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â\200\234ings and sculpture by some of South
PY Africaâ\200\231s leading Black artists was held in
â\200\230 Soweto, the large Black city near Johan-
r nesburg to provide a comprehensive retro-
spective of the last 30 years. It was pre-
~ sented by the Soweto Council's art school
â\200\230 in Mofolo Park under the direction of Mr
ED. S. Rakgoathe.

E. The exhibition, Thirty Years of Black
â\200\230Art, was opened by Cecil Skotnes, well-
â\200\234known South African artist and one of the
s:founders of the former Polly Street Art
Centre in Johannesburg which is now the
Mofolo Art School. The Polly Street Art
* Centre, the only one of its kind, trained ur-
--ban Blacks in fine art. Among the artists
F. taking part in the exhibition were several
& who were taught by Mr Skotnes, including
â\200\234Dan Rakgoathe, Welcome Koboka,

kow-e

Sydney Kumalo and Ezrom Legae.

Other artists represented on the exhibi-
tion were Ben Arnold, Fikile, Megadlele,
Ben Macala, Solomon Maphiri, Louis Ma-
qhubela, Leonard Matsoso, Azaria
Mbatha, Julian Motau, Thabo Mothudi,
Harry Moyaga, Godfrey Ndaba, Ephraim
Ngatane, Winston Saoli, Lucky Sibiya,
Durant Sihlali and Michael Zondi.

There are, today, some 40 art schools
for Black teachers in South Africa. Black
students can also enrol for arts degrees
at the universities of Fort Hare, the Wit-
watersrand, Cape Town and South Africa.
At the Evangelical Lutheran Church's Art
and Craft Centre at Rorke's Drift, Natal,
students study graphics, tapestry. pottery
and textile design. The work produced
here has a refreshing rural content and

portrays events from everyday life, Bible
stories and folklore

Currently. there are about 100 Black
professional artists in South Africa. Their

works not only enrich numerous local exhibitions. but also frequently take the honours at exhibitions held overseas. An exhibition entitled Art from Soweto was held in Bonn with great success, and Black artists were also represented at exhibitions of South African art in other cities of West Germany. in Italy, the USA, and Australia. South Africa has also been represented by its Black artists at biennales in Venice and Sao Paulo.

Contemporary Black art has developed into a successful and powerful means of communication transcending all barriers and holds much promise for the future