



Richard Ketley

Wayfarers

ArchiAfrica Gallery
Jamestown, Accra

June 2018

Wayfarers – nomads, wanderers, “muzungu” – people who wander around. I am a wanderer in Africa, endlessly criss-crossing the continent, dropping from the sky, to the street and back.

This joint exhibition at the ArchiAfrika gallery in Ussherstown, Accra, was a response both to place – and a space. Ussertown is the oldest part of Accra, and one of the poorest. Old colonial era buildings exist between shacks, and a fishing village – on the edge of the modern city. The original pier where visitors used to be brought ashore in small boats still dominates the area. The ArchiAfrika gallery is a single large first floor room in one of the original colonial era buildings. It overlooks the fishing village and sea – both subjects that form the basis of the work displayed in this series.

The works exhibited continue my exploration of “floating” paintings – paintings that hang in the centre of a space and move in the wind (or in this instance sea breezes). Executed on drafting film that combine photomontage of specific places which are then worked with paint and drawing to create a site specific installation. For videos of the installation please visit www.richardketley.com

This was a joint exhibition with a fellow Wits student – Manuela Knaut. For more information on her installation (in an adjacent building please visit www.kunst.de



ArchiAfrica Gallery – entrance from below and the street, showing Wayfarers panel moving in the breeze



ArchiAfrica Gallery – the upper story of a historic Ussher Town colonial era building.
View from the John Atta Mills High Street





Wayfarers panel I (front view), Acrylic, charcoal, photomontage, on sepia film, Four panels
840 mm x 1800 mm

May 2018



Wayfarers panel I (rear view), Acrylic, charcoal, photomontage, on sepia film, Four panels
840 mm x 1800 mm

May 2018



Wayfarers
panel I
(detail)
840 mm x
1800 mm

May 2018



Wayfarers panel I (rear view) in situ, Acrylic, charcoal, photomontage, on sepia film,
Four panels , 840 mm x 1800 mm

May 2018



Wayfarers panel II (front view), Acrylic, charcoal, photomontage, on sepia film,

Four panels , 840 mm x 1800 mm

May 2018

Wayfarers
panel II
(detail)
840 mm x
1800 mm

May 2018



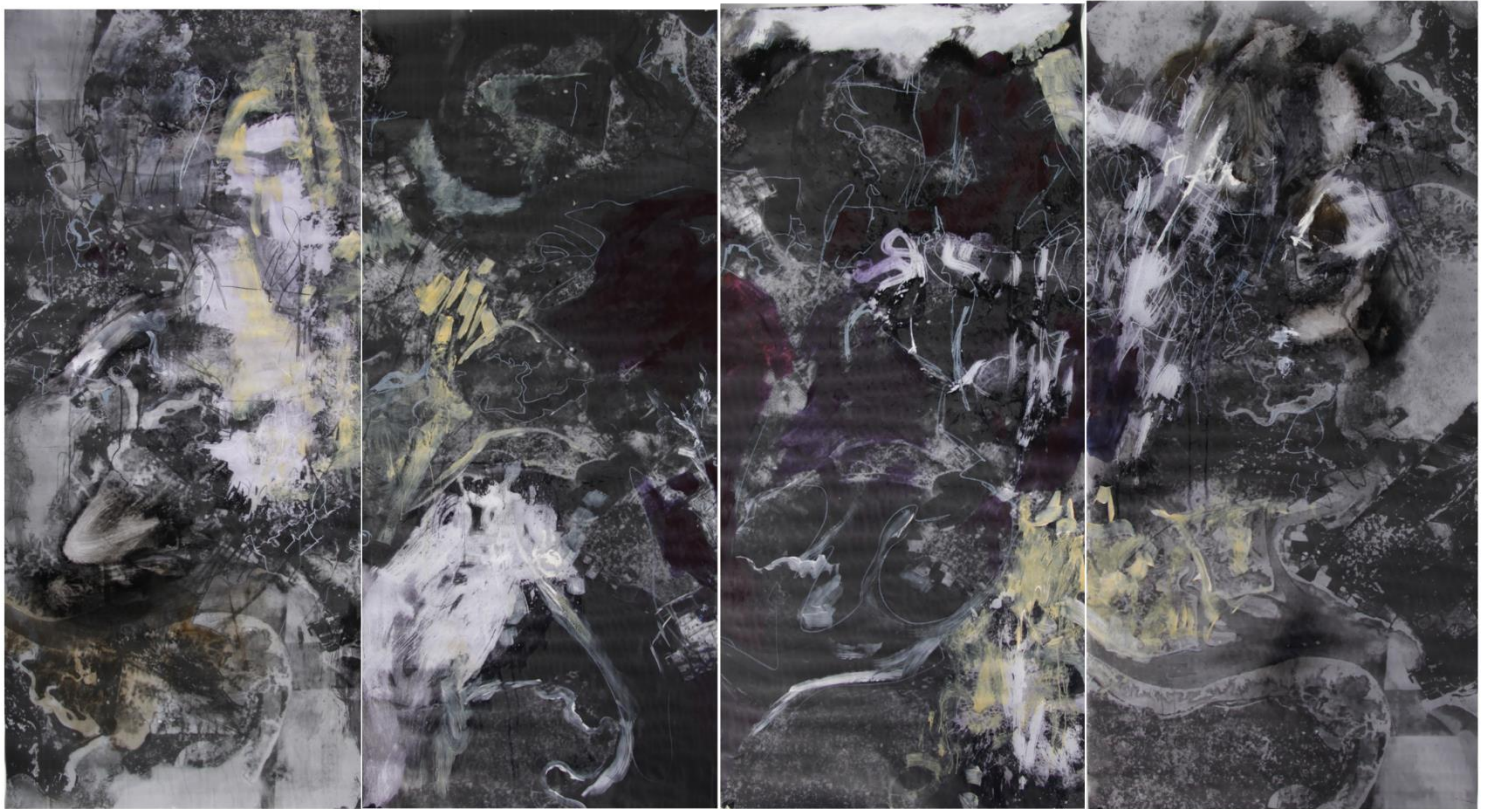


Wayfarers panel II (rear view), Acrylic, charcoal, photomontage, on sepia film,

Four panels

840 mm x 1800 mm

May 2018

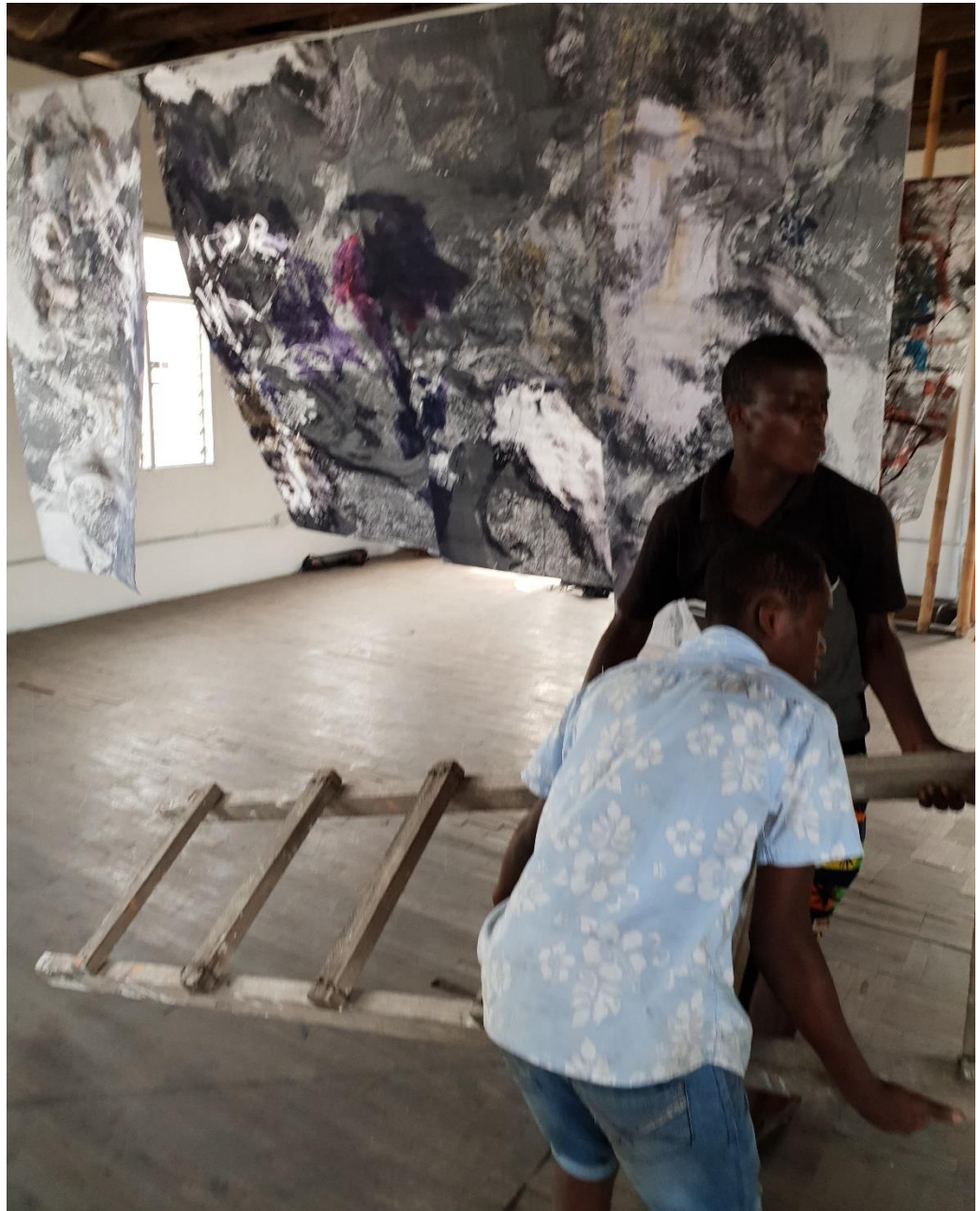


Where do we come from (front view), Acrylic, charcoal, photomontage, on sepia film,

Four panels

840 mm x 1800 mm

Dec 2017





Wayfarers

**RICHARD KETLEY
MANUELA K. KNAUT**

You are cordially invited. Please
join us for the opening of the
exhibition on Saturday, June 9,
17.00 hrs.
ArchiAfrika Gallery, High Street,
Accra, Ghana

Exhibition opening



Artist's statement

I am interested in formal elements of painting and drawing inspired by the world around me and the many countries I visit. I am also interested in finding meaning where others do not - in the fall of light on oil tankers off Barr Beach, in the chaos of the shacks of Kampala and in crowded taxi parks. My art is a search for perfection not often found in life.

I am fortunate enough to travel widely in the Middle East and Africa, but I have not found aTahiti , a landscape populated with Venuses and primary colours. Instead I have found landscapes covered in construction sites and tin-roofed shacks, and peopled by humanity sweating as trucks are loaded with voluminous bundles. But within these spaces there is balance and form and structure - all elements that are abstracted in my paintings.

Profile

Born in 1964, Richard Ketley has painted since he was at school and held his first solo exhibition while still a student at Hyde Park High School. During his early career, he exhibited at Artists in the Sun and at the Sandton Gallery, Johannesburg, and participated in a joint exhibition at the National Galley in Kampala, Uganda. Some of his most recent work has been shortlisted for the SA Taxi Art Award (2015 and 2016). During 2016 he held a joint exhibitions of his work in Lagos and Johannesburg and featured in the Joburg Fringe. In 2017 his work featured at the Art Africa Fair and he held a solo exhibition at 70 Juta Street. In 2018 his work has featured in Art makes Water, Kampala.

He is currently completing a MFA at Wits University

Richard divides his time between Dubai and Johannesburg.

Representation : XVA Gallery in Dubai.