keiskamma art project timeline

1994

South Africa holds its first democratic elections.

Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress, is inaugurated as State President.

1999

Nelson Mandela steps down as President after one term and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is elected to the state presidency.

2001

Citing outdated statistics, Thabo Mbeki incorrectly claims that HIV/AIDS is the 12th most deadly disease in South Africa. It was the leading killer at this time.

2002

Vuselela
2002

Artist, humanitarian and medical doctor Carol Hofmeyr invites the art embroiderers from Oxford, Jan Chalmers and Jacky Jacowitz, to introduce embroidery techniques to a small group of women from Hamburg, Eastern Cape, South Africa.

Keiskamma Art Project (KAP) formally comes into being with the formation of its first Board of Trustees.

KAP's first exhibition, Vuselela ('Restoration'), is held at National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

Vuselela travels to National Awards Exhibition, Newtown, Johannesburg.

KAP cow embroideries are exhibited at Art Velona of Africa, Oxford, UK.

KAP takes part in an exhibition of hand-made dolls, presented at galleries in and around Oxford, UK.

KAP artworks are shown in Down to Earth exhibition, National Quilt Festival, Cape Town.

With private funding, a few people in Hamburg are able to start taking antiretrovirals (ARVs).

ARVs approved by the South African Government in late 2002 begin reaching tertiary referral hospitals. In April 2004, however, the community of Hamburg is unable to access ARVs from Government until 2008. Even then, transport to Nompumelelo Hospital in Peddie is an obstacle, and Carol Hofmeyr and her husband, Abdelkhoudir Jutsa Hofmeyr, collect doses of ARVs from the clinic in Peddie for distribution in Hamburg.

2003

Keiskamma Tapestry
2003

Keiskamma Tapestry is exhibited at the National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

2004

Cream Tapestry
2004

The Keiskamma Trust is formed as an umbrella organisation to provide support to the wider Hamburg community via various programmes, including Keiskamma Art Project and Keiskamma Health Programme.

KAP receives a merit award for the Keiskamma Tapestry at the Brett Kebble Art Awards, Cape Town International Convention Centre, Cape Town.

KAP receives a Gold Award for the Keiskamma Tapestry in First National Bank's FNB Vita Craft Now exhibition, Johannesburg.

The Keiskamma Tapestry is displayed in the Old Fort, Constitution Hill, Johannesburg and Durban Art Gallery, Durban.

Standard Bank of South Africa acquires the Keiskamma Tapestry.

The Keiskamma Tapestry goes on permanent exhibition at the Houses of Parliament, Cape Town.

Democracy Tapestry
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2005

Keiskamma Altarpiece
2005

Keiskamma Altarpiece goes on exhibition at the Constitutional Court of South Africa, Johannesburg. At the opening, former Constitutional Court Justice, Albie Sachs, pays tribute to the KAP artists' collective.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at the National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited as part of the decades exhibition celebrating Women's Month, Constitution Hill, Johannesburg.

Keiskamma Altarpiece goes on display at St Francis Church, Parktown, Johannesburg.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is featured in an exhibition of fibre art, Innovative Thread, Nova Constantia, Cape Town.

Rose Altarpiece
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Keiskamma Altarpiece goes on display at St Francis Church, Parktown, Johannesburg.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is featured in an exhibition of fibre art, Innovative Thread, Nova Constantia, Cape Town.

2006

Marriage of Nokulama and Luthando
2006

Carol Hofmeyr wins The Herald Citizen of the Year Award, in recognition of her work with KAP and the broader Keiskamma Trust.

Rose Altarpiece is acquired by the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, Gqeberha.

Keiskamma Tapestry is unveiled in the Houses of Parliament, Cape Town.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at the University of Johannesburg (UJ) Art Gallery, Johannesburg.

Cream Tapestry is exhibited at the East London Museum, East London.

Keiskamma Altarpiece begins a World Tour (2006–2008). After its exhibition at The Colonial Church of St James during the 2006 World Aids Conference, Toronto, Canada, the artwork travels to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Washington DC, USA.

Tapestries and icons exhibition is held at Everard Read Gallery, Johannesburg.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at Fowler Museum at University of California, Los Angeles, USA.

Democracy Tapestry is sold to Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg.

South African Department of Foreign Affairs orders KAP wall hangings for the African Union Buildings in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

2007

Creation Altarpiece
2007

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at St Mark's Cathedral, Seattle, USA.

Carol Hofmeyr is awarded Shoprite Checkers' Volunteer of the Year Award for Art.

Creation Altarpiece and Bird Friezes are exhibited at Everard Read Gallery, Johannesburg.

Creation Altarpiece, Rose Altarpiece and Marriage of Nolulama and Luthando are shown at the National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

In a marketing initiative by the South African Department of Arts and Culture, KAP embroiderers go on exhibition in Barcelona, Spain.

2008

Thabo Mbeki is recalled by the National Executive Committee of the ANC and agrees to step down as President of South Africa.

The people of Hamburg and surrounds continue to gain access to ARVs through a special dispensation from the pharmacy at Nompumelelo Hospital.

An ARV and palliative care programme is implemented in the village of Hamburg, via the US President's Emergency Fund for Aids Relief in Africa (PEPFAR).

Creation Altarpiece and Felt Tree Panels are exhibited at SASOL Hall, Johannesburg.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at the National Cathedral, Washington DC, USA.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at Southwark Cathedral, London.

Cream Tapestry is acquired by private collector Lorna Clark, UK.

Creation Altarpiece and Felt Tree Panels are exhibited at Saint George's Cathedral, Cape Town.

Rose Altarpiece goes on permanent display at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Museum of Art, Gqeberha.

In a marketing initiative by the South African Department of Arts and Culture, KAP embroiderers go on exhibition in Brazil.

2009

South African Trees in Time
2009

KAP is nominated as a finalist in two categories in the 10th Business and Arts South Africa (BASA) Awards: First Time Sponsor and Single Project, through the Murray & Roberts Women's Art Project.

Creation Altarpiece is exhibited at University of South Africa (UNISA) Art Gallery, Tshwane.

Children's Games triptych is commissioned for Moses Mabhida Stadium, Durban, by Durban Municipality in preparation for the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa.

Keiskamma Altarpiece travels to Durban Art Gallery (Durban); Museum Africa (Johannesburg) and Iziko Slave Lodge (Cape Town) as part of the South Africa 400 touring exhibition (2009–2012), an initiative of the UCLA Art and Global Health Center in partnership with the Art and Global Health Center Africa.

Jacob Zuma becomes President of South Africa and Barbara Hogan, Minister of Health, approves the Government ARV roll-out in rural areas. There are massive roll-outs to clinics in and around Hamburg. However, the stigma attached to the disease means that people living with HIV/AIDS are reluctant to be seen collecting ARVs from local clinics.

Owing to new government legislation, the ACO hospice in Hamburg is forced to close and is absorbed into a step-down unit at Nompumelelo Hospital in Peddie, an hour's drive away. The unit does not function well and many people from the Keiskamma Health Programme are needlessly.

Keiskamma Trust is no longer allowed to distribute ARVs and thus helped care is interrupted, resulting in unnecessary complications around treatment adherence and transport.

2010

Keiskamma Guernica
2010

Keiskamma Guernica is exhibited at the National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

Botanical tapestries Cycad and Dune Flower are exhibited at Botanical Art Biennale, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, Cape Town.

Keiskamma Guernica is exhibited at the Great Hall, Wits University, Johannesburg.

Creation Altarpiece is acquired by UNISA Art Gallery, Tshwane.

Keiskamma Guernica is acquired by Red Location Museum, Gqeberha.

South African Trees in Time, Murray & Roberts' site-specific commission, is installed at the Head Office in Bedfordview, Johannesburg.

KAP embroideries of Kuru Art Project paintings and linocuts are featured in a joint exhibition with Kuru Art Project, Gaborone, Botswana.

2011

KAP is presented with Business and Arts South Africa Chairman's Premier Award.

Entyalyamlomi (Flowers) is acquired by Liberties Gallery, Stellenbosch.

Entyalyamlomi (Flowers) is acquired by Hargreaves (Somerset West) and Tokara (Stellenbosch) Wine Estates.

Dune Walk (series of four tapestries) is acquired by the International Convention Centre, East London.

Kuru Art Project's exhibition had to coincide with the launch of Marguerite Poland's book Recessional for Grace, Bolela Farm, Johannesburg.

Rhodes University Tapestry, a KAP artwork documenting the history of Rhodes University, is commissioned by Rhodes University for the Senate Meeting Room, Makhanda.

Carol Hofmeyr is awarded Eten Kizwayo Award, JoZi, Johannesburg.

KAP produces artworks *Before and After* and *Woman Empowerment* after a workshop on women's rights, AwaseOwele, Cape Town.

2012

Keiskamma Altarpiece is acquired by private patron G.T. Ferreira.

Series of three KAP tapestries depicting views of Boughton House and Gardens is commissioned for Boughton House, Kettering, UK.

Human Rights Tapestry is shown at the Human Rights Arts and Film Festival, Melbourne, Australia.

Manifesto: Just Us of Work tapestry goes on display at Documenta 13, Kassel, Germany.

Replica of Keiskamma Guernica is exhibited at the Smithsonian FOLKLIFE Festival, Washington DC, USA.

Creating Connections, a collaboration between Keiskamma Art Project and Kuru Art Project, is held at Oude Libertas, Stellenbosch and Gaborone, Botswana.

Children's Altarpiece is exhibited in Pinnature exhibition, La Art Gallery, Johannesburg.

Carol Hofmeyr is awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the Royal College of Physicians, London, UK.

Keiskamma Guernica is shown at the 17th Venice Biennale (Biennale di Architettura di Venezia 2012), Venice, Italy.

Large-scale photographic print of Keiskamma Guernica and photographs of Keiskamma Altarpiece are exhibited at Southbank Centre, London, UK.

Keiskamma Guernica is exhibited in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town as part of the Make ART / Stop AIDS touring exhibition.

2013

Botanicals
2013

Carol Hofmeyr is awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Rhodes University, Makhanda.

Botanicals tapestries are exhibited at McMillan Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland.

Keiskamma Altarpiece is exhibited at Christuskirche Lutheran Church, Hamburg, Germany.

Four tapestries honouring four South African Nobel Peace Prize winners are commissioned for the Quarters Hotel, Boughton House, Kettering, UK.

Keiskamma Music Academy performs *Carnival of the Animals* at the National Arts Festival, Makhanda, with hand puppets and props made by KAP.

The Difference Loom (a temporary exhibition of Keiskamma Guernica) is held at South African National Gallery, Cape Town.

Kalahari Headload and Last Supper Table, collaborations with Kuru Art Project, are exhibited at Kirstenbosch Botanical Art Biennale, Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens, Cape Town.

2014

Bika Tapestry
2014

Mother and Child Tapestry is commissioned for Lady Chatel of the Cathedral of St Michael's and St George's, Makhanda.

Flower Power for Grace Machel is commissioned by University of Cape Town for the Graça Machel Residence, Cape Town.

KAP exhibition *Hope Has Wings* takes place at Oude Libertas Gallery, Stellenbosch.

A smaller scale version of Keiskamma Guernica features in Guernica Remakings exhibition, University of Brighton Gallery, Brighton, UK.

2015

Intsikizi Tapestries
2015

Intsikizi Tapestries are exhibited at National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

Petty Gallery, Birkbeck, University of London exhibits smaller scale version of Keiskamma Guernica.

2016

Women's Charter Tapestries
2016

Keiskamma Art Project Redbag Hope and Jewellery, by Brenda Schmahmann (Professor of South African Art and Visual Culture, UJ) is published.

History of Jews in South Africa artwork is exhibited in Miami, USA.

Indoki, Native Tapestries from Keiskamma, Eastern Cape of South Africa exhibition takes place at McMillan Gallery, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.

Keiskamma artists visit Canada for exhibition and dedication of two Keiskamma artworks for the Global Health Centre, Edmonton, Canada.

After intense pressure from his party, and faced with losing a scheduled parliamentary no-confidence vote on 15 February, Jacob Zuma resigns as President. Deputy President and ANC party leader Cyril Ramaphosa becomes President of South Africa.

Land occupation protests take place in western Cape.

2017

Cyril Ramaphosa is elected as leader of the ANC.

Keiskamma Music Academy tours to UK with KAP artworks made in collaboration with Kuru Art Project, Gaborone, and the Nelson Mandela Museum, Bhalekwe.

Royal College of Physicians (RCP) Tapestry is unveiled at the Royal College of Physicians in London, UK.

KAP artists exhibit work in Fibre exhibition, Fyndiks Festival, Hermanus.

