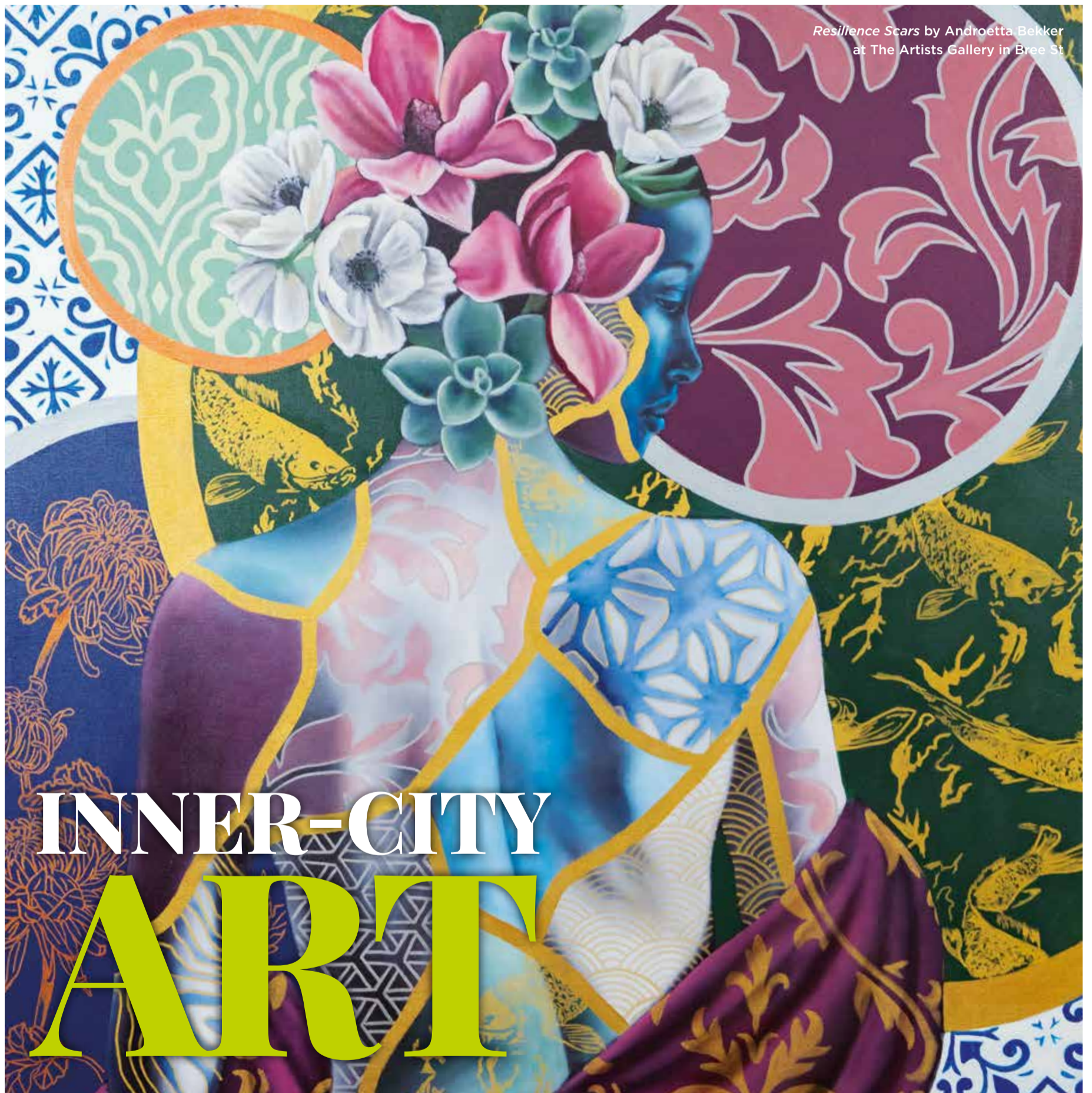


CityViews

Autumn 2025

YOUR FREE CAPE TOWN CBD NEWSPAPER



Resilience Scars by Androetta Bekker
at The Artists Gallery in Bree St

INNER-CITY ART



**CCID 24-HOUR
EMERGENCY
NUMBER**
082 415 7127

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Painted wine barrels enliven the city centre

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The East City's exciting new eatery

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What's on in the Cape Town CBD



www.capetownccid.org

Published by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID)



FROM THE CEO

The phrase *ex Africa semper aliquid novi* – out of Africa, always something new – is very applicable to the Cape Town CBD. We are blessed with innovative and intrepid entrepreneurs and business owners, especially in the retail sector, for whom “something new” is very apt.

