

# Thabiso Sekgala



## Biography

Thabiso Sekgala (b. 1981 in Johannesburg, South Africa) was a photographer whose work explored themes of abandonment, memory, spatial politics and concept of home.

'In photography I am inspired by looking at human experience whether lived or imagined,' Sekgala once expressed. 'Images capture our history and who we are, our presence and absence. Growing up in both rural and urban South Africa influences my work. The dualities of these both environments inform the stories I am telling through my photographs, by engaging issues around land, peoples' movement, identity and the notion of home.'

Sekgala held solo exhibitions in South Africa and Europe and exhibited in group shows internationally, including Les Rencontres D'Arles, LagosPhoto Festival and Bamako Biennale. In 2013 he had residencies in both the Kunsterhaus Bethanien, Berlin, and at HIWAR/Durant Al Funun, Jordan.

He studied at Johannesburg's Market Photo Workshop from 2007 to 2008 and was awarded the Tierney Fellowship in 2010.

Sekgala died in Johannesburg in 2014.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2014** *Running*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2013** *No place like this*, Epicentro, Berlin, Germany
- 2013** *Paradise*, Kunsterhaus, Berlin, Germany
- 2011** *Homeland*, Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2011** *Homeland*, Recyclart & The viewwer, Brussel, Belgium.

## Group Exhibitions

- 2017** *Recent Histories – New African Photography*, Walther Collection, Ulm, Germany
- 2016** *In Context: Where We Are*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2016** *New Revolutions: Goodman Gallery at 50*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2015** 10th Rencontres de Bamako Biennale panafricaine de Photographie, Bamako, Mali
- 2015** LagosPhoto festival, Lagos, Nigeria
- 2014** *Rise and Fall of Apartheid: Photography and the Bureaucracy of Everyday Life*, Museum Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2013** *Rise and Fall of Apartheid: Photography and the Bureaucracy of Everyday Life*, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
- 2013** *Transition*, Les Rencontres D'Arles 2013, Arles, France
- 2013** *Homestories*, KFW, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2013** *My Joburg*, La maison rouge, Paris, France
- 2013** *Photoquai*, Musee Du Quai Branly, Paris, France
- 2013** *The space between us*, IFA Gallery, Berlin, Germany
- 2013** *Conversation in Amman*, Durant Al Funun, Amman, Jordan
- 2012** *Working Title*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2012** *The rise and fall of Apartheid*, ICP, New York, USA.
- 2012** *Shoe shop*, Goethe Institute, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2012** *Transition*, Bus Factory (France Institute), Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2012** *Expo sure Now*, Speke Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2011** *NYPH'11*, Photo Festival NewYork, USA.
- 2011** *Basic Reality*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2011** *Joburg Art Fair*, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2010** *10 (Borders Masterclass)*, Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2010** *Considering documentary*, Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- 2010** *Re-found*, Re-groupshow, Drongen, Belgium.

**2009** *Borders*, Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa.  
**2009** Cetavoir Image Singuliere a photographic festival in Sete, France.

## Awards and Merits

**2011** Honorable mention Ernest Cole Award.  
**2011** Nominated Paul Huff Award.

**2010** Awarded Tierney Fellowship.

## Academic Record and Residencies

**2013** Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany.  
**2013** HIWAR/ Durant Al Funun, Amman, Jordan.

**2012** History Matters Residency, CCA Lagos, Nigeria.  
**2012** Photographic portfolio meeting, by Goethe Institute, Lumombashi, DRC.

**2011** Photographic portfolio meeting, by Goethe Institute, Bamako, Mali.  
**2010** Borders Master class, Market Photo Workshop, Johannesburg, South Africa.