

Contact & Particulars



Nathalie Pasqualina Viruly

Italian Citizen and
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Born 1995

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Bio

I am a South African curator and art practitioner originally from Johannesburg, South Africa. Given a deep interest in my country and its history, I studied Politics and Sociology at the University of Cape Town between 2014-2016. Thereafter, I completed my postgraduate Honours degree in Transitional Justice. While I attended art history electives in my undergraduate degree, it was at this stage of my education that I began to study art in relation to people and notions of reparation. My thesis 'Heart of Darkrooms Photographic (Mis)representations of Rwandan Women within the Post-Genocide Human Rights Discourse' was co-supervised by Dr. Helen Scanlon and the photographer Paul Weinberg. This research explored the aesthetics of human rights and gestures of self-representation. Through a photographic analysis, I argued that Western aid often perpetuates historical power dynamics of victimhood and essentialism when processing conflict in contemporary Africa.

Following this, I completed a second Honours in Curatorship at Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town and Centre for Curating the Archive (CCA). 'Underbelly' consisted of a thesis, exhibition and designed catalogue. It examined obstetric violence in South Africa given my work in state wards as a birth doula. Through an object study of a cardiotocography belt, this exhibition and research speak to the acts of cruelty but also agency; the social lives of objects and local experiences of birth.

Since graduating, I have worked as an independent curator of exhibitions but also in various editorial roles. This enthusiasm and motivation are exemplified in my co-founded business Via Wax Studio, which I continue to manage while completing a M.A. International Master's Program in Curating, including Art, Management and Law at Stockholm University. My research centres on the micro-architecture of the book as an exhibition space; and, in doing, so ties my passion for art, design and writing into my work.

Education

<u>2022-2024</u> <u>Stockholm University,</u> <u>International Master's</u> <u>Program in Curating,</u> <u>Including Art,</u> <u>Management and Law</u>	<u>2019</u> <u>Michaelis School of Fine</u> <u>Art, University of Cape</u> <u>Town, Bachelor of Arts</u> <u>Honours [Curatorship]</u>	<u>2017</u> <u>University of Cape</u> <u>Town, Bachelor of</u> <u>Social Science Honours</u> <u>(Political Science:</u> <u>Justice & Transformation)</u>	<u>2014-2016</u> <u>University of Cape Town,</u> <u>Bachelor of Social</u> <u>Science (Politics &</u> <u>Sociology)</u>
Degree in progress	Awarded cum laude	Awarded cum laude	Awarded with distinction in Sociology

Training

<u>2020</u> <u>Self Publish and Be</u> <u>Happy - Master-class</u>	<u>2019</u> <u>Centre for Curating the</u> <u>Archive - Book Binding &</u> <u>Design Workshop</u>
<u>Alliance Française du</u> <u>Cap - Beginner French</u>	<u>Iziko South African</u> <u>Museum - Specialist</u> <u>Painting Conservation &</u> <u>Labelling Workshop</u>
<u>MoMA Coursera - Ideas</u> <u>in Modern Art History</u>	

Selected Employment

<u>2020 - Present</u> <u>Via Wax Studio</u> Managing Partner, Administrator and Designer → www.viawaxstudio.com	<u>2020</u> <u>Combined Systems,</u> <u>South African National</u> <u>Library</u> Archival cataloguer and handler	<u>2020</u> <u>OATH Magazine</u> Editorial and Graphic Design Assistant	<u>2019</u> <u>Stevenson Gallery</u> Editorial Intern
<u>2021-2022</u> <u>Art Formes</u> Project Manager, Artist Liaison, Writer and Creative Consultant → www.artformes.com	<u>2020</u> <u>Investec Cape Town Art</u> <u>Fair</u> General Fair and VIP Assistant	<u>2018-2020</u> <u>Journal of African Real</u> <u>Estate Research</u> Senior Copy-editor and Production Assistant	<u>2019</u> <u>Iziko South African</u> <u>Museum</u> Exhibition Design and Editorial Intern

Voluntary Work

<u>2021- present</u> Gallery-De-Move-On Curator and Managing Director [In charge of show concepts, grant proposals, and exhibition installation]	<u>2018-2020</u> <u>The Zoe Project at</u> <u>Mowbray Maternity</u> <u>Hospital</u> Birth Doula	<u>2016</u> <u>University of Cape Town</u> Model United Nations Amnesty International
→ www.instagram.com/ gallery_de_move_on/		

Recognition

<u>2019</u> Selected as an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Scholar of the Arts.
<u>2017</u> Golden Key International Honour Society Member for academic excellence.
<u>2015-2016</u> Faculty of Humanities Dean's List
<u>2013</u> Best Graduating student Visual Art
<u>2010</u> Trinity College Grade 7 in Classical Guitar

Skills

Exhibition conceptualization
Exhibition and grant proposal
Event production
Art handling
Artist Liaison
Communication
Project Management
Website design
Graphic design
Book design
Copy editing and writing
Research

Selected Writing

New Normal Projects

→ www.newnormalprojects.com/news/5-paul-wallington-in-conversation-with-nathalie-viruly/

Publishing production manager at Art Formes and zine self-publisher

Feature writer for Art Formes (2021), Dwelling (2021), Oath Magazine (2020), Sunday Times Newspaper (2020), CCA (2019)

→ see portfolio at www.nathalieviruly.com

Selected Projects & Exhibitions

2022Toll Gate [group show]

Curator

In 2022, I became an official member and the curator of Gallery-De-Move-On – a gallery with a fixed address but rather a roving mandate for occupying vacant spaces in Cape Town. Slipstream is our most recent show. It ran in parallel to the Cape Town Art Fair as a satirical event. The group show exhibited 18 local artists who were not exhibited at the fair itself. Thus, it used the physics of slipstreaming, shared momentum and collectivity to broaden the somewhat exclusive nature of a fair.

2020Premise

Co-curator with Jo Prussian

I conceived the idea of having an exhibition in a derelict skyscraper I would walk by. I collaborated with Jo Prussian artists collective, Boxwood Properties and 15 artists in realizing this project. It was my first exhibition as an curator and formative in my conception of space, budgets and project management.

→ www.nathalieviruly.com/work2021Slipstream [group show]

Co-produced with Paul Wallington

Paul Wallington and I were invited by the founder of Gallery-De-Move-On (Michael Tymbios) to have an exhibition alongside Ziets Mocca Museum and First Thursdays Events. The group show exhibited 13 artists. We asked artists to respond to the proximity to one of South Africa's most prestigious art institutions. Gate-keeping and barriers to entry were key themes here. This exhibition was a collaborative effort. I lead the communication and curation of the show.

→ www.nathalieviruly.com/work2020Banana Bread and OtherAlgorithms

Writer and Publisher

Banana Bread and Other Algorithms is a self-published zine by Nathalie & Laura Viruly. The project was conceived during a harsh lockdown due to the Covid-19 Pandemic in South Africa. It contains musings about the materials and objects that filled our days, like the omnipresent banana bread and(re)domestication of creativity due to illness.

→ www.nathalieviruly.com/work2022Diagnosing Loss [group show]

Artist

'An oologist on grief'
Curated by Nina Liebenberg

Michaelis Upper Gallery
Cape Town

→ www.cca.uct.ac.za/news/diagnosing-loss-michaelis-upper-gallery2019UnderBelly

Curator

Underbelly was my final curatorial thesis project. It consisted of an exhibition, catalogue and research paper. The exhibition focused on an object study of medical fabrics used in obstetrics. It traces the corporeal, acts of cruelty and kindness, within western medical birth. It manifests as an installation and invites participants to address this uncertainty.

→ www.nathalieviruly.com/work