naomi Milgrom AO

The exhibition *William Kentridge: That which we do not remember* is the result of Naomi Milgrom's close collaboration with Kentridge and features significant loans from both the Naomi Milgrom Collection and the artist's studio. Major works include video installation *I am not me, the horse is not mine*, charcoal *Eight figures* and the collage on paper *Drawings for 7 Fragments for George Mèliès, Day for Night and Journey to the Moon*.

Naomi Milgrom AO has had a longstanding fascination with the work of William Kentridge and explains, 'Over the years I have treasured William's work and his friendship. Having initiated this project I've enjoyed the opportunity to work closely with him and Sabine. William is an artist of immense dexterity and enduring complexity fusing opera and animation, drawing and language—it's been a privilege to share my collection and allow free access to his extraordinary work.'

A version of this exhibition was previously presented at the Art Gallery of New South Wales and was met with critical acclaim.

Kentridge's work embraces the microcosm and the macrocosm, the vast sweep of human history and the minutiae of everyday life. It's profoundly serious and completely absurd... There is nobody in the upper echelons of contemporary art quite like South Africa's William Kentridge.

-John McDonald, *Sydney Morning Herald*

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DETAILS

William Kentridge: That which we do not remember | FREE

Art Gallery of South Australia

6 July – 8 September 2019

Guided Tour of the Exhibition: for Soprano and Handbag | FREE

Art Gallery of South Australia

Friday 5 July 7pm

Saturday 6 July 11am & 2pm

Sunday 7 July 11am & 2pm

William Kentridge: That which we do not remember is supported by Naomi Milgrom AO, founder of the Naomi Milgrom Foundation, principal exhibition patron and lender. The Naomi Milgrom Foundation has made free entry to the exhibition possible. For further information on Naomi Milgrom Foundation visit www.naomimilgromfoundation.org

Accompanying the exhibition is the publication *William Kentridge: That which we do not remember*, written by writer and playwright Jane Taylor in conversation with William Kentridge. The publication is available for purchase at the AGSA Gallery Store and online via <https://store.agsa.sa.gov.au>

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IMAGE GALLERY available for download from:

https://files.artgallery.sa.gov.au/ftp/marketing/William_Kentridge_Image_Gallery.zip

Image: William Kentridge, South Africa, born 1955, *Eight figures*, 2010, Johannesburg, South Africa, brush and ink, charcoal, coloured pencil, pastel on paper, 107.5 x 207.0 cm (sheet); Collection of Naomi Milgrom AO, Courtesy the artist, photo: C.Capurro