Take our story on p. 7 on the exciting new restaurant Seebamboes, for example. It’s the latest offering from the talented trailblazers Anouchka Horn and Neil Swart, whose restaurant Belly of the Beast has won, and continues to win, a slew of awards, the latest being selected as a one-star restaurant at the prestigious 2025 Luxe Restaurant Awards. This duo, together with chef Adél Hughes – who runs the kitchen of their other East City restaurant, the sea-focused Galjoen – have now launched Seebamboes, a surf and turf restaurant named after kelp, and every dish on the tasting menu incorporates elements of sea and land, even the desserts. I urge you to try it out.

Innovation is also what drives the numerous galleries in town that give the CBD its distinct vibrancy. Following another successful Investec Cape Town Art Fair in February, which lured more than 30 000 visitors, we speak to gallerists on pp. 4-5 on their distinctive visions and missions and how they find and promote new talent. Like them, we remain upbeat that the city centre will continue to be a cauldron of creativity on all fronts.

TASSO EVANGELINOS
CEO of the CCID

FESTIVE SEASON CRIME DROPS IN CBD

Crime in town at the height of the 2024/2025 festive season dropped dramatically compared with the previous holiday period.

The CCID’s Safety & Security department reports that crimes such as robbery and theft dropped by over 50 % from 15 November 2024 to 15 January 2025, compared with the same period during

2023/2024. Jurie Bruwer, manager of CCID Safety & Security, says the number of arrests secured by the CCID during this time increased from 110 to 141. The stats are linked to the department’s strategic three-month holiday season crime-prevention plan. “There was a decrease in shoplifting, common robbery, business break-ins, general theft and theft out of

motor vehicles,” he reports.

Providing a visible police presence in the busy CBD is paramount, and during the period under review, joint operations carried out between CCID Safety & Security, SAPS and City of Cape Town Law Enforcement agencies increased by 52 % – rising from 376 operations to 570, says Bruwer.



Numbers THE CCID AT WORK FROM NOVEMBER 2024 – JANUARY 2025

SAFETY & SECURITY

Made **222** arrests with Law Enforcement agencies

34 Dealt with **34** illegal trading offences

2 Responded to **2** alarm activations and secured **23** premises and vehicles



CCID-funded Law Enforcement Officers issued **1 281** fines for non-moving traffic violations to the value of **R1 134 300** & **163** fines for bylaw and moving traffic violations to the value of **R153 300**

CCID-funded Traffic Wardens issued **7 529** fines to a total of **R4 870 900**

Conducted **861** crime-prevention initiatives



Responded to **97** medical & rescue callouts

570 Rendered public assistance **570** times



Assisted at the scene of **251** motor vehicle accidents

COMMUNICATIONS

52 Generated **52** media clips to an advertising value equivalent (AVE) of **R1 112 109** with a potential reach of **25 593 182** people



Produced & distributed the **2024 CCID Annual Report**

Organised the **CCID Annual General Meeting (AGM)**



278 Wrote **278** Facebook posts on the CCID’s **3** Facebook pages



Boosted **1** Facebook post which reached **32 802** people

Produced, published & distributed *City Views* Summer 2024/25

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Interacted with **319** homeless people

82 Referred **82** people for counselling and support

36 Placed **36** adults in shelters in the CBD



Assisted **8** adults to get back home

Conducted **46** night-time visits to engage with the homeless

4 Assisted **4** clients with ID applications

Assisted **5** adults to healthcare facilities & offered **26** wound-cleaning services

Conducted **33** stakeholder visits

URBAN MANAGEMENT

307 Removed **307 tonnes** of litter and illegally dumped waste to landfill



Serviced bins in the Long and Loop Sts bin project **3 753** times

Removed **682.5 kg** of cigarette butts from 323 ciggie bins



Cleaned municipal drains **1 844** times and cleaned **324** storm water drains

Removed **78** illegal posters

Cleaned **177** channels and removed **525 kg** of waste



Cleared **7 114 kg** of waste from municipal and storm water drains

Maintained **382** tree wells and removed **336 kg** of debris

341 Removed **341** incidents of graffiti & **761** strings and stickers



Undertook **469** road maintenance repairs & painted **1 090** road markings

CityViews

is a free Cape Town Central City community newspaper published by the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID), a non-profit company. It is the CCID’s vision to ensure that the Central City is safe, clean, caring and open for business for all who use it, whether they live, work, play or invest here.

