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Press release

## New Sound Installation by MADEYOULOOK on the Facade of Kunsthau Hamburg

For the outside area of the Kunsthau, the South African artist collaborative MADEYOULOOK has expanded their sound piece *Mafofolo*, which was first presented at documenta 15, in a site-specific way. The long-term installation will open on 1 August and is accessible to the public around the clock.



MADEYOULOOK, *Mafofolo*, 2022, Installation view documenta fifteen (Detail), Hessenland, Kassel, 15 June 2022, Photo: Frank Sperling

MADEYOULOOK is a collaborative between the Johannesburg artists Nare Mokgotho and Molemo Moiloa. Their sound and spatial installation *Quiet Ground* is currently on display in the South African pavilion at the Venice Biennale. Their interdisciplinary practice is based on Black everyday practices and is characterized by long-term research projects and collaborative endeavours. It is centred on an in-depth examination of local spatial and social relationships—blurring boundaries between research and practice, content and form, artist and audience—in favour of the integration of art into everyday life.

Especially for the outdoor area of Kunsthaus Hamburg, MADEYOULOOK has developed the 4-channel sound installation *Mafofololo Revisited* (2024). It intersperses the buzzy noise of the main road in front of the institution with singing, conversations and nature sounds. The speakers from which the sounds emanate extend along the facade of the Kunsthaus— from the front door to the bus stop a little further down the road. In an eleven-minute loop, the sound accompanies the urban life from the arrival of the first bus at 5 am to the departure of the last one at midnight.

*Mafofololo Revisited* uses the potential of sound as a means of connecting contexts across geographical and temporal distances and borders. The piece is a sonic record of South Africa's historical and contemporary relationship with the land and the ongoing longing for its preservation and care. In its surroundings in Hamburg, the work encourages its audience to reflect on and view everyday urban life from a new perspective. In this way, *Mafofololo Revisited* calls attention to globally shared experiences of the loss of natural habitats and traditional ways of life and asks for collective solutions. The formal concept underlying the work is the principle of "call and response". This pattern, whose origins lie in African music and storytelling traditions, still permeates various parts of everyday life there, such as faith, resistance and protest.

Two small benches have been installed next to the entrance to the Kunsthaus. A reading corner in the foyer of the institution, which is accessible to the public free of charge during the opening hours, completes the installation and invites visitors to learn more about land-related issues in South Africa.

The sound piece is an extension of the work *Mafofololo*, which was first shown at documenta 15 in 2022. The highly acclaimed spatial and sound installation revolved around questions of spatiality and discrimination. Besides documenta fifteen and the current presentation at the South African pavilion at the Venice Biennale, MADEYOULOOK's works, publications and programmes have been presented at Njelele Art Station, Harare (2021); Primary, Nottingham (2021); Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort (2018); Frac des Pays de la Loire, Nantes (2013) and various initiatives in South Africa. In 2012 MADEYOULOOK was nominated for the MTN New Contemporaries Award, in 2017 for the Vera List Center Prize for Art and Politics of the New School in New York. 2022 they were fellows of the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Programme.

The installation is supported by the DAAD Artists-in-Berlin Programme with funds from the Federal Foreign Office.

## **General information**

### **Opening hours**

Tuesday–Sunday, 11 am–6 pm

Closed on Mondays

### **Admission fees**

Regular: 6 €

Reduced: 4 €

Groups: 2 €

Admission to special events and participation in guided tours are free of charge.

### **Press contact**

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