

# EVERARD READ

## **ANGUS TAYLOR**

(b.1970 Pretoria, South Africa)

“You can only write poetry in a language you know.” – Angus Taylor

Angus Taylor is known for his powerful, often monumental, sculptural works incorporating materials from his immediate environment – Belfast granite, red jasper and the orange earth found in Gauteng. Although he references traditional South African crafting techniques, his works are unmistakably contemporary. Taylor’s craftsmanship, his bold and visionary approach, and his original use of materials have resulted in many ambitious public and private commissions around the world.

Taylor is a graduate of the University of Pretoria, which awarded him an Alumni Laureate in 2005. He currently teaches part-time at the University of Pretoria and served as advisor to the Tshwane University of Technology.

In 1997, Taylor established Dionysus Sculpture Works. This studio and workshop combine all aspects of sculpture production, from conceptualisation to clay modelling, from carving to casting. He produces his own and other prominent sculptors’ work, including that of Deborah Bell, Norman Catherine and Sam Nhlengethwa. He also nurtures the talent of young and developing artists. In 2024 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by UNISA in South Africa.

In addition to numerous solo and group shows, Taylor is actively involved in producing large-scale commissions for national and local government, as well as for the private sector. These include the Solomon Mahlangu statue in Mamelodi; the statue of Chief Tshwane in front of the Pretoria City Hall; as well as the work commemorating South African anti-apartheid Afropop singer, Brenda Fassie, in Newtown, Johannesburg.

In establishing a recognisable presence in the world of public art over the past decades, Taylor has harnessed aspects of monumentality combined with a fresh reassessment of materials to create his own visual idiolect.

## **SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

- 2024 The Weight of Wings, Everard Read, Franschoek, South Africa
- 2023 Layers of Being, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2022 Dum Spiro (Whilst I Breathe), Tswalu Foundation residency exhibition, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2021 Quarried Consciousness, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020 Immanence | Transcendence, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2017 In the middle of it, Everard Read, London, UK & Everard Read, Johannesburg & Cape Town, South Africa
- 2015 New Work, Fried Contemporary, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2014 From Explicit to Implicit, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2011 Biography of Material, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2010 New Work, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Klont, Dialoog met Grond, Aardklop National Arts Festival, Potchefstroom, South Africa
- 2008 Momentary Permanence, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa

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- 2006 Deduct, University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg; North-West University, Potchefstroom; Gallery at Grande Provence, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2005 Recent Works, Artspace, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2004 Solo Exhibition, Dorpstraat Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2003 Barefoot, Baggage Free, Bronze Age Sculpture House, Simon's Town; Mind's-i, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2000 Africana & Other Baggage, Gallery 88, Sasolburg, South Africa
- 1999 Africana & Other Baggage, Open Window Contemporary Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024 INNER SANCTUM, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2024 Winter Collection, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- 2024 Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- Winter, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- September Selection, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2023 What I Feel When I Think About The Cosmos, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- Natural Habitat, 16 on Lerotholi, Cape Town, South Africa
- SUMMER, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2022 Spring, group show, Everard Read, Franschhoek, South Africa
- Things I'd like to remember, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- Sculpture on the Cliffs, Hermanus FynArts Festival, Hermanus, South Africa
- 2021 Absolutely Fabulous Spring Show, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- In Conversation, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2020 Odyssey, Everard Read, SA & UK
- SUMMER 2020, Everard Read, London, UK
- The Portrait Show, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Staring Straight to the Future (online exhibition in support of the Solidarity Fund), Everard Read, SA & UK
- Bronze, Steel, Stone & Bone, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2019 Southern Aspect, Everard Read, London, UK
- Masterpiece Art Fair, Everard Read, London, UK
- 2018 Opening exhibition, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa
- 2017 FNB Joburg Art Fair, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Art Angels Africa Auction, London, UK
- 2016 Bronze, Steel & Stone, Everard Read, London, UK
- A Place in Time, Nirox Sculpture Park, Cradle of Humankind, South Africa
- 2015 Bronze, Steel & Stone, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 1:54 Contemporary African Art Fair, with Everard Read, London, UK
- FNB Joburg Art Fair, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Capital: Present, Fried Contemporary, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2014 FNB Joburg Art Fair, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Summer Showcase, Tokara Estate, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2013 Summer of Sculpture II, Mount Nelson, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa
- Sculpt, William Humphreys Art Gallery, Kimberley, South Africa
- After the Rainbow Nation, Nirox Sculpture Park, Cradle of Humankind, South Africa
- FNB Joburg Art Fair, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- DSW, Pretoria Art Association, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2012 Summer of Sculpture, Mount Nelson, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

