

Igshaan Adams's practice coalesces performance, weaving, sculpture and installation. Born in Bonteheuwel, a township in Cape Town, South Africa, Adams draws upon his background to contest racial, sexual and religious boundaries. This intersectional topography remains visible throughout his practice and serves as a palimpsest upon which traces of personal histories are inscribed and reinscribed. He explains; "I'm interested in the personal stories recorded on the surface. What is recorded is not necessarily always a factual account but can be what is imagined - a combination of myth-making and meaning-making".

Adams approaches materiality through his own subjectivity. Often, cultural and religious references are used in conjunction with surfaces that have always been present throughout his life; thread, beads, wire, linoleum, cotton twine, fabric. His interest in the material oscillates between the intuitive process of handling different substances as well as a formal inquiry into how various materials behave in different contexts and how they transfigure or evolve depending. Likening the material's potential for evolution to his own potential for evolution, Adams is engaged in broadening his ideas of selfhood in an ongoing process of covering and uncovering, doing and undoing.

To date, Adams has held solo exhibitions at The Art Institute of Chicago, Kunsthalle Zurich, Hayward Gallery (London), SCAD Museum of Art (Savannah), Akershus Kunstsenter (Oslo), and Iziko South African National Gallery (Cape Town), among others. He has also participated in numerous group shows, both locally and internationally, including *Awwal Bayt*, the Islamic Arts Biennale (2023) in Jeddah, *Dreamhome: Art and Shelter* (2023) at The Art Gallery of New South Wales in Sydney, *The Milk of Dreams* (2022) at the Venice Biennale, *Slowly Arriving* (2021) at Kunsthaus Baselland in Basel, *Allied with Power* (2020) at Perez Art Museum Miami, *Mapping Black Identities* (2019) at the Minneapolis Institute of Art, and *In This Imperfect Present Moment* (2018) at the Seattle Art Museum.

Adams has been selected for a number of artist residencies including the Atelier residency at Zeitz MOCAA in Cape Town, A4 Arts Foundation in Cape Town, the Sommerakademie im Zentrum Paul Klee in Bern, and the IAAB Pro Helvetia residency in Basel. In 2018, Adams was awarded the Standard Bank Young Artist Award for Visual Art. His works are included in numerous public collections, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney; Moderna Museet, Stockholm; Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore; Inhotim Museum, Brazil; Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town; and Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis.

solo exhibitions

2022 *Vastrapplek*, Casey Kaplan Gallery, New York, USA

2022 *Desire Lines*, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA

2022 *skarrelbaan*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2021 *Kicking Dust*, Kunsthalle Zurich, Switzerland

2021 *Kicking Dust*, Hayward Gallery, London, UK

2021 *Veld Wen*, Casey Kaplan Gallery, New York, USA

2020 *Getuie*, SCAD Museum of Art, Savannah, USA

2020 *stukkinne stories*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
2019 *I am no more*, Akershus Kunstsenter, Oslo, Norway  
2018 *When Dust Settles*, institutional tour, South Africa  
2018 *Al Latif*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
2016 *Oorskot*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
2015 *Please Remember, A Tale of a Tub*, Rotterdam, Netherlands  
2015 *Parda*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
2013 *Have you seen Him?*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
2013 *If that I knew*, Rongwrong Gallery, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
2011 *In Between*, Stevenson Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2010 *Vinyl*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2009 *Jou Ma se Poes*, Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town, South Africa

selected group exhibitions

2023 *IO*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa  
2023 *Narrative Threads: Textile Art Now*, Moody Center for the Arts, Houston, USA [upcoming]  
2023 *Awwal Bayt (First House)*, Islamic Arts Biennale, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia  
2022 *Dreamhome: Art and Shelter*, The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia  
2022 *Where do I begin?*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa  
2022 *Unknown Unknowns: An Introduction to Mysteries*, 23rd Triennale Milano, Milan, Italy  
2022 *Customs*, curated by Josh Ginsburg and Sumayya Vally, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
2022 *The Milk of Dreams*, 59th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale, Venice, Italy  
2021 *A Line Beyond*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2021 *Slowly Arriving*, Kunsthaus Baselland, Basel, Switzerland  
2021 *I have made a place*, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa

2021 *Step Out of Your Body, Enter New Ones – An Exhibition On Community and Spirituality* curated by Raphael Gyax, Galerie Peter Kilchmann, Zurich, Switzerland

2021 *Where the threads are worn*, Casey Kaplan Gallery, New York, USA

2020 *WHO ARE WE ARE WHO*, curated by Fabian Schöneich, Braunsfelder, Cologne, Germany

2020 *Allied with Power*, Perez Art Museum Miami (PAMM), USA

2020 *Tomorrow there will be more of us*, Stellenbosch Triennale, Stellenbosch, South Africa

2019 *Risk*, curated by Josh Ginsburg, A4 Arts Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa

2019 *Ngoma: Art and Cosmology*, JAG, Johannesburg, South Africa

2019 *the head the hand*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2019 *Mapping Black Identities*, Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, USA

2019 *Kubatana*, Vestfossen Kunstlaboratorium, Øvre Eiker, Norway

2019 *Matters of Concern*, La Verrière, Brussels, Belgium

2019 *Material Insanity*, MACAAL, Marrakech, Morocco

2019 *Filling in the Gaps*, Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2019 *CONDO London*, blank projects hosted by Corvi-Mora, London, UK

2018 *open agenda*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2018 *Soft Power*, curated by Julie Crenn, Transpalette, Bourges, France

2018 *In This Imperfect Present Moment*, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, USA

2018 *Pulling at Threads*, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa

2018 *Ravelled Threads*, Sean Kelly Gallery, New York, USA

2018 *blank*, Galerie Guido W. Baudach, Berlin, Germany

2018 *Sculpture*, Institute of Contemporary Art Indian Ocean, Port Louis, Mauritius

2018 *Da Uno a Dieci*, Galleria Massimo Minini, Brescia, Italy

2017 *Les jour qui vient*, Galerie des Galeries, Paris, France

2016 *Figure*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2016 *The Quiet Violence of Dreams*, Stevenson Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2016 *3 881 days*, blank lab, Cape Town, South Africa

2016 *The 55-Minute Hour*, Trubok Factory, Cape Town, South Africa

2015 *Furniture: a sculpture exhibition*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2015 *Sacre du Printemps* curated by AA Bronson, Grazer Kunstverein, Graz, Austria

2015 *Barriers*, Wanås Konst, Knislinge, Sweden

2014 *next thing you know*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2014 *No Fixed Abode*, The New Church Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

2014 *Blind Spot*, National Arts Festival, Grahamstown, South Africa

2014 *Between Subject and Object*, Michaelis Galleries, Cape Town, South Africa

2014 *Bismillah*, National Arts Festival, Grahamstown, South Africa

2013 *Three Abdullahs*, Centre for African Studies, Cape Town, South Africa

2013 *This is the thing*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2013 *blank projects in Johannesburg*, Ithuba Arts Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2012 *When Form Becomes Attitude*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2012 *Ingekluer: Beyond The Borders*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2012 *A Century of Self*, The Copy Shop, Cape Town, South Africa

2011 *What We Talk About When We Talk About Love*, Stevenson, Cape Town, South Africa

2011 *Slices of Life*, Infecting the City Public Arts Festival, Cape Town, South Africa

2010 *Laboratory of Recycled Revolutions*, Greatmore Studios, Cape Town, South Africa

2010 *Swallow my Pride*, blank projects, Cape Town, South Africa

2010 *Greatest Hits 2009*, AVA Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa