

# Claire Gavronsky



## Biography

(b. 1957, Johannesburg)

Claire Gavronsky works in a variety of mediums, most notably in painting and sculpture. Her work often uses visual reference's to historical paintings, and cues are sometimes taken from events from everyday life. Memory, racism, violence against women and children are some of the theme's which run through her oeuvre. Her work also bridge's sometimes complex narratives through overlaid images, and stories which link the past to the present.

In 1981 Gavronsky received a Master of Fine Art in painting, and she moved to Italy in 1985 and has since lived between Cape Town and Tuscany.

In Florence, Gavronsky established, with fellow artist Rosemarie Shakinovsky, an international artist's residency workshop in Tuscany. After the success of these workshops they founded workshops in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Venda and Botswana. Gavronsky and Shakinovsky often collaborate under the name Rosenclaire. They also collaborate on occasion with William Kentridge. She has exhibited extensively in South Africa, Europe and the United States of America.

## Solo Exhibitions

**2018** *Speechless* with Rose Shakinovsky, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2014** *Colour Theory* with Rose Shakinovsky, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2012** *Immaterial Matters* with Rose Shakinovsky, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2010** *re.collections* with Rose Shakinovsky, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**1993** *Infiltrare* with Rose Shakinovsky, Studio Levi, Florence, Italy

**1988** Cassirer Fine Art, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1987** Karen McKerron Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1984** Karen McKerron Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1983** Gallery International, Cape Town, South Africa

**1983** The Copley Society, Boston MA, USA

**1982** Cassirer Fine Art, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1981** Robert Enthoven Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1980** Things Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

## Group Exhibitions

**2017** *Right to the Future*, Museum of 20th and 21st Century Art, St Petersburg, Russia

**2016** *New Revolutions: Goodman Gallery at 50*, Goodman Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2014** *Thinking, Feeling, Head, Heart* The New Church Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

**2014** *Do It*, Michaelis Galleries UCT, Cape Town, South Africa

**2012** *Advance/Notice*, Goodman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2010** *Dakar Biennale*, Senegal

**2010** *\_Art 41* Basel, Goodman Gallery, Switzerland

**2009-2010** *Dystopia*, collaboration with William Kentridge, Pretoria, South Africa

**2009-2010** *Dystopia*, collaboration with William Kentridge, Ghent, Belgium

**2009-2010** *Spheres 2009*, Gallery Continua/Goodman Gallery, Le Moulin, Paris, France

**2009** *Gesture*, with Rose Shakinovsky, Goodman Gallery, Miami Basel, USA  
**2009** *Swamp Eyes*, David Krut Projects, Implicit Art, New York / South Africa  
**2009** *Sources: Contemporary Sculpture in the Landscape (Drive Game)*, Goodman Gallery, Nirox, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2007** *Domestic Departures*, California State University, Fullerton Gallery, USA  
**2007** *SHIFT*, The Gallery in Cork St, London, UK

**2006** *Faces to Names*, Alliance Française, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2005** *Soap Boxes* with Rose Shakinovsky, South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
**2005** *William Kentridge in Collaboration*, David Krut, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**2005** *Works on Paper*, Franchise Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**2005** *Synergy*, South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2004** *A Decade of Democracy* with Rose Shakinovsky, South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**2003** *Wulbari*, Galleria Elena Privitera, Turin, Italy  
**2003** *Afritalia*, Galleria Limiti Inchiuisi, Molise, Italy

**2000** *TransAfricana*, Bologna Cultura 2000, Bologna, Italy

**1999** *Progetto in Cubo*, museo ai aperto, Florence, Italy

**1996** *Artists in Tuscany*, Melbourne, Sydney, Australia

**1995** *La Città Ideale*, Flumara d'Arte, Antonio Presti, Sicily, Italy

**1994** *X I T*, AVA, Cape Town, South Africa

**1993** *Gasometro*, Installation, Rome, Italy  
**1993** *Project Conflux*, Luxembourg  
**1993** *Project Conflux*, Dijon, France  
**1993** *Project Conflux*, Paris, France  
**1993** *Project Conflux*, Cape Town, South Africa

