

# EVERARD READ

## **BRETT CHARLES SEILER**

(b.1994 Zimbabwe)

'Brett Charles Seiler's works read as confessions, or diary entries left exposed. Seiler too uses text in his work, single sentences with his characteristic honesty, sometimes sentimental, more often blunt. Missing lovers I have never met, says one work, I once jerked off to a portrait of Jesus, says another.' – Lucienne Bestall

Seiler's work takes the forms of painting and installations. The use of text and language is critical for Seiler, with often poetic, religious and sediments functioning like a confessional. Dealing with ideas of romantic gestures and sexual interactions, Seiler's works dives into historical gay modes of communication and conduct, bringing forward a collective memory of gay rights movements, and focusing on the sexual oppression of gay men. This results in feelings of longing, distance and nostalgia.

Seiler's paintings are often accompanied by performance-based works, process works and interventions. Works that 'queer' the gallery space, including writing and imagery created directly on the walls of the gallery – as a revolt or disobedience. Though currently based in Cape Town, being from Zimbabwe, Seiler's work is also recognised for questioning gay rights in the African context, highlighting punishment, education, media and institutions.

Seiler graduated from the Ruth Prowse School of Art in 2015. In addition to his solo shows, Seiler has been included in various group exhibitions and fairs, including a performance piece with Luvuyo Nyawose titled 'Reading Homophobia' (2017) at the A4 Arts Foundation in Cape Town, curated by Kemang Wa Lehulere and Zipho Dayile, and the Cologne Art Fair with Galerie Eigen + Art in 2021.

## **EDUCATION**

**2015** Graduated from the Ruth Prowse School of Art

## **SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2022** Gallery Eigen+Art, Berlin, Germany  
As yet untitled, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa  
*At some point, I thought I was building a home*, Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2021** *Timber*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020** *Closet*, Goodman Gallery viewing room, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2019** *How I forgot the colours of the rainbow*, SMITH, Cape Town
- 2018** *More Scared Of What Was In The Closet Than What Was Underneath My Bed*, Everard Read, Cape Town
- 2016** *Macho Man, Tell It To My Heart*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town

## **SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2022** *hothouse*, Sixty Six, London, UK
- 2021** *OASIS*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Summer 2021*, Everard Read, London, UK  
*In Your Shadow*, SMAC, Cape Town, South Africa  
*In Conversation*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Space and Place*, curated by Khanya Mashabela, Galerie Eigen + Art, Leipzig, Germany

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- This room glows in the dark while we are asleep*, curated by Jana Terblanche, The Vault, The Silo Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa  
*In Conversation*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020** *ODYSSEY*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2019** *Emphatic Whispers*, SMITH, Cape Town  
*Winter 2019*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Home Affairs*, Waterfront Docks, Cape Town, South Africa  
*OUTSIDE*, Riebeeck Kasteel Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2018** *One Straight Hour* performed for *The Main Complaint*, Zeitz MOCAA, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Sunday Service*, GUS, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
*Unfair*, The Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town, South Africa  
*The Edge of a Thread*, Eclectica Contemporary,, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Close Encounters*, SMITH, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Not Really*, Previously Known As, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Multiplicities Vol1: Continuous Unknowing*, Assembly Room, NYC, USA
- 2017** *Closer than Ever*, Gallery MOMO, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Performance Night*, Gallery MOMO, Cape Town, South Africa  
*One Week*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Young Now*, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
*Hold*, The Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town, South Africa  
*You and I*, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Dislocation*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Salon Show*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
*ABSA Atelier Top 100 finalists*, ABSA Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2016** *Falling Into One Another*, Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town, South Africa  
*New Monuments*, Commune.1, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Winter Collection*, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa  
*One Zero Seven*, 107 Long market Street, Cape Town, South Africa  
*The Ties That Bind*, Bend, Break, Secret Dungeon, NYC, USA  
*Lip Service with Khanya Mashabela*, Open Dialogue Box, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Sorry! Please Try Again*, The Palms Centre, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Reading Homophobia with Luvuyo Nyawose*, performance, Gallery MOMO, Cape Town, South Africa

## ART FAIRS

- 2022** SOLO Section, Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Everard Read, Cape Town  
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Eigen+Art, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2021** Art Cologne, Cologne, Galerie Eigen + Art, Germany  
Positions, Berlin, Galerie Eigen + Art, Germany
- 2019** FNB Joburg Art Fair, online, solo booth curated by Jana Terblanche
- 2016** *Emerging Painters*, Turbine Art Fair, Johannesburg

## AWARDS AND COMPETITIONS

- 2017** *ABSA Atelier Top 100 finalists*