2018

A New Earth
2018

Zwelihle Land Conflict Tapestry is exhibited as part of the Fyndiks Festival, Hermanus.

Tapestry for SAPS (South African International Maritime Institute) is commissioned to show the value of South African seas, South African International Maritime Institute, Gqeberha.

Creation Altarpiece, Keiskamma Guernica, Marriage of Nolulama and Luthando, Democracy Tapestry, among others, are shown in a retrospective exhibition, Women of Resilience, at the UJ Faculty of Art, Design and Architecture (FADA) Gallery, Johannesburg.

A Sin of Omission (tour panels) is exhibited in conjunction with book launches of Marguerite Poland's novel of the same title at GFI Art Gallery, Gqeberha; St Andrew's Chapel, Makhanda; and Kalk Bay Books, Cape Town.

Keiskamma Guernica is displayed at Jovell Art Centre, University of Pretoria, Tshwane, alongside African Guernica (2019-2020) by Dumisa Fani.

Thomas Mapaula Debating Chamber (four panels) is commissioned by St Andrew's School, Makhanda.

Mount Pleasant Land Conflict Tapestry is exhibited at Fyndiks Festival, Hermanus.

Keiskamma Guernica is exhibited at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, Gqeberha.

Keiskamma Guernica is shown at East London Museum as part of the East London Festival.

Keiskamma Canada Foundation holds exhibition titled Hamburg Landscapes and Portraits, Edmonton, Canada.

KAP completes three panels commissioned for Sherwood Room, Mount Nelson Hotel, Cape Town.

2019

First human cases of Covid-19 are reported by officials in Wuhan, China, in December.

2020

South Africa goes into national lockdown to flatten the Covid-19 curve.

KAP collaborates on 70gs artwork, exhibited at Temple Israel, Cape Town and Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Africa Art, Cape Town.

KAP participates in the collaborative exhibition Cuttings 1820-2020, GFI Art Gallery, Gqeberha.

Rural To Urban – A Linked Heritage artwork goes on exhibition at GFI Art Gallery, Gqeberha.

KAP collaborates with Mapula Art Project embroiderers, Vintwanyi, Tshwane, commuting in *Finding Our Voices*, a collaborative exhibition for the virtual exhibition Lessons from Lockdown at Petty Gallery, Birkbeck, University of London.

2021

Covid Resilience Tapestry
2021

A Sin of Omission, Gqeberha, and other selected KAP works are exhibited in Pretoria Arts Association 14th Needle and Thread textile exhibition.

Half way through completion, *Covid Resilience Tapestry* is exhibited at *Right Here, Right Now* design showcase, with Spier Arts Trust and Nando's (Cloud 124 and HUB), Cape Town.

For Women's Month, in collaboration with TAPE (Textile Artists PE), KAP artists work by individual artists in *Out of the Blue and Changing the Narrative*, GFI Art Gallery, Gqeberha.

Threads That Make Up a Day, a fully-embroidered Mercedes Benz C-class, is commissioned and created for permanent exhibition at Mercedes Benz showroom, East London.

Keiskamma Guernica, Rose Altarpiece and Mapula & Keiskamma Art Project Exchange Tapestries are showcased in Transforming Textiles, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum, Gqeberha.

Eight artists from Mapula Art Project and eight from KAP tour to Gqeberha and Hamburg.

KAP felt and embroidery, totem celebrating women in community, goes on exhibition at Victoria and Alfred Waterfront in *Joy from Africa* (Celebrating Creative Communities) exhibition, Cape Town.

Ubumbandi Unite, a collaborative body of work with ArtCeleb Studio addressing gender based violence, goes on exhibition at Marissa Arch Gallery, Johannesburg.

2022

Our Sacred Ocean Tapestry
2022

Ukuxabe kwethu, ukungawethu (Our Sacred Ocean Tapestry) goes on exhibition at Our Ocean Festival, Yes Cape! Mine Heaven, National Arts Festival, Makhanda.

Ubumbandi Unite, a collaborative body of work with ArtCeleb Studio goes on exhibition at 100% Design, Johannesburg.

This timeline is intended as an acknowledgement and celebration of every member of the Keiskamma Art Project and all who have contributed to growing the Project over the years. Owing to the nature as an artistic collective as well as the enormous network of people across the world associated with it, the curators have identified the following contributors from those at the founder Carol Hofmeyr and her husband Jutsa Hofmeyr.