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OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The CCID welcomes these new businesses to town.



Q&A WITH CRAIG MORRIS & LISA KING FROM SIGNATURE ART GALLERY

You've been a feature of the Cape Town art scene for many years. What sets your gallery apart?

After 40-odd years in the creative industry, and being a designer myself, I resonate with artists and am selective about the work I accept. Add curator Lisa King's experience in running galleries and we're a good team. My vision is not to focus on a specific genre but to showcase a diverse mix of great work. Also, we are a working gallery, so visitors will encounter artists at work, providing a more immersive art experience. The minute you step inside Signature Art Gallery, you will feel the amazing energy, light and creativity.

How did you become involved in the art world?

It's in my blood. I come from a family of accomplished artists and designers. My career in advertising and design also put me in touch with talented creatives and artists. It was inevitable that I would open a gallery.

What inspires you about the CBD art culture?

I love the energy of the CBD! It's a genuine, working, thriving inner city that attracts locals and foreigners through regular events and a buzzing metropolitan vibe. This is the coolest place to be, and we regularly hold events at our gallery to embrace the spirit of the city

centre. I am humbled and motivated by the wonderful compliments we receive from so many visitors to the gallery.

What are the stand-out artworks in the gallery right now?

We have some amazing artworks on show, including a bronze Salvador Dali sculpture *Nobility of Time*; Paul du Toit's mixed media on canvas, *The Little Devil in Me*; Rudolph Hough's oil pastel on paper of a buffalo, *Boss*; and a Louis Chanu sculpture, *Equilibrium*.

14 Long St
082 587 2143
www.signatureart.co.za

For more Central City news and views, subscribe to the CCID's e-Newsletter. Go to www.capetownccid.org and fill in the pop-up window.

NEW VENUES

EAT

Bo-Vine Wine & Grill House In The City

This premium grill house now has an inner-city home, offering signature premium steak cuts, fresh seafood and more, complemented by fine wines in a casual yet sophisticated ambience.

Hout St
[@bovinegrillhouse](https://www.instagram.com/bovinegrillhouse)

Little Green Bagel

A new addition to The Box's SALT Food Market, Little Green Bagel serves plant-based bagels, smoothies and sweet treats. Expect classic toasted bagels slathered in nut butters, the signature bagel range (avo smash, hummus and falafel, four cheese truffle), the deluxe range (scramble smash et al), smoothie bowls and other tasty snacks.

9 Lower Burg St
www.littlegreenbagel.co.za

EAT/DRINK

Somewhere Nowhere Rooftop Bar & Café

This vibey rooftop café has the best view ever! It opens at 07h00 so catch a Cup of Joe or a light lunch ... and stay for the best cocktails in the East City.

84 Harrington St
[@somewherenowhere_rooftopbar](https://www.instagram.com/somewherenowhere_rooftopbar)

USEFUL CONTACTS

EMERGENCY

CCID 24-HOUR EMERGENCY

(Available via cell phone or WhatsApp)

082 415 7127
(Cape Town CBD only)

AMBULANCE, HEALTH, NOISE & FIRE

107 / 021 480 7700
(24 hours)
107 from landlines only

SAPS CENTRAL CITY

021 467 8001/2
(24 hours)

CITY OF CAPE TOWN SERVICES

INCIDENT REPORTING & ENQUIRIES

Refuse collection, water issues, street lights and electricity faults
0860 103 089

Traffic signal faults
0800 656 463

Reporting illegal dumping
021 444 6223/4
021 480 7700 (a/h)

Cable theft
0800 222 771

Disaster Risk Management
080 911 4357
021 597 6000 (24 hours)

SOCIAL CONCERNS

CT Drug Counselling Centre
021 447 8026
073 755 1913 (WhatsApp)

Childline Western Cape
021 762 8198

WC Social Development
0800 220 250

CCID Social Development
021 286 0836

BYLAW & TRAFFIC INFRINGEMENTS

Law Enforcement
021 596 1999 (24 hours)

Traffic Police
0860 765 423

Metro Police
0860 765 423

VIBRANT BARRELS OF JOY

Beautifully decorated wine barrels are now a feature of Waterkant St, thanks to an urban placemaking initiative of the Cape Town Central City Improvement District (CCID).

Designed to enliven the inner-city precinct, the CCID's Urban Management department collaborated with Cape Town artist Simone Lawrence and the result is 18 hand-painted

wooden wine barrels, which are adding to the street art of the city centre.

