



Media Release from Kizo Art Gallery.

Artist name: Dinkies Sithole

Exhibition title: *"Meditating with Shamans 2"*

Exhibition venue: Kizo Art Gallery (Upstairs Gallery)

Exhibition launch date: 18 November 2008

Exhibition closes: 7 December 2008

Opening time: 6:30 PM

Kizo Art Gallery is proud to host the most celebrated multimedia artist Dinkies Sithole. This is Sithole's first solo exhibition in the province of KwaZulu Natal. His contribution into the creative industry of this country varies from tap dancing, video work and painting to mention but a few.

Born in Soweto, He studied at the Pelmama Art Centre in Soweto and learