

NEWS

Abri De Swardt stands out at Gradex'10

UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH GRADUATE ABRI DE SWARDT IS SINGLED OUT FOR A HIGHLY STYLISED VIDEO INSTALLATION REINTERPRETING THE LAST SUPPER



Abri de Swardt, *Leda: The Annunciation / The Bride stripped bare by her bachelors* (after Millais), 2009, pigment print on Epson matt paper, 60 x 36 cm

The exhibition features a selection of work by graduates of the jewellery design, fine arts and visual communication design programmes.

De Swardt, who earlier this year received a merit award for his entry into the 2010 Absa L'Atelier Award, is scheduled to show at Cape Town's **Blank Projects** in 2011.

Read more about his October 10 performance at the Irma Stern Museum [here](#).

STELLENBOSCH, Dec. 7, 2010 – Abri De Swardt, a graduate of the Department of Visual Arts at the University of Stellenbosch, has won the Timo Smuts Art Prize, this institution's highest accolade, for a highly stylised video installation *For what we are about to receive* (2010), a reinterpretation of the Last Supper.

Opulent, gaudy, biblical, affecting, De Swardt's winning work retreads familiar ground – on one level it reads like a mash-up of Federico Fellini's *Satyricon* (1969), Derek Jarman's *The Tempest* (1979) and Tracey Rose's *Ciao Bella* (2001) – yet manages to convey an inventive and original artistic sensibility at work.

Unlike the trio of young men seeking refuge behind paper costumes in Avant Car Guard's 2007 work, *Protected by Theory*, De Swardt's costumed men cannot hide from the onslaught. Bread and red wine rains down on them. Some leave, others persist, only to have their elaborate, colour-rich paper costumes to lose form and fall to the ground.

De Swardt's winning presentation is one of a host of works currently on show at **Gradex'10**, a student-led exhibition that is on view at the University of Stellenbosch until December 12.



Abri de Swardt, *For what we are about to receive*, 2010, projection, rocks and anointing oil, duration: 11 min 56 sec



GRADEX'10
UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH
An Exhibition of Works by the Graduate Students of the Department of Visual Arts
OPENS 30 NOV 19:00
RUNS DAILY FROM 19:00-16:00 UNTIL 12 DEC



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Variants for invitation to Gradex'10

Sean O'Toole

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FEATURES

Braids
Nolan Stevens

125 Years of Gold Mining In Johannesburg Commemorated with Art South Africa Special Edition Headgears

Handspring Puppetry Awards announced!
Staff writer

Call for Entries to the 2011 PPC Cement Young Concrete Sculptor Awards Competition

French Cut
Genna Gardini

How Do You Pin A Wave Upon The Sand?
Genna Gardini

LISTINGS

JHB Graham's Fine Art Gallery
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, Graham's Fine Art Gallery

JHB Postgraduate Study Programmes
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, Wits School of Arts

BFN Zak Benjamin Retrospective
20 SEP - 6 NOV 2011, Oliewenhuis Art Museum

CPT Strauss & Co
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, Strauss and Co

WC The Hout Street Gallery
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, Hout Street Gallery

MP The Artist's Press
1 SEP - 31 DEC 2011, The Artist's Press

EC Strydom Gallery
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, Strydom Gallery

EC Strydom Gallery
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, Strydom Gallery

DBN Vulindlela Nyoni
1 SEP - 1 DEC 2011, African Art Centre

EXHIBITION REVIEWS

Phillemon Hlungwani
EVERARD READ GALLERY, JOHANNESBURG

Gerhard Marx
GOODMAN GALLERY CAPE, CAPE TOWN

Guten Tag Cape Town
WOODSTOCK INDUSTRIAL CENTRE, CAPE TOWN

BOOK REVIEWS

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