

01/03

SARAH SCHÄFER

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Gardens, Cape Town

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www.sarahschafer.com

EDUCATION

2016–present

MPhil in Digital Curation*University of Cape Town*

My focus is on art collections, and my thesis speculates on the concept of digitising an experience. I am digitising a sub-collection from the Owl House, and drawing on theory to discuss the possibilities for and implications of such a digital collection

2005 – 2009

Bachelor of Journalism (BJrn)*Rhodes University*

Achieved with distinction

Specialisations in photography and writing

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Achieved with distinction

Triple majors in Journalism, Politics and Philosophy

2004

Diocesan School for Girls*Grahamstown*

Full IEB matriculation exemption achieved with A aggregate

SKILLS

- My communication skills, both written and verbal, are excellent
- I am confident in software applications on Mac and Windows operating systems
- **Adobe Creative Suite:** Photoshop, Lightroom, Bridge, InDesign, Audition, Dreamweaver and PremierePro
- Microsoft Office suite, Open Office and Google Docs
- Working knowledge of HTML and CSS
- **Content management systems (CMS):** Wordpress, Joomla and Drupal
- Twitter, Facebook, Instagram
- I am resourceful, a multi-tasker, and have effective time-management skills
- I work well under pressure and know the importance of meeting deadlines
- I have a high level of professionalism, humility and a sense of humour

2010 – Present **PHOTOGRAPHER***Southern Africa and Europe*

- Photography on a freelance and contract basis
- Specialising in social documentary, food and lifestyle, portraits and interior and architecture photography
- Books include *A Week in the Kitchen*, *Another Week in the Kitchen*, *Retreat*, *Stars Shining on Cape Town*, *Market Day* and *Cheeses of South Africa*
- Clients include publishers (Jonathan Ball, Sunbird, Jacana, Inkognito, RWM, Terroir Förlag); online publications (The Journalist, Homemakers, Visi, Aroma, Crush, The Platform); magazines (New Media Publishing, The Big Issue, Condé Nast, Entrepreneur, Good Taste); companies (Airbnb, Engen, Orient Express Hotels), NGOs (SANYO, NACOSA, The Red Cross Children's Hospital) and various individuals and organisations
- Post-production, which encompasses a sound knowledge of photo editing software and a thorough understanding of digital images
- Administration and communications with all clients

2016

DIGITISATION ASSISTANT, GOOGLE CULTURAL INSTITUTE: SOUTH AFRICAN TEXTILES PROJECT*Cape Town, South Africa*

- Working with David Larsen, director of Africa Media Online in a digitisation project for the Google Cultural Institute
- Digitisation of three South African textile collections: Shweshwe, jewellery and handbags
- Working within the international digitisation guidelines for archival photography

2014 - 2016

PICTURES EDITOR, CUE NEWSPAPER*Grahamstown, South Africa*

- The annual National Arts Festival is home to Cue, one of South Africa's oldest daily arts newspapers
- Managing a team of 15-20 photographers, liaising with editorial and production teams, meeting strict deadlines and delivering high-quality images for print and online publication
- Working closely with and building relationships with contemporary African artists
- Responsibilities include management and communication, art direction and curating a database of images

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ACHIEVEMENTS

During my studies at Rhodes University, I was one of two journalism students selected to travel to China, and an exhibition of our photographic work was held later that year.

President of the Masincedane Society, a small NPO based around a feeding scheme in the eRhini township in Grahamstown.

Placement on the Rhodes University Dean's Merit List, and Golden Key membership awarded on academic merit.

Elected school prefect (declined), Academic colours, Cultural colours.

Trinity College of Music Grade 8 in piano performance

My photographic work has been exhibited locally and internationally:*After the Masterclass, Cape Town*

After attending a masterclass with Jurgen Schadeberg, an exhibition was held

The Photographer's Gallery, Cape Town

As part of a collective show, a selection of my street photography was exhibited

Waiting and Watching, Brussels, Belgium.

Organised by DeBuren, a Dutch/Flemish cultural organisation, a photo-story of mine was on show in Brussels for two months

2013 - present EDITOR AND COPYWRITER*Cape Town, South Africa*

- Writing and editing on a contract and freelance basis
- Clients include the International Accounting Bulletin, iTunes and Sunbird publishers

2014 - 2015 GENDER AND HEALTH JOURNALIST*Southern Africa*

- Contracted by organisations and NGOS to create materials within the Southern African health sector
- I spent time travelling in South Africa researching, conducting interviews, photographing, videoing and putting together features with a focus on health, gender and children
- Clients include NACOSA and USAID

2015 - present CREATIVE DIRECTOR, FIERCE SHEEP COLLECTIVE*Cape Town, South Africa*

- Working within an informal collective of freelance developers and content creators making websites and online platforms
- My role was to communicate with stakeholders, liaise with the developers and create content for these online platforms
- Clients include *Luddite*, *Camilla's Kitchen* and *Ryan Boon*

2016 RESEARCHER, UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN*Cape Town, South Africa*

- As part of a project with Prof Robert Morell, I collated data about gender-related South African publications and literature
- The work was used as part of a larger body of literature for an academic project focusing on the Global South

2010 PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVER, IZIKO NATIONAL GALLERY*Cape Town, South Africa*

- Assistant to the photographic curator, Pam Warne
- Archiving photographic slides and prints

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

D.O.B 9 April 1986
Nationality South African and Swiss
Drivers Licence Code B

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

English Fluent
Afrikaans Second language
French Second language
Xhosa Conversational

REFERENCES

Sean O'Toole
Journalist, Editor, Art Critic and Writer
seanwotoole@gmail.com
073 146 2046

David Larsen
Director, Africa Media Online
editor@africanmediaonline.com
082 829 7959

SPECIAL PROJECTS

I have been collaborating with Nico Athene, a feminist artist whose work speaks about the performativity of femininity and the male gaze. She is a performance artist whose work plays with the appropriation of the title 'artist', its relation to the title 'whore', and what it looks and sounds like to take agency as the sexualised female 'art' object. The collaboration has included local artists like Ed Young, Gavin Krastin, Dean Hutton and Robert Hamblin.

A project close to my heart is mentoring of a local artist, Chuma Somdaka. She was previously homeless, but is now studying art after receiving a scholarship.

INTERESTS

people, Africa, the Digital Humanities, art, words, food, feminism, information architecture, museums, learning, human rights, gender, health, the Internet of Things, design, travel, architecture, music, languages, photography, books, mountains, running