"The wine barrels are adorned with colourful designs that contribute to the dynamic energy of the CBD. They have been strategically placed in Waterkant St and planted with lollipop trees, adding charm and character to this highly pedestrianised space," says

Kally Benito, manager of CCID Urban Management.

The department, which is responsible for the colourful wrapping of trees in town as well as the painting of bollards in St Georges Mall and on Thibault Square by HandControl360, is "committed to creating spaces that reflect and represent the artistic spirit of the city".



THE HEART OF

Cape Town is the art capital of Africa, with events like the Cape Town Investec Art Fair and galleries like the Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (MOCAA) and the Iziko South African National Gallery putting it on the global art map. This creates a positive spin-off in town, where the established art culture is stimulated by passionate gallerists intent on driving interest in the CBD's creative hub. We chat to some of them.

By Melanie Farrell
and Sharon Sorour-Morris



THE ARTISTS GALLERY

Its logo, "art that inspires" speaks volumes but only tells part of The Artists Gallery story. A unique gallery in the inner city, it was set up, and is run by, a clutch of committed artists that include gallery managing director, Jaret Loggenberg.

Innovative contemporary paintings, multimedia creations, sculptures and other artworks speak to the dynamic approach that is evident in this small, lively space. The artistic energy is palpable, driven in no small part by Barbara Lenhard, gallery shareholder and passionate supporter of South Africa's, and the Cape Town CBD's, art milieu.

Collaboration is key. The idea with each exhibition or event is to create an immersive journey, inviting visitors to be part of an intimate and inventive art narrative. It's hard not to be excited by this approach. Here diversity is celebrated, with established and emerging artists getting wall space. "Our goal is to make art more accessible, inspire conversations, and introduce local and international visitors to incredibly talented South African artists," says Loggenberg, who will be exhibiting her work at the SA Embassy in Berlin in May.



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: The Artists Gallery in Bree St; Ashleigh McLean, owner and curator of WHATIFTHEWORLD in Buiten St; WHATIFTHEWORLD solo exhibition, *Held Tight* by artist Mia Chaplin; Jaret Loggenberg, managing director of The Artists Gallery.

While the Bree St venue opened in mid-2023, The Artists Gallery has regularly presented contemporary South African art through international pop-up exhibitions, particularly in Europe.

Apart from putting on engaging exhibitions, the gallery also stimulates interest in art and culture in Cape Town, forging connections by hosting a myriad talks and events, including those for corporate clients and non-profit organisations, and "even intimate, elegant sit-down dinners for special occasions". The gallery recently hosted NPO Crisis Response Network, founded by Yolande Korkie in 2019 to provide support and resources to regions

in need, with artist Cornè Theron donating an oil-on-canvas work, *Water Everywhere*, auctioned by Strauss & Co. for R93 800 to support Korkie's cause. Korkie, an American residing in South Africa, and her husband Pierre were abducted in the Yemen in 2013. She survived, but he did not.

"We believe in the power of art to connect, inspire and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those around us," say Loggenberg and Lenhard.

The Artists Gallery
34 Bree Street | 064 758 1714
@artistsgallery_capetown
www.artistsgallery.co.za

WHATIFTHEWORLD

Founded in 2012, WHATIFTHEWORLD gallery is a renowned modern art gallery, both in South Africa and internationally.

With a prominent focus on Africa and the African diaspora, the gallery represents influential artists who engage with local and international contemporary art and socio-political contexts. Known for its ambitious projects, and impressive multi-disciplinary installations, WHATIFTHEWORLD brings a sophisticated slant to the CBD art scene with significant, thoughtfully curated exhibitions. The gallery has also participated in prestigious overseas art fairs, major exhibitions and biennials,

THE INNER CITY



ABOVE: Nathi Ngulube, co-director of Thomarts Gallery in Lower Long St.
LEFT: Signature Art Gallery director, Craig Morris.

professionals. The event took place in the gallery in conjunction with Mia Chaplin's exhibition and the artist was present to talk to the attendees.

"We had two additional special projects during the Investec Cape Town Art Fair. *Wegwysers Deur Die Binkuur* by Stephane Conradie at the Castle of Good Hope as part of the Standard Bank Young Artist award; and *Enter the Hot Dream*, an exhibition by a Bree St-based artist, Pierre Vermeulen, at our artist residency and gallery on the Twee Jonge Gezellen Estate in Tulbagh," explains McLean.

After taking a break, the gallery has rejoined First Thursdays in the city centre. "We do it to open our doors to a diverse group of people for cultural enrichment and entertainment and because it allows us to engage with the city; we see it as a neighbourhood-building exercise. It's fun, enriching, and inclusive," says McLean.

