



STEPHEN RUSSELL-BRETT

STEPHEN FRANCIS RUSSELL-BRETT

Contemporary Multimedia Artist
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PROFILE

Stephen Russell-Brett is a South African contemporary artist working between Pretoria and Dublin. His practice moves across painting, paper sculpture, installation, photography, textile and moving image, exploring memory, ecological change and the practice of attention. Current work is gathered under Material Elegies, a framework for material investigations into memory, ecology and attention.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

2027 *A Little Wonder* Solo exhibition | Johann van Heerden Art Gallery, Pretoria | September 2027

2027 *Postcards* Group exhibition | Johann van Heerden Art Gallery, Pretoria | January 2027

2026 *Trees* Group exhibition | Johann van Heerden Art Gallery, Pretoria | November 2026

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS & PROJECTS

2026 *Please Touch* Group exhibition | Johann van Heerden Art Gallery, Pretoria

2026 *States of Becoming* Group exhibition | Headline artist | Tina Skukan Gallery, Pretoria

2024 *Or!gami.* Group exhibition | Gallery Archipelago, Tokyo, Japan

2024 *Flowers* Group exhibition | Art of Print Gallery, Pretoria

2020 *Metamorphosis In-Situ Installation* Sorex Estate, Pretoria | Site-specific installation of 2,444 origami butterflies

2020 *Metamorphosis* UNISA Gallery, Pretoria | Group exhibition

2018 *The Other I* UNISA Gallery, Pretoria | Group / degree exhibition

2012 *Rethink, Recycle, Reuse* St. Laurient Gallery, Pretoria | Group exhibition

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

2025 Merit Award, Luxembourg Art Prize *Veil of Erasure, Spectral Taxonomy*

2024 Merit Award, Luxembourg Art Prize *Fractured Liminality* (diptych)

2012 Overall Winner, EnviroServ & Waste Art Foundation International ReCycle / ReUse Competition Environmental art and sustainable materials

SELECTED COMMISSIONS

2018 Selected Artist, Royal Delft 365-Year Commemorative Artwork Netherlands | Permanent commissioned artwork

EDUCATION

2025 BA Honours in Visual Multimedia Arts (Cum Laude) University of South Africa (UNISA)

2018 BA Multimedia in Digital Visual Arts University of South Africa (UNISA)

1993 Diploma in Interior Design Boston House College

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RESEARCH & PRACTICE DEVELOPMENT

2026–Present *Material Elegies*

Research and practice framework for material investigations into memory, ecology and the practice of attention. The framework brings together distinct bodies of work while retaining their individual material languages.

Current Research Direction:

Investigating Biocultural Relationships through Practice-led Material Enquiry: Selected South African Case Studies.

SELECTED WRITING & PUBLICATIONS

2026 *What Remains: An Encounter*, SFA | Press. Forthcoming November 2026

2026 *Remaining With What Changes* Studio Journal, Volume I | Essay

2025 *Stephen Russell-Brett – Material Elegies* Artist interview | SF Atelier

2024 *Metamorphosis Catalogue* Artist publication

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

2026–Present Creative Director, Stephen Russell-Brett

Contemporary art practice, exhibition development and studio direction

2016–Present Creative Director, Stephen Francis Atelier (SFA)

Interdisciplinary creative studio and holding identity spanning fine art, illustration, design and publishing

METHODS & MEDIA

Painting | Paper sculpture | Installation | Photography | Moving image | Textile | Graphite | Mixed-material and layered construction