

Zeitz Collection Fact Sheet

Mission Statement

Zeitz Museum of Contemporary Art Africa (Zeitz MOCAA) is a public not-for-profit contemporary art museum which collects, preserves, researches, and exhibits twenty-first century art from Africa and its Diaspora; hosts international exhibitions; develops supporting educational and enrichment programmes; encourages intercultural understanding; and guarantees access for all. Over one hundred galleries, spread over nine floors, are dedicated to a large cutting edge permanent collection; temporary exhibitions; and Centres for Art Education, Curatorial Excellence, Performative Practice, Photography, the Moving Image, and the Costume Institute.

Period

Zeitz MOCAA is committed to cutting edge contemporary practice.

As a museum committed to the twenty-first century, The Zeitz Collection only collects work from Africa and its Diaspora made from 2000 onwards. The museum's founding collection has specifically been developed with this focus. Zeitz MOCAA also hosts international exhibitions.

Differentiation

Zeitz MOCAA is the largest museum of its kind on African soil and the first major museum in Africa dedicated to art with a focus on art of our time.

Zeitz MOCAA and Zeitz Collection will play a unique and essential role in ensuring that art of our time is not overlooked or seminal examples are not preserved for Africa and its people.

The Zeitz Collection has defined a collecting strategy that is not encyclopedic in nature,

but rather that is political in its gesture to acquire seminal artifacts produced in the twenty-first century to be kept in, or returned to Africa. This gesture ensures that the people of Africa can see some of the best of artistic production from their continent, that young people can be inspired in the belief that their culture has value and a place in society, that the discourse around art in Africa can be led by Africa.

The Zeitz Collection has been committed to an annual acquisition budget each year since the beginning of the project partnership for a total of 10 years which positions Zeitz MOCAA with the ability to remain relevant.

Another key strategy of the Zeitz Collection has been the ongoing commitment to keep seminal bodies of work together.

Region

Zeitz MOCAA is dedicated to representing the cultural artifacts and discourses in and from Africa, its Diaspora, and the influences thereof from all regions in Africa.

We define this as any artist living in any of the 54 states of Africa, artists originally from Africa living abroad through force (such as African Americans displaced through slavery), by chosen immigration (artists who keep their studio practice in some cultural centre such as New York, Paris, or London, but who were born in Africa), artists born elsewhere but who have immigrated to Africa or who spend a large part of their time on the continent and their cultural production is largely engaged with or influenced by Africa, or artists who were not born in Africa but identify as African in some way due to their Diaspora inheritance (Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Brazilian etc.).

Taking into account this mission, the Zeitz Collection has strategically been developed to fulfill many of Zeitz MOCAA's long term collection and exhibition strategies.

Overall Collecting Strategy

Zeitz Collection has acquired important pieces to illustrate the leading discourses of our time and some of the best-known art practitioners. These works will be on permanent display on floors dedicated to the permanent collection.

Zeitz Collection has developed in depth holdings of a selection of artists to allow Zeitz MOCAA's curators to develop solo exhibitions from within the museum's holdings which can then also be travelled nationally and internationally.