WHATIFTHEWORLD

16 Buiten Street | 021 569 0680
@whatiftheworld_gallery
www.whatiftheworld.com

THOMARTS GALLERY

Nathi Ngulube, co-director of Thomarts Gallery, started the business in 2010

with his wife, Nkgadi Sheena-Leigh, to showcase his artworks "as well as my personality, lifestyle and interests". True to form, the name "Thomarts" was inspired by Ngulube's middle name, Thomas.

The couple opened their Lower Long St gallery late last year and have not looked back. "The gallery's identity encompassed my creative endeavours such as sculpting, painting, printmaking and creative writing, and as our brand grew, we invited other artists to share the space," he says. Today it is a home and a hub for many artists whose DNA matches that of the gallery.

"As an artist-owned gallery, we have a creatively eccentric approach," he explains. Showing unique works to their audience is important for these dynamic co-directors. "We hold two art exhibitions per month, namely on what we call First Tuesdays for our MVIPs (Most Valuable Important Persons) and then on First Thursdays, when we reach other audiences. During our solo or group exhibitions, we offer artist-led walkabouts." Apart from exhibitions, the gallery also hosts art talks, inviting creatives to take part in panel discussions on interesting topics. "We also see our space as an event space which creates opportunities for sales, leads and business relationships, and allows us to expand our mailing list and expose the gallery to a wider audience," Ngulube notes.

While Thomarts Gallery promotes contemporary investment art, it also aims to grow the local art sector and provide an art advisory service for first-time and seasoned collectors. "Our vision for the gallery is to help build the art sector, and for it to become an international destination for artists and art collectors. Galleries need to be accommodating and not stiff so that they're accessible to all art lovers."

Ngulube finds the CBD art scene both invigorating and expressive, "with no inhibitions". "While we stick to our lane, we believe our presence in the CBD adds value in an art-tastic manner!"

The gallerists are also mentoring interns who studied at the University of Cape Town and Vaal University of Technology to "impart art business skills to uplift them and ultimately the broader community of artists they will engage with in the future".

Thomarts Gallery | 35 Lower Long St
083 897 7802

@thomartsg

www.thomartsgallery.com

SIGNATURE ART GALLERY

At the newly opened Signature Art Gallery in Lower Long St, it's all about "good, diverse art". Says gallery director Craig Morris: "Even if some pieces are not to every visitor's taste, they will be impressed by the quality of the work in the gallery."

Morris, who has a background in design and advertising, opened the gallery in January this year with curator Lisa King. Striking art by internationally acclaimed artists as well as reputable local and emerging artists occupies the light, colourful space.

The offering is not only investment art but works that will enhance an environment, "which you can enjoy every day".

Morris believes Signature Art Gallery has "a unique positioning", offering a "more engaging experience than a typical gallery". He explains: "We are a 'working' gallery in that it's not unusual for visitors to encounter an artist painting or drawing here. In addition to our impressive collection, we collaborate with interior designers and decorators, offering them a dedicated space to consult with clients that is conducive to viewing art and enabling them to access our digital library."

The gallery is also developing a programme to assist them in helping clients define their art needs so that the gallery can source appropriate artwork. "This will be enhanced by our collaboration with an international art resource."

Being new to town, Morris and King are keen to embrace upcoming art festivals and events, including First Thursdays. "Art events give us opportunities to promote the fact that we bring something different to the gallery experience and the more exposure we can generate around this, the better," says Morris.

Signature Art Gallery

14 Long Street | 082 825 9020

@signatureart_gallery

www.signatureart.co.za

including the 57th and 55th Venice Biennial, the Havana Biennial, and the Guangzhou Triennial in China.

Curator and owner Ashleigh McLean explains: "We run a programme of exhibitions and artist talks and our exhibitions change every six to eight weeks. In addition, we often do bespoke tours for our clients and visitors. We have also been trying (with our neighbours) to continue hosting and participating in bespoke cultural/creative and diverse activities."

During the Investec Cape Town Art Fair, the gallery hosted a breakfast event for women in the arts: artists, writers, curators, collectors, and other

SLOPPY SAM: STILL A SUCCESS STORY

Sloppy Sam is a dining institution. Many have gathered at Hooman Saffarian's mismatched tables, dipping their flatbread into tasty mezze, ordering another bottle to accompany the olive oil-doused brinjal, while picking at tender grilled baby squid in lemon butter. While Cape Town's restaurant trends have come and gone, Sloppy Sam has kept an even keel with unfussy food in an unimposing atmosphere that feels like you're having supper with a longtime friend. That's probably why the phrase "making the Persian cave even cosier" seems fitting on the restaurant's social media.

