

CIVIC ROOM

THULANI RACHIA, OF SUGAR AND BONES PREVIEW 19TH SEPTEMBER 5PM
EXHIBITION 21ST SEPTEMBER- 3RD NOVEMBER WEDNESDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY 1PM TO 6PM DAILY
ARTIST BREAKFAST SATURDAY 5TH OCTOBER 11AM CIVIC ROOM
FILM SCREENING FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER 6PM CCA CINEMA

OF SUGAR AND BONES IS THE THIRD EXHIBITION FEATURED IN THE OF LOVELY TYRANTS AND INVISIBLE WOMEN PROGRAMME INVESTIGATING THEMES OF SPATIAL POLITICS, GENDER AND RACIAL HIERARCHIES WITHIN IMPERIAL ARCHITECTURE. THIS YEAR LONG PROGRAMME, CURATED BY CIVIC ROOM, GLASGOW FEATURES FOUR SOLO EXHIBITIONS FROM ARTISTS LAUREN PRINTY CURRIE, ASHANTI HARRIS, THULANI RACHIA AND MARIJA NEMENKO AND AN EVENTS PROGRAMME IN COLLABORATION WITH CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS, COMMUNITY GROUPS AND PUBLIC AUDIENCES.

"WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER?
MY BODY TELLS ME THAT THIS LAND IS BUILT OF SUGAR AND BONES.
HOW DO WE EXCAVATE THE DREAMS WHICH WERE LAID TO REST IN THESE WALLS?"

FROM THE END OF THE 19TH CENTURY, GLASGOW'S TRADING INDUSTRIES, MANUFACTURING BASES AND GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION LEADS IT TO BE REFERRED TO AS THE SECOND CITY OF THE EMPIRE. THE RIVER CLYDE IN PARTICULAR BECOMES A CONDUIT FOR TRANSPORTATION AND TRADE, AIDING THE GENERATION OF WEALTH AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF GLASGOW TO A CENTRE OF COLONIAL PROFITS. DURING THIS PERIOD MISSIONARIES FROM SCOTLAND TRAVEL TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES. WHILE MANY PRESENT THEIR WORK IN HUMANITARIAN TERMS OF EDUCATING LOCAL POPULATIONS OR HELPING WITH DISASTER RELIEF, IN PRACTICE, MISSIONARIES LEAD PEOPLE AWAY FROM THEIR INDIGENOUS CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICES AND FACILITATE THE COLONIAL PROJECT IN ITS TAKEOVER OF POPULATIONS AND LAND. TODAY, GLASGOW AND SOUTH AFRICA'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT ACT AS A MARKER TO THIS HISTORY, IN GLASGOW, THESE ARCHITECTURAL EMBLEMS OF AUTHORITATIVE MEMORY AND THE CONTINUAL PROCESS OF URBAN RENEWAL ARE PETRIFYING THE CITY INTO A STATE OF COLLECTIVE AMNESIA.

AFRICAN (NGUNI) DREAM THEORY RECOGNISES DREAMING AS CENTRAL TO AN INDIVIDUAL AND A COMMUNITY'S WELL BEING. DREAMING FROM AN AFRICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE POSITS THAT AN INDIVIDUAL CAN DREAM FOR OTHERS AND POSITIONS DREAMS AND THE BODY AS A SITE OF ANCESTRAL KNOWLEDGE - A SPACE FOR COMMUNICATION WITH ANCESTORS. THE NGUNI BELIEVE THAT SPIRITS OF THE DECEASED DO NOT REST UNTIL THEIR BONES ARE RETURNED TO THEIR PLACE OF ANCESTRY. ENGAGING IN DREAMING IS WIDELY USED AS A MECHANISM IN HEALING PROCESSES AMONG TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

