

BODY MAPS The Bambanani Women's Group of Cape Town, South Africa January 13-March 1, 2009

Gallery LAB



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Bambanani Women's Group of Cape Town, South Africa

Sussel Gallery

Gallery LAB

Burton D. Morgan Gallery

Gallery Walk

Thursday, January 15 12:00–1:00 p.m. Kitty McManus Zurko Director/Curator The College of Wooster Art Museum

Faculty & Student Roundtable

Wednesday, February 11 7:00–8:00 p.m., Sussel Gallery

Charlotte Castle '09, Studio Art Amber Garcia, Psychology Taylor Madal '09, Sociology John Rudisill, Philosophy

Music in the Galleries

Thursday, February 19 7:00–8:00 p.m., Sussel Gallery The Wooster Chorus and Singers Gregory W. Brown, Director

Closing Reception

Thursday, February 26 6:00–8:00 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public.

Body Maps is a series of fourteen life-size drawings that use the shape of the body to map out what it is like to live with HIV and AIDS. **Body Maps** grew out of the Memory Box Project in Cape Town, South Africa; and both outreach projects were initiated by the AIDS and Society Research Unit of the University of Cape Town and Médecins Sans Frontières.

Where the Memory Box project was developed to assist with the emotional devastation of those facing almost certain death from AIDS prior to the introduction of antiretroviral drugs in South Africa in 2003, **Body Maps** addresses the increasing number of those living with HIV and AIDS. For the first **Body Maps** project, Cape Town artist Jane Soloman worked with fourteen women who used contour drawings of their bodies as a way to visualize the virus and its physical and emotional effects.

These women founded the Bambanani Women's Group, the name of which comes from the Xhosa word for "stand together and unite," and members of the group continue to work with others living with the disease.

Body Maps and the **Gallery LAB** are presented at Wooster as part of the College's Spring 2009 course, *The Global HIV/AIDS Crisis: An Interdisciplinary Inquiry*, team-taught by Shirley Huston-Findley, Theatre and Dance; Amber Garcia, Psychology; Sharon Lynn, Biology; and John Rudisill, Philosophy. The **Gallery LAB** is a visitor-generated exhibition that will evolve weekly. It includes a time line of global HIV/AIDS developed by teaching assistant, Charlotte Castle '09, projects produced by the *Global HIV/AIDS* class, and a video booth where visitors are invited to record a response to questions about social stigma and other relevant topics. Selected video and voice recordings will be presented in the **LAB**.

The Burton D. Morgan Foundation provided support for the Gallery LAB. Special thanks to Jaime Carrejo, Visiting Professor of Art, for his assistance with the LAB.

Body Maps is a traveling exhibition organized by David Krut Projects New York. David Krut Projects was instrumental in bringing Body Maps to the United States to raise awareness of the HIV pandemic in South Africa. Digital prints are available for purchase from David Krut Projects, 525 West 26th Street #816, New York, NY, (212) 255-3095, with proceeds going to the Bambanini Women's Group.