

her perspective

recovering her stories: the exhibition

In response to the call by the South African Institute of Architects to celebrate women in Architecture during the month of August, we, the Transformation Sub Committee of the Cape Institute for Architecture, are launching an initiative **her perspective** through a series of lectures, a panel discussion and an accompanying exhibition. This exhibition, **recovering her stories**, is presented as a dialogue between selected photographs from our Jansje Wissema photographic collection, and an on-going project to recover stories about women in Architecture globally and in South Africa. The photographs by Wissema capture her perspective of the material and social fabric of District 6, a vital and vibrant part of the life of Cape Town, as it was being demolished in

1970. We thought it appropriate to introduce our initiative, **her perspective** through this body of work as a reminder of the work that needs to be done in the future towards the recovery of our city and the recovery of the contributions women have made in the field of Architecture. The Wissema photographs evoke a powerful silence which, reinforced by the lack of captions or labels for each photograph, have inspired us to introduce blank space in the exhibition, that demands acknowledgement and will require input from the audience to be filled in. The time line in this exhibition aims to acknowledge women who have had a significant contribution to the life of Architecture globally. We have called on significant groups of Architects in Cape Town to help

us start populating our wall. The first group we called on to kick-start the project are the 15 women selected to feature in a forthcoming exhibition for the contribution they have made to the Architectural life of Cape Town. These women will be featured in an exhibition scheduled for March 2020, as a continuation of **her perspective**. We call on you, the public, to continue the project and to add in the women you believe deserve a place on this wall. In this way, this wall will represent the opinion of the Cape Town public on who should be acknowledged. We invite you to participate and add your opinion. Your interaction will contribute to the transformation of the timeline from the exhibition opening to its closing.

Exhibition Credits:

Exhibition Curator: Stella Papanicolaou

Curatorial Team: Rese Boshoff, Clementine Hugo-Hamman, Valerie Lehabe, Kirsty Ronné, Jana Van Dalen and Mieke Vermaak

Student Assistants: Mpho Sephelane, Mariannah Stoffels, Amber Williams

Text: Stella Papanicolaou and Sally Hugo-Hamman

Poster and Marketing Design: Mieke Vermaak

Wissema installation: Rese Boshoff with

Time Line: Valerie Lehabe and Jana Van Dalen

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