



The *UNISA Art Walk* (2019-2024) presents vision, creative stimulus, and offer a thinking space for people visiting our campus. Unisa approved an Environmental Sustainability Policy in 2012 and adopted the Green Economy and Sustainability Engagement Model (GESEM) in 2013. This was followed by the establishment of the Sustainability Office later that same year, and the development of the Sustainability Framework. The dedication and vision of artists have taken the spark of the sustainability principles and translated it to unique identity-markers of the spirit of the Science Campus and the specific challenges of our times.

The project is a result of the vision of Dr Thelma Louw, Director of the Sustainability Office of Unisa, who realised the potential of art to bring awareness to the challenges of sustainability. Together with the broad stakeholder committee and curator, Dr Gwenneth Miller (Department Art and Music, UNISA), a call was made publicly for artists to propose structures addressing the principles of Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle, with a critical mindset considering the context of sciences, technologies and the arts.

The project achieved collaboration and capacity building between Unisa alumni, students, staff, public corporations and communities. Most of the artists received their art qualification through the department Art and Music of Unisa and worked together with communities to provide work opportunities. Each work explores concepts relating to co-operation and co-existence of natural systems and the cultural thought paradigms. Materials and ideas in the Art Walk prompt visitors to ask questions about sustainability on many levels. Apart from including recycled materials, the visual images refer to generating new possibilities for communities of understanding. Strategically placed between the Calabash, NB Pityana and GJ Gerwel buildings, the works engage with knowledge generation.

The *UNISA Art Walk* installations are vehicles to inspire personal and social change and system regeneration; to aspire to a sustainable world, providing opportunities to pause, play and be revived through the medium of art.

*Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time.*

Thomas Merton

Curated by Dr Gwenneth Miller in collaboration with Project Director Dr Thelma Louw and the Sustainability Office Team.