

LEBOHANG KGANYE

Ke Lefa Laka: Heir-story, 2013, Photo. / Pied Piper's Voyage , 2014, Film.



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Lebohang Kganye's artistic practice incorporates photography, theatre, performance and sculpture. On the occasion of Mandela Day 2014 and the 20th anniversary of the end of apartheid in South Africa, the artist was commissioned by the British Council's Connect ZA programme to produce an animated film.

In *Pied Piper's Voyage*, Kganye reimagines her former body of work *Heir-Story (Ke Lefa Laka)* through moving image and sound and casts her grandfather's impersonation as the film's main character. Dressed in her grandfather's oversized suit and large hat, Kganye steps into his shoes and replays her family's journey across six life-size installations. Her grandfather was the first member of the family to move from his "homelands" in the Orange Free State to the city in Transvaal to find work. The scenes created by the artist are based on oral stories told by her family members, passed down from one generation to the next. The animation *Pied Piper's Voyage* is an ode to memory, tales and their fabrication. Strategically layering contemporary material with archival fragments, the artist creates an alternative universe where lost and living family members coexist.

To create each scene, Kganye turned architectural elements borrowed from the Internet and portraits taken from her old family photo albums into a theatre set. She printed them in black and white on large cardboard pieces and uses them as the actors in her stop motion film. The artist navigates each photographic décor, interacts with her family members' replicas and re-enacts scenes shaping her grandfather's story. Large gestures and exaggerated movements characterise the re-performance. With the oversized suit and the theatre set, Kganye's revival of the tales evokes childhood memories, fantasies and dreams. The sound, created by Auntie Flo and Esa Williams, is in line with the animation's pace and playful storyline. In this powerful rendering of *Heir-Story* in motion, the artist portrays her family's interpretations of the past and turns her grandfather into a romanticised hero.

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Pied Piper, 2013
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



The Wheelbarrow, 2013
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



Last Supper, 2013
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



The Bicycle, 2013
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



The Alarm, 2013
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP



The Suit, 2013
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 90 x 64 cm
Edition of 5 + 2AP

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Ironing, 2014
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm
Edition of 7, BASA Awards Commission



Nailcutter, 2014
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 64 x 90 cm,
Edition of 8, BASA Awards Commission



Portrait, 2014
Inkjet print on cotton rag paper, 90 x 64 cm
Edition of 8, BASA Awards Commission



Pied Piper's Voyage, Animated Film, 2014
3 min 26 sec
Edition of 5 + 2AP