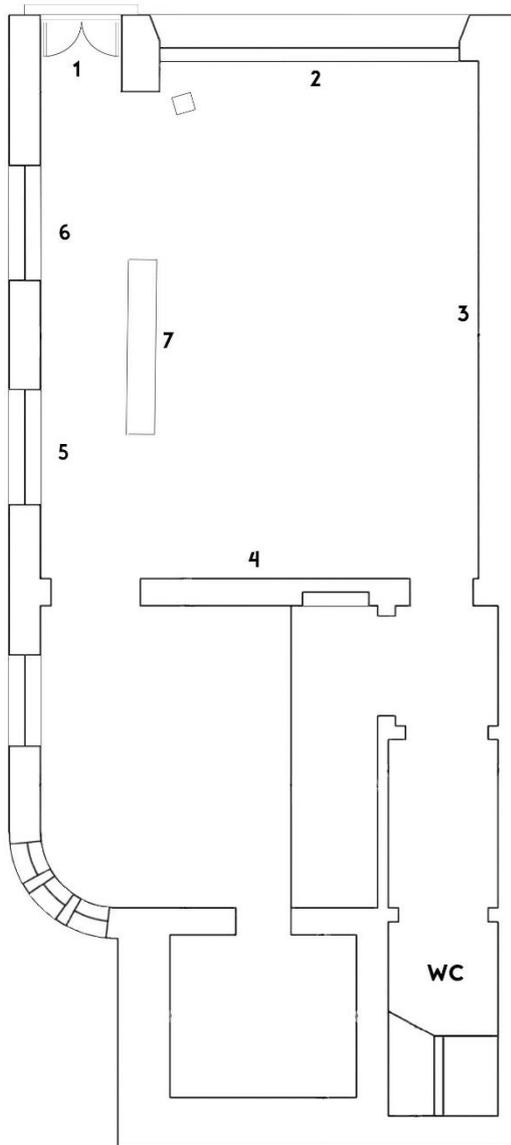
THE CITY CHAMBERS OF GLASGOW, BUILT FROM THE PROFITS OF THE TRANSATLANTIC SLAVE TRADE IN 1888 FORMS THE BACKDROP OF THE FILM, WHILE THE SITE UNDER DEMOLITION IS SOON TO BE A FOUR STAR BOUTIQUE HOTEL.

INSTALLED IN A FORMER BRITISH LINEN BANK BUILT IN 1897, OF SUGAR AND BONES IS A MEDITATION ON SITES AND METHODS OF *REMEMBERING*.

INTEGRATING THE FIELDS OF ARCHITECTURE, PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS, THULANI RACHIA'S PRACTICE CURRENTLY SEES HIM EXPLORING SITE AND HISTORY AND HOW THESE COME TOGETHER IN THE FORMATION OF IDENTITY, CULTURE AND MEMORY.

OF LOVELY TYRANTS AND INVISIBLE WOMEN IS CO-CURATED BY DIRECTOR, SARAH STRANG AND ASSOCIATE CURATOR, ALASDAIR CAMPBELL AND IS GENEROUSLY FUNDED BY [CREATIVE SCOTLAND](#) WITH ADDITIONAL PROJECT FUNDING PROVIDED BY [HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND](#). CIVIC ROOM RECEIVES SUPPORT IN KIND FROM ORAN MOR, CARSON & PARTNERS AND CIVIC ROOM ADVISORY.

CIVIC ROOM



1. IN DREAMS

2. WE DREAM OF SKY AND EARTH

3. UKHUMBULA KHUPHI? (WHERE DO YOU REMEMBER?) DIGITAL VIDEO. 23 MINUTES.

4. UKHUMBULA KANJANI? (HOW DO YOU REMEMBER?) DIGITAL VIDEO. 23 MINUTES

5. WE DREAM

6. WE DREAM

7. A PLACE TO DREAM

NIGIYABONGA NKULUNKULU NAMADLOZI WAMI.

THANK YOU TO THE POWERHOUSE TEAM WHO HELPED PUT THIS UP. FRIENDS AND FAMILY, THANK YOU FOR BEING A CONSTANT SOURCE OF POSITIVITY AND ENCOURAGEMENT. THANK YOU TRANSMISSION GALLERY, AMELIA BY WATER, HUSSEIN MITHA, ALBERTA WHITTLE, AMBROISE LECLERC, ADAM BENMAKHOUF, ADEBUSOLA RAMSAY, GRAHAM CAMPBELL, THE "GLASGOW BOYS BUILDING TEAM" WHO WERE SO HOSPITABLE ON SITE.

SCREENS: AMELIA BY WATER
VINYL: HUSSEIN MITHA
FILM: THULANI RACHIA
FILM EDIT: "UKHUMBULA KHUPHI?" THULANI RACHIA
"UKHUMBULA KANJANI?" THULANI RACHIA
AND AMBROISE LECLERC