Since early 2024, Saffarian and his team have been feeding happy customers at Sloppy Sam in the city's heart inside the Heritage Square building.

From the courtyard, step past Jerry's Burger Bar to find this downstairs dining space of wooden tables surrounded by a colourful array of chairs on large Persian rugs. There's a Middle Eastern mood inside the renovated heritage brick walls. The interior feels comfortable, lived in, the music a hybrid mix of Persian, Arabic, Turkish, Greek and modern.

A TRUE ORIGINAL

Sloppy Sam is one of Cape Town's oldest restaurants. "The original Sloppy Sam was established in 1935 as a milk bar and grill. In 1937 they applied for their signage," explains Saffarian. He has a document from Cape Town's archives to prove it.

"I am Persian South African and came to South Africa in 1979. I'm very proud of my heritage. I've been living and working in South Africa for over 34 years."

Saffarian bought Sloppy Sam restaurant in 1985 as a 25-year-old, with the plan of making pizza. "We happened to be at Sloppy Sam, and the owner heard I was looking for premises in the area. In his Greek accent, he said: why don't you buy this restaurant?"

Initially Saffarian wasn't keen to maintain customer expectations of an owner-run establishment, but



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: Hooman Saffarian, chef-patron of CBD dining institution, Sloppy Sam; the food is a mixture of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern cuisine; the warm interior of the restaurant inside Heritage Square in town.

eventually he took the plunge. "I was determined to make it work, and here we are today."

A TOUCH OF PERSIA

"The food is a mixture of Mediterranean, Middle Eastern cuisine, a bit of Persian influence. We don't put a specific label on ourselves. Even if you're two people, you order a few things and share," says Saffarian.

Small plates: homemade hummus, or roasted red pepper and walnut muhammara, scooped up with flatbread. Persian dolmeh, pickled octopus, fried halloumi, chicken tikka or beef kebabs

with a Persian saffron sauce. Oven-roasted brinjals with yoghurt, a slice of bechamel, brinjal and lamb moussaka. Garlic-heavy cucumber and yoghurt tzatziki is especially good with rich oven-roasted lamb riblets, eaten with your fingers. The menu says in brackets: *they helped make us famous.*

Then a larger shared plate of roasted lamb shank or neck, perhaps a Greek salad. I can recommend delicious slow-cooked lamb neck, all fall-apart tenderness and lemon and oregano flavour.

"It's a type of eating that is always fun: sharing and enjoying all different

Meet the well-known face behind Sloppy Sam, the stalwart restaurant that's been an institution in Cape Town for decades.

By Kim Maxwell

variety," says Saffarian. "You order as you like, as much or as little as you want."

Popular baby squid grilled in fresh garlic and chilli, tossed in butter and lemon, served with crunchy tentacles. We shared plates of it a decade ago as Green Point regulars.

Art critic Melvyn Minnaar remembers the place fondly. "We used to go to the original Sloppy Sam in Sea Point in the 1980s. It was the hot spot, the word just spread ... We loved the buzz. It was a small place, and it just drew the crowds from those in-the-know. It attracted people in the creative, film and design industries. A Greek couple were running it originally. And Hooman just brought this personality that people responded to. He came around and chatted to everyone."

WHERE THE LOCALS GO

Going to "Sloppys" has meant friends congregating, dates blossoming and milestones celebrated. Did Saffarian have any restaurant experience when he started? His face crinkles into a grin. "Not really. Then again, I was very creative. You grab the horse by the reins and just ride it.

"What I like about it: in the restaurant business you must be a people's person, especially in this town. There're not that many of us who are family owner-chef run any more. There's Pina and her children at Mario's in Green Point, there's Magica Roma in Pinelands, Mamma Roma in Dean St.

"We're a local eatery: we are where the locals go. Where do the tourists go? Where the locals go," laughs Saffarian. "I don't worry about the season or First Thursdays. My business is throughout the year. We have foreigners who have been coming to us for years, they find us. On Saturday, I had people who've been coming to me since 1987."

Sloppy Sam | Heritage Square, 100 Shortmarket St

Tues-Sat 18h00 to 22h00

Lunch reservations for groups.

