

PRESS RELEASE

Wendy Morris
Solo exhibition Far from Kimberley
Sunday, May 23 – Sunday, September 12, 2010

Just before World Cup fever breaks out, 21rozendaal will also turn its focus to South Africa, although in another way. In her short films – charcoal animations – and charcoal drawings, the South African artist Wendy Morris explores Africa's history. She examines, in particular, the relationship between South Africa and Europe. Interestingly, she focuses not on the differences, but on the connections between the two continents. She is interested in micro-history, personal stories that are often excluded from the official annals and that paint a different picture of history. Her family history is also an important source of inspiration. In her animations, she interweaves stories of black and white and of Europe and South Africa. Her work provides insight into the history and political situation of South Africa, a country in which the Netherlands has left behind its "traces" through the Dutch East India Company. Far from Kimberly leads to reflection about the current position and relationship between South Africa and Europe, while two centuries of African-European relationships pass in view.

Biography

Wendy Morris (1960, Walvis Bay, Namibia, South African nationality) has lived in Belgium since the mid-1990s. Recent exhibitions in which she took part include: *Parallelepiped* in M (Museum Leuven, 2010); *Off the Record* in Flanders Fields Museum (Leper, 2008); *Post-Memory: Bully Beef* in *In-Between* (Antwerp, 2007) and *Roles / Robes* in *Fried Contemporary* (Pretoria, 2006). Her films are screened around the world at various film festivals. She teaches at the Sint-Lucas Academie in Gent and the University of Leuven. In lectures and publications, Wendy Morris reflects on her work and related subjects. In her essay 'Anxieties of Influence - Imitating Kentridge,' (2008) for instance, she wrote about the relationship between her work and that of the artist William Kentridge. This show is the first exhibition of Wendy Morris' work in the Netherlands.

Opening

Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 4:30 p.m.
The exhibition will be opened by Marnix de Bruyne, Africa editor of *De Volkskrant* (Dutch newspaper) and author of numerous publications, including *Het land van Soekmekaar* (2010). Frits van der Lee will play the Hang.

Lecture

Saturday, May 22, 2010 at 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Before the opening Marnix de Bruyne, Africa editor of *De Volkskrant*, will put the exhibition in perspective with a lecture based on his book *Het land van Soekmekaar* (2010), which shows on a micro-level how South Africa is developing.