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Natalie Knight Gallery Curates in New York

African Encounters Thirteen South African Artists in New York

The Natalie Knight Gallery has _ insight into the thoughts and emotions opportunities. Yet, they all have a curated an art exhibition of thirteen of artists living in a land of physical common go al:- the need to express artists, whose work is curently on _ beauty filled with conflict and strife. their pers onal as well as political pre-occupations through the medium of

the thoughts and emotions of artists ene oe ; The exhibition provides an $\ \ \,$

living in a land of physical beauty opportunity to explore the many facets

filled with conflict and strife. of Africa it's drama and tragedy, mystery and magic. A continent with stark contrasts and harsh conflicts, it is a fertile breeding ground for artistic expression.

view at the Dome Gallery in New The artists come from widely York. differing backgrounds, divergent view "African Encounters" provides an points, discrepant training and

Robert Hodgins, Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at the University of the Witwatersrand, exhibits alongside Alfred Thoba, self taught. Both artists work in the figurative tradition.

Hoagins, (b.London 1920) the most senior of the artist, is a man of the world. His work is filled with literary allusions, informed by academic study and a knowledge of the history of art.

His aim is to seek "the pictorial means to render the paradox of the co-

existence of beauty and ugliness"
Hodgins's subjects deal with the abuse

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of power and the violence and vices of mankind, rendered with a sensuous handling of paint and colour.

Alfred Thoba's (b.Johannesburg 1951) themes come from direct experience.

He applies his paint thickly in broad areas of colour, a distinctive trademark being the handling of the black curly hair of his subjects.

Scenes often depict violence, rendered in a non-violent way. Thoba presents a picture of life in black townships, showing the urbanisation of blacks in western style clothing. The subject matter of his works is the drama of life, love, birth and death.