082 377 3707

@sloppysamcapetown

@Sloppy Sam



SURF & TURF

Currently making a splash is Seebamboes, the new 16-seater Harrington St restaurant where every dish on the menu incorporates sea and land, playfully breathing new life and meaning into surf and turf.

By Ilana Sharlin Stone

The best restaurants – and certainly the most memorable – are those infused with meaning; where every detail has been considered but is also personal and nostalgic. Seebamboes – a land and sea collaboration between Belly of the Beast and Galjoen duo Anouchka Horn and Neil Swart with chef Adél Hughes and visual artist/front of house lead Liebet Jooste – is that kind of a restaurant.

Named after the extraordinary fast-growing kelp that straddles land and sea, Seebamboes not only tells the story of the Western Cape's natural edible bounty but also that of Hughes and Jooste. They have journeyed together from inland – their early days as a couple were in Pretoria – to the coastal village of Betty's Bay and a farm outside Paternoster, and eventually to Cape Town for what Hughes calls their chapter in the city, which began in the kitchen of seafood-focused Galjoen.

If Hughes sounds familiar, it's because not only has she worked closely with city culinary mavericks Horn and Swart along with head chef Isca Stoltz at Galjoen, but for four years ran the kitchen at Oep ve Koep in Paternoster, the sister restaurant of Wolfgat, owned by legendary chef and forager Kobus van der Merwe.

FEASTING & FORAGING

"The foraging thing started on our *stoep* in Pretoria when I was paging through a *TASTE* magazine and came across an article about what Kobus was doing," explains Hughes, who at the time was studying at the Prue Leith Culinary Institute. For Hughes, already passionate about cooking from the garden, it was a defining moment. They relocated to Betty's Bay where Jooste had spent childhood holidays, and in 2018, Hughes cooked at Forage, at Wildekrans in Botrivier. Then it was on to Paternoster, where she immersed



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: The curated tasting menu features a fresh oyster served with pineapple chutney; an off-beat selection of wines complements the food; the talented trio shaping Seebamboes, from left, Adél Hughes, Anouchka Horn and Liebet Jooste.

herself in the hyperlocal and seasonal foods of the Paternoster coastline at Oep ve Koep.

The name Seebamboes has its roots in Betty's Bay where post-Paternoster, the couple returned and sold takeaways out of their holiday house: Hughes cooked, and Jooste liaised with customers. They decided to put the concept on ice until the time was right, which turned out to be not very long. In 2023, Hughes joined Galjoen as sous chef, and Seebamboes began to organically take root through conversations with Horn and Swart, who wished to develop the mezzanine space above Galjoen.

The deal was clinched when Galjoen hosted a Belly/Galjoen collab (while Belly was under renovation) with a surf and turf menu. It was clear this was a fresh concept that worked, was in line with the vision of Hughes and Jooste, and was an organic extension of the Belly/Galjoen framework. "We like small restaurants with personalities behind them," explains Swart, who along with Horn, has collaborated closely with Hughes and Jooste on every aspect of Seebamboes.

SHAPED BY NOSTALGIA

Does surf and turf mean a wooden platter heaped with steak and prawns? Not at Seebamboes. It does mean that every dish on their tasting menu will incorporate sea and land – even desserts like an ice cream sandwich – and will be shaped by nostalgia. Like the Betty's Bay Broth, which gets its name from the area so dear to Hughes and Jooste and from where its kelp base was foraged. Hughes elaborates: "Some dishes will scream surf and turf; others will have a sneaky element bridging the two. Generally, we want to move away from the strict understanding of surf and turf as two proteins." A perfect example of this is the pairing of seaweed and mushrooms.

As for the wine list, it is alternative and off-beat with, not surprisingly, a big focus on the Swartland.

The team have collaborated with artists and artisans on the interior, to create a space which feels intimate despite its industrial framework. From the Wall of Curiosity – a ceramic artwork that contains changeable bits of sea and land to the pendant lights which

resemble seebamboes, the décor adds calming coastal elements to the dining area, which overlooks Galjoen and the mountain.

They may be running a city restaurant but Hughes and Jooste plan to continue foraging regularly, making the rounds between Betty's Bay, Scarborough and occasionally Paternoster, supplementing this with carefully sourced products from suppliers.

"In my mind, the magic here is in engaging with nature," says Jooste. "Seebamboes is a place where we can show off nature and celebrate it with our guests. In Paternoster we learned about the plants and what we could eat, we did it daily. If you live by the sea you're engaging with both land and sea, right, so in a way you are living the surf-and-turf life. That's the feeling we want to share."

