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Race relations, youth culture and development to be discussed at UCT

Festival of Desire and book launch
5-6 October 2012, Centre for African Studies Gallery, Oppenheimer Building, UCT,
Upper Campus

Artists such as Driemanskap, Jitsvinger, Burni Aman (ex-Godessa), Shameema Williams (ex-Godessa), Elise Fernandez and DJ Eazy will help build bridges between the work of artists, activists and scholars at the Festival of Desire conference at the University of Cape Town on 5-6 October. The conference aims to establish common ground for our interest in aspects of youth culture and youth development. It will feature the launch of Dr Adam Haupt's book, *Static: Race and Representation in Post-apartheid Music, Media and Film*.

Book launch

Static: Race and Representation in Post-apartheid Music, Media and Film critically examines music, cinema, social media and the politics of change after apartheid. Haupt, an associate professor at UCT, cuts across academic disciplines, the creative arts and the media, and poses two central questions: Is South Africa changing for the better, or are we static? Is there too much static for us to hear each other clearly?

Media phenomena, such as Die Antwoord; the 2010 Soccer World Cup; Bok van Blerk; Tsotsi; Kuli Roberts' Sunday World column on 'coloureds'; revisionist film Afrikaaps and the University of the Free State's Reitz video scandal are examined in this book.

The book will appeal to scholars in media, sociology, anthropology, music, African and cultural studies as well as to anybody with an interest in music, media, identity politics and debates about change in post-apartheid South Africa.

The Festival of Desire Conference

The Festival of Desire will be hosted by an interdisciplinary group of scholars at UCT. A key question to be discussed in this conference is: "How do young people construct identities

through experiences, expressions and/or critical interrogations of sexual and/or consumer desire?"

This conference will be interactive, aimed at building bridges between the work of artists, activists and scholars in order to establish common ground for our interest in aspects of youth culture and youth development.

The conference will alternate paper presentations with performances by artists, such as Driemanskap, Jitsvinger, Burni Aman (ex-Godessa), Shameema Williams (ex-Godessa), Elise Fernandez and DJ Eazy.

Many of the performances will speak to the theme of youth, desire and identity in some way and audiences will have the opportunity to engage with the artists after each performance.

There will be exhibitions, a panel discussion by Ikamva Youth and youth culture film/video screenings, featuring the work of Weaam Williams, Dylan Valley, Kurt Orderson, Zethu Matebeni, Sibusiso Kheswa and Staticphlow.

Visit www.facebook.com/FestivalOfDesire for updates.

ENDS

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