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- The Rainbow Nation, Lange Voorhout, Den Hague, Netherlands  
The Winter show, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2009 Great South African Nude Exhibition, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2008 FNB Joburg Art Fair, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2007 Africa, Cork Street Gallery, London, UK
- 2006 Creative Creatures, Aardklop Arts Festival, Potchefstroom, South Africa  
Corpus Colossus, Gordart, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2005 Funky Functional, Gordart Gallery, Melville, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Porn Again, Merely Mortal Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Absa L'Atelier National Art Award, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Aardklop Arts Festival, Potchefstroom, South Africa  
Oliewenhuis Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa
- 2004 Off the Record - On the Record, Gordart at the Thompson Gallery Johannesburg, South Africa  
Art.co.za Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Two Man Show, Wizards Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2003 Dawid's Choice, Dorpstraat Gallery, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
Opening Exhibition, Bronze Age Sculpture House, Simon's Town, South Africa  
St. Valentine's, Mind's-i, Pretoria, South Africa  
Gallery 88, Sasolburg, South Africa  
Aardklop Arts Festival, Potchefstroom, South Africa  
Gordart at the Thompson Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2002 Drawing Conclusion, curated by Diane Victor, National Art Association, Johannesburg, South Africa  
WAM!, Sasol Wax Award, Sasolburg, South Africa  
A Show of Angels, Open Window Contemporary Gallery, Pretoria, South Africa

## RESIDENCIES

2021-22 Tswalu Foundation, AIR programme, Northern Cape, South Africa

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Beelden aan Zee Museum, The Hague, Netherlands  
Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa  
Rand Merchant Bank, South Africa  
Sasol, South Africa  
University of Pretoria, South Africa  
University of the Free State, South Africa  
Norval Foundation, South Africa  
Atterbury Head Office, South Africa  
Tokara Wine Estate, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
Saronsberg Wine Estate, Tulbagh, South Africa  
Leeu Collection, South Africa & UK  
Ellerman House, South Africa  
Oliewenhuis Museum, South Africa  
North-West University, Potchefstroom  
Pretoria Art Museum, South Africa  
The Marvelous Collection, South Africa

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Tokara Wine Estate, South Africa  
William Humphreys Art Gallery, South Africa  
White Rabbit Collection, Sydney, Australia

## SELECTED PUBLIC ART AND COMMISSIONS

- 2021 Composite Nurse, Zuid Afrikaans Hospital, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2019 Holderstebolder, carved Belfast granite, steel & concrete, Delhi, India  
Sculpture Commission for Shell House, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Long ears over wheat ears, donkey ears ago, carved Belfast granite, bronze, steel & concrete, Hazendal Wine Estate, Stellenbosch, South Africa
- 2018 Holderstebolder, carved Belfast granite, steel & concrete, Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa  
The universal child, cast bronze, patina, Belfast granite, red jasper, black banded chert, Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital, Johannesburg, South Africa  
Dink aan die kleure van ons klippe, The Club, Hazelwood, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2017 Reflective Resonance, cast bronze, patina, Belfast granite, Sydney, Australia.  
Equestrian Evolution, carved Belfast granite, steel & concrete, Kyalami Square, Kyalami, South Africa  
Dionysus, carved Belfast granite, steel & concrete, Tokara Wine Estate, Stellenbosch, South Africa  
Reflective Resonance, cast bronze, patina, Belfast granite, Botswana
- 2016 Portrait of a pig, cast bronze and patina, Eskort Headquarters, Irene, South Africa  
Homing the future, homing the past, cast bronze, steel, stainless steel, Corner Place, Pretoria, South Africa  
Homage to the foundation on which everything is built, carved Belfast granite, steel & concrete, 1 on Mutual, Pretoria, South Africa  
Entangled Head in Bronze III Sculpture Commission for Rand Merchant Bank, Sandton, South Africa  
Conduit, Rammed earth and stone, Saronsberg Estate, Tulbagh, South Africa
- 2015 Three little pigs, cast concrete, bronze and patina, Stellenbosch Square, South Africa  
Reflective Resonance, Cast bronze & Belfast Granite, Klein Dassenberg Wine Estate, Franschoek, South Africa  
Belated wake (floating heads), rammed earth, cement fondu, stone, Namibia  
Longview, carved Belfast Granite, Gordons Bay, South Africa
- 2014 Lady on a donkey, Hoërskool Waterkloof, Pretoria
- 2013 Untitled, mixed media sculpture, Northcliff Square, Johannesburg.  
Untitled, mixed media installation, Hatfield Growthpoint properties, Pretoria.  
Untitled, mixed media installation, Cradlestone Mall, Krugersdorp.  
Adam Kok III, Life size Bronze, Heritage project, Pretoria.
- 2012 Van hier tot daar, permanent slate installation, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein.  
Pixley Ka Seme, Life size bronze, Heritage project, Bloemfontein.  
Layers of mind, mixed media sculpture, OBZ Square, University of Cape Town.  
Layers of mind and metal, permanent mixed media installation, Newcastle Mall, Newcastle.  
Layers of Being, The Rainbow Nation, Contemporary South African Sculpture, Lange Voorhout Museum Beelden aan zee, Den Haag  
A crossing of tangible truths, Mixed media installation, Platinum square, Rustenburg
- 2011 Grounded, Ungrounded I and II, Bronze cast, Lynnwood Bridge, Pretoria

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- Grounded, Rammed Earth and Bronze cast, Eldo square, Eldoraigne, Pretoria
- 2010 The One Brother and the Dark Cloud, Cast bronze & stainless steel, Corner of Eastwood and Park street (by Loftus Versfeld Stadium), Pretoria
- Little Mamma Africa, permanent slate installation at Atteridgeville Super Stadium in conjunction with Dionysus sculpture works
- Homage to Hermes, permanent slate installation, Whistler, Vancouver, Canada
- Homage to Hermes, permanent slate installation, Damme, Belgium
- Homage to Hermes, permanent slate installation, Apple Mac Head Quarters, Johannesburg
- Hier, a permanent slate installation at Ellerman House, Bantry Bay, Cape Town
- Drift, a biodegradable installation for Aardklop, Potchefstroom Botanical Gardens
- Adrift, granite head at Waterkloof Corner Shopping Centre, Pretoria
- 2009 Momentary Permanence, Belfast granite and bronze figures at Brooklyn bridge, Pretoria
- 2008 Centenary Sculptures, Granite and Bronze cast, Merensky Library walkway, University of Pretoria
- Three Granite Figures, Granite, University of Pretoria
- 2007 Co-presence (Apollonian-Dionysian), Steel and stainless steel cast, Irene Village Mall, Centurion

## AWARDS

- 2017 Helgaard Steyn Award for Sculpture
- 2010 Aardklop Festival Artist
- 2005 University of Pretoria, Alumni Laureate
- 1994 Best Sculpture Student (UP)
- 1994 1st Prize - PPC Young Sculptors Award