Seebamboes | 99 Harrington St
Tues-Sat from 18h45 seating only, tasting menu only. Book via Dineplan.
www.seebamboescpt.co.za
[@seebamboes](https://www.instagram.com/seebamboes)

WHAT'S ON IN TOWN

The seasons are changing so before the chill sets in, here's how to live it up in town.



For more event info, visit *City Views* on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CityViewsCapeTown.



COMIC CON CAPE TOWN

Seeing is believing at Africa's biggest celebration of pop culture and gaming, Comic Con Cape Town. Expect unique cultural collabs and experiences, blockbuster films, extraordinary merch, exclusive comics, heart-stopping gaming for competitive and casual gamers ... there is something for everyone. Organisers say the iconic festival is "all about self-expression and real connections with the brands, fandoms, and pop culture icons". Get ready to geek out, folks. The programme is extensive and is beyond exciting. Get ready for the time of your life.

Where: CTICC 2, cnr Heerengracht & Rua Bartholomeu Dias

When: 1-4 May 2025

www.comiconafrica.co.za/ccct-home

HAMLET

Don't miss this thrilling take on what is often regarded as Shakespeare's greatest play, *Hamlet*, by Abrahamse & Meyer Productions, in association with the Artscape Theatre Centre. Fresh from an acclaimed run at Europe's largest and most prestigious Shakespeare Festival, award-winning duo Fred Abrahamse and Marcel Meyer return to the Artscape with this innovative, epic production - characterised by spectacular stage design - of this dark and murderous (and absolutely engrossing) Shakespearean tragedy.

Where: Artscape Theatre Centre, D.F. Malan St

When: 11, 12, 15 and 17 April 2025

www.artscape.co.za/event/hamlet

GOOD LIFE SHOW

The Good Life Show is Africa's premier conscious-living event focusing on health, wellness and sustainability. Expect delicious food, exciting and innovative beverages, new wellness products and more. The show aims to inspire, educate and entertain while promoting a healthier, happier lifestyle. There'll be chef demos, hands-on master classes, mixology sessions, insightful industry talks and activities.

Where: CTICC 2, cnr Heerengracht & Rua Bartholomeu Dias

When: 30 May - 1 June 2025

www.goodlifeshowafrika.com

BLUEY'S BIG PLAY

Presented by BBC Studios and Andre Kay in association with Windmill Theatre Co., this children's show has extraordinary puppets which bring Bluey to life. Bluey is the star of the award-winning TV series, and this theatrical adaption tour has an original story and new music.

Where: Artscape Theatre Centre, D.F. Malan St

When: 26 June - 6 July 2025

www.artscape.co.za/event/blueys-big-play



DECOREX CAPE TOWN

Everything décor and design happens at Decorex Cape Town, and this year's platform, entitled *The Future of Living*, will deliver the same high-end input of creativity and innovation complete with interesting talks, themed exhibitions, hip-and-happening brands and more. Join industry leaders and design fundis as they explore trends, including how technology and design are revolutionising our homes and improving our quality of life. There'll be more than 230 companies showcasing the transformative designs and ideas that are shaping the way we live.

Where: CTICC 1, 1 Lower Long St

When: 5-8 June 2025

www.decorex.co.za/cape-town/en-gb.html

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

Known as Africa's "grandest gathering", the Cape Town International Jazz Festival "blends the timeless legacy of jazz with fresh, trailblazing talent from across the globe". This year's festival promises an array of top local and international artists performing a variety of world-class jazz and jazz-inspired music. The artist line-up for the 22nd edition of the festival will include Black Coffee and Nduduzo Makhathini in collaboration, Thandiswa Mazwai, Kyle Shepherd Trio, Benjamin Jephtha ft. Kujenga, Ari Lennox, Linda Sikhakhane, Nomfundo Xaluva, and the Victor Masekela Quartet ft. Thembi & Bheki Khoza among others. Various hospitality packages are on offer.

Where: CTICC 1, 1 Lower Long St

When: 25-26 April 2025

www.capetownjazzfest.com



SUE WILLIAMSON RETROSPECTIVE

Long overdue, the Iziko South African National Gallery, in collaboration with the Goodman Gallery, is presenting South African artist Sue Williamson's exhibition *There is something I must tell - a retrospective*. Spanning five decades of Williamson's practice and highlighting her impact on the local art world, this retrospective is curated by Andrew Lamprecht and is the first comprehensive display of her work. It showcases her journey through activism, memory, identity and history.

Where: Iziko SA National Gallery, Company's Garden

When: Until September 2025

www.iziko.org.za