**1991** *Outrageous Desire*, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA

**1990** *Summer Academy Show*, Salzburg, Austria

**1988** *Cape Town Triennale*, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1988** *Clay +*, UNISA Art Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1988** *Vita Art Now*, Johannesburg Art Gallery, South Africa

**1987** *8th International Drawing Biennale*, Cleveland, UK  
**1987** The British School, Rome, Italy  
**1987** The Dante Alighieri, Florence, Italy

**1985** *Cape Town Triennale*, Cape Town, South Africa  
**1985** *Five Young Artists*, Gallery International, Cape Town, South Africa

**1984** Grand Prix International d'Art Contemporain, France  
**1984** *Women's Festival*, Natalie Knight Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
**1984** Cultural Resistance Festival, Gaborone, Botswana  
**1984** Total Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1981** Crake Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1979** Total Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

**1978** New Signatures, Pretoria, South Africa  
**1978** Grand Prix International d'Art Contemporain, France

## Teaching, Lectureships and Workshop

**1991-2018** Summer workshops for international students with Rose Shakinovsky, Tuscany, Italy

**2005-2010** Workshops with Rose Shakinovsky, San Francisco & New York, USA

**1997-2010** Workshops in Cape Town / Johannesburg / Venda, South Africa

**1986-2001** Art Institute of Florence, Lorenzo de Medici, Italy – Teacher in Painting, Drawing, Sculpture

**1984-1985** Johannesburg College of Art, South Africa – Teacher in Drawing

## Awards and Merits

**2003-2004** Commission for public sculpture with Rose Shakinovsky outside South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

**1993** Award for Drawing, City of Lastra, Italy

**1987** Award, 8th Drawing Biennale, Middlesborough, UK

**1985-1987** Italian Government Grant for graduate studies abroad  
**1985-1987** Lithography, Il Bosente, Florence, Italy

**1985** Finalist in national sculpture competition, South Africa

## Academic Record and Residencies

### Residencies

**2008/2009** Nirox Foundation, Artist in Residence, Johannesburg, South Africa

**2007** USC Grand Central, Artist in Residence with Rose Shakinovsky, USA

**1990** Salzburg Summer Academy with Jorg Immendorff and Erinna König

**1990** Invited to work in Düsseldorf with Jorg Immendorff

**1986** Cité Internationale des Art, Paris, France

### Education

**1979-1981** Johannesburg College of Art, South Africa – Higher Diploma, Painting

## Collections

City of Pettineo, Italy

Cleveland County Council, Middlesbrough, UK

Il Bisonte, Florence, Italy

Durban Art Gallery, South Africa

South African National Gallery, Iziko, Cape Town, South Africa

## Selected Articles and Reviews

**2012** Michael Smith, *Review*, Artthrob, South Africa

**2012** Mary Corrigan, *In Defence Of Painting*, Sunday Independent, South Africa

**2012** Matthew Partridge, *Mind Over Matters*, Mail & Guardian, Johannesburg

**2010** Andrew Lamprecht, *Rosenclaire A Subtle Pairing*, Artthrob, South Africa

**2009** Lore Watterson and Lara Koseff, *A Performative Monument*, Classicfeel, South Africa

**2009** Mary Corrigan, *Commodifying the Countryside*, Sunday Times, South Africa

## Publications

### Catalogues

**2009** *Swamp Eyes*, David Krut Projects, Implicit Art, NY/SA

**2007** *Domestic Departures: Essays*, Amelia Jones and Tyler Stallings

**2004** *A Decade of Democracy*, Emma Bedford

**2003** *Afritalia*, Fuori Luogo 8: Campo Basso, MA Schroth

**2003** *Wulbari*, Torino Wences Rambia

**2000** *TransAfricana, Artisti Contemporanei*, Renato Barilli and Gianni Baiocchi

**1995** La Citta Ideale, Flumara d'Arte