

# SOUTHERN GUILD

## ZIZIPHO POSWA: ARTIST PROFILE

Zizipho Poswa is a Cape Town-based artist whose large-scale ceramic and bronze sculptures are bold declarations of African womanhood. Born in 1979 in the town of Mthatha in the Eastern Cape, Poswa studied surface design at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology and co-founded Imiso Ceramics with Andile Dyalvane in 2005.

Her practice is a deep invocation of her personal journey and an homage to the spiritual traditions and matriarchal stewardship of her Xhosa culture. Straddling figuration and abstraction, her anthropomorphic totems are characterised by an elliptical approach to form and bold colour choice. Poswa has held four solo exhibitions at Southern Guild's Cape Town and Los Angeles galleries, and at Galerie56 in New York. Her work is in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Art Institute of Chicago, as well as important private and corporate collections. She has participated in group exhibitions at LACMA (Los Angeles), Museum of the African Diaspora (San Francisco), Kunsthal Kade (Amersfoort, The Netherlands), Marian Ibrahim (Chicago), Jeffrey Deitch Gallery (Los Angeles), the Indian Ocean Craft Triennial (Perth), and other galleries in New York, Paris, Milan, Hamburg, Liverpool and Singapore.

## ARTIST CV

Present Lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa  
2009 National Diploma in Textile Design, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University  
1979 Born in Mthatha, Eastern Cape, South Africa

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Indyebo yakawaNtu* (Black Bounty), Southern Guild Los Angeles, US  
2023 *iiNtsika zeSizwe* (Pillars of the Nation), Galerie56, New York, US  
2022 *uBuhle boKhokho* (Beauty of Our Ancestors), Southern Guild Cape Town, South Africa  
2021 *iLobola*, Southern Guild Cape Town, South Africa

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Between Distance and Desire: African Diasporic Perspectives*, The Soloviev Foundation Gallery, New York, US  
*Motherhood: Paradox and Duality*, Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa  
2024 *Imagining Black Diasporas: 21st-Century Art and Poetics*, Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), Los Angeles, US  
*Liberatory Living: Protective Interiors and Radical Black Joy*, Museum of the African Diaspora (MoAD), San Francisco, US  
*Homo Faber: The Journey of Life*, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy  
*signifying the impossible song*, Southern Guild, Los Angeles, US  
*Ecospheres*, Johannesburg Contemporary Art Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa  
*Loewe Lamps*, Palazzo Citterio, Milan, Italy  
*Translations: Afro-Asian Poetics*, The Institutum, Singapore  
2023 *Tony Marsh: Fever Dream Duets*, albertz benda, Los Angeles, US  
*Africa Supernova: The Collection of Carla & Pieter Schulting*, Kunsthal Kade, Amersfoort, Netherlands  
*HAND/MADE*, Galerie Italienne, Paris, France  
*Terra Recognita: A Ceramic Story*, Mariane Ibrahim, Chicago, US  
2021 *Before Yesterday We Could Fly: An Afrofuturist Period Room*, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, US (ongoing)  
*Exceptions d'Afrique*, Maison Artcurial, Paris, France  
*Ceramics Now*, Galerie Italienne, Paris, France  
*iZilo*, Indian Ocean Craft Triennial, John Curtin Gallery, Perth, Australia  
*Self-Addressed*, Jeffrey Deitch Gallery, Los Angeles, US  
2020 *Shaping Things*, SMAC Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
2019 *Deeper than Text: Redefining the Message*, 1stdibs, New York, US  
*Communion*, Southern Guild, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Indlovukazi*, Toyota US Woordfees, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
2018 *Colour Field*, Southern Guild, Cape Town, South Africa  
*Ideas in Transit*, Akademie der Künste, Hamburg, Germany  
2017 *Extra Ordinary*, Southern Guild, Cape Town, South Africa  
2011 *EkaPa*, Bluecoat Display Centre, Liverpool, UK

### FAIRS

2025	EXPO Chicago Frieze New York Frieze Los Angeles Investec Cape Town Art Fair FOG Design+Art, San Francisco
2024	Design Miami Frieze Sculpture, London The Armory Show, New York The Aspen Art Fair EXPO Chicago Design Miami Los Angeles
2023	Design Miami The Armory Show, New York EXPO Chicago Investec Cape Town Art Fair
2022	Investec Cape Town Art Fair Design Miami
2021	Design Miami
2020	Investec Cape Town Art Fair
2019	Design Miami PAD London
2018	The Salon Art + Design, New York, US Design Miami

#### COLLECTIONS

Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, US  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, US  
Iziko National Museum, Cape Town, South Africa  
LOEWE Foundation, Barcelona, Spain  
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, US  
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, US  
Collection of HRH Franz, Duke of Bavaria  
Schulding Art Collection

#### RESIDENCIES

2023	Centre for Contemporary Ceramics, California State University, Long Beach, US
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#### AWARDS

2019	Finalist, Innibos National Craft Awards
2017	Fellowship Award, Ceramics Southern Africa Association, Western Cape Mbokodo Award, Carol Bouwer Productions, South Africa Fellowship Award, Ceramics Southern Africa Association, Western Cape
2009	Finalist, VISI Magazine Awards, South Africa
2009	Finalist, City of Cape Town Woman in Tourism Awards, Arts and Culture

#### PUBLICATIONS

2023	<i>Ceramics: An Atlas of Forms</i> by Glenn Barkley, published by Thames & Hudson <i>Clay Formes</i> , edited by Olivia Barrell, published by Art Formes <i>Zizipho Poswa: uBuhle boKhokho</i> , published by Southern Guild
2021	<i>Black Artists Shaping the World</i> by Shama Jackson, published by Thames & Hudson

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**DOB: 05-12-1979**

**ADDRESS: Unit A3, Salt Orchard, 11-12 Briar Street, Salt River, Cape Town, South Africa**

**PHONE: +27 82 551 7919**

**EMAIL: [zizi@imisoceramics.co.za](mailto:zizi@imisoceramics.co.za)**

**WEBSITE: <https://imisoceramics.co.za/> | <https://southernguild.com/artists/zizipho-poswa>**