

## **The Dissemination & Archiving Of Artistic Research**

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Artistic Research Has Greatly Transformed & Advanced Pedagogy & Artistic Practice In Africa,& Subsequently Become The Lifeblood Of The Cultural Heritage Of Neighbourhoods, Communities & Society. Now More Than Ever Before, Has Its Very Preservation Been Under So Much Scrutiny. The New Threat Of Volatility,Instability & War,Has Gravely Endangered The Dissemination And Archiving Of Artistic Research.How Vital,That Artistic Research In All Its Forms, Is Safeguarded & Conserved Systemically & Empirically For The Benefit Of Future Generations.

The Unexpected Disturbances Exacerbated By The Student Protests At A Variety Of South African Universities In 2015 & 2016,Created A Conondrum For Archival & Cultural Heritage Departments At These Institutions.So Many Precious Artefacts Could Have Easily Been Destroyed & This Would Have Been Catastrophic For Our Identity, Ideology, Historicity, Ethnology & Anthropology.The Legacy Of Our Generational Inheritance,Which We Supposedly Owe To Our Future Descendants, Would Have Been Easily Wiped Out In A Matter Of Days.

South Africa Is Not Isolated In Facing These Existential Threats To The Preservation, Dissemination & Archiving Of Artistic Research. Many Parts Of The African Continent Do Face Periods Of Instantaneous Volatility And This Places A Lot Of Scrutiny As To The Preparedness & Positionality Of Cultural Practitioners To Conserve Vital Components Of Our Heritage. The Destruction Of So Many Cultural Heritage Sites, In A Number Of Ukrainian Cities,Towns & Villages,Recently,Further Reasserts This Emphatic Philosophical Resonance Of The Paramount Importance Of Tirelessly Safeguarding Disseminated & Archival Artistic Research

We Need To Critique The Way In Which Artistic Research Is Disseminated & Archived.Could There Be A Need To Trial Newer & More Sophisticated Techniques Of Preserving, Collecting & Consolidating Data Or Artefacts Of Cultural & Historical Significance?

Adequate Preparation By Archivists,Archaeologists & Artistic Researchers,Prior To Moments Leading To Potential Instability Is Pivotal,Especially In Areas Well-Known For Their Volatility. Could More Workshops,Meetings,Seminars & Webinars Be Facilitated To Equip Artistic Researchers With The Necessary Skills & Methodologies To Protect Valuable Assets Of Cultural Importance?

Establishing A Thorough Comprehension Of The Aesthetic Significance Of An Artefact, Would Reflect Relational & Contextual Characteristics, As Being Of Greater Importance Than Just The Formal Appearance Of The Object.The Rarity & Scarcity Of That Particular Item Or Information, Implicates Archivists, & Art Researchers To Take Full Responsibility In The Event Of Its Permanent Loss Or Destruction, For Their Failure To Preserve & Protect It, During A Period Of Volatility

As Temporary Custodians Of Disseminated & Archival Artefacts/Information, We Need To Critique Our Motives & Objectives For Conservation, Especially When The Artefacts/Information Are/Is Endangered Either Through The Effects Of The Deliberate Conduct Of Particular Individuals Or As A Consequence Of Aging, Decay Or, Neglect. Due To The Cognitive, Moral & Historical Importance Of These Cultural Assets,We Need To Formulate Clear & Concise Statutory Recommendations That Can

Validate The Sovereign Obligations That We All Have Towards Them, As We Wade Off Competing Claims & Arguments Of Antagonists Bent On Wiping Out Our Cultural Heritage.

**Brief bio:**

Jonathan Kaseke is a Visual Artist/ Art History Student.