

About Justin Fiske

Justin Fiske was born and grew up in Cape Town, South Africa. He has a string of discontinued degrees which he considers lucky escapes. They spanned fine art, advertising, art direction/graphic design, mathematics, computer science, physics, and then philosophy, politics, literature, and some more maths! This did little to make him employable, but he learnt quite a bit about rotational momentum and the maths of sinusoidal oscillation. He then became a bicycle courier with a view to travelling. This led to a long and interesting career in industrial access all over the world; this entailed abseiling and rope-work on ships, oil-rigs, and buildings. It was a fine education in ingenuity and learning about things that resist construction. He had a short career in production management, generally on short-term projects involving art and design. He has always maintained a studio in which to keep his own personal process progressing. Over the last decade he has moved towards a fulltime involvement in art. He is constantly amazed at how visual references as well as skills and knowledge from all these eclectic fields appear in his artistic process.

Key data

Grants and awards:

2008: Spier Contemporary People's Choice Award for Kundalini 14

Residencies awarded:

2007/8: Akiyoshidai International Art Village Residency, Japan

2009: Nirox Foundation Accommodation, Johannesburg, South Africa

2010: IAAB Pro Helvetia Residency, Basel, Switzerland

Exhibitions:

2007: 3C, group exhibition, Critics Choice, Association for Visual Arts, Cape Town, South Africa

2008: Vis. Vis. Vis, group exhibition, Akiyoshidai International Art Village, Japan

2009: Supermarket, group show at Muti Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2009: Art and Architecture, group show, Spier Gallery, Spier Estate, Cape Town, South Africa

2009: Social Patterns, group show, Association for Visual Arts, Cape Town, South Africa

2010: IAAB Pro Helvetia Residency, studio exhibition, Basel, Switzerland

2010: Focus10, Contemporary Art of Africa (accompanying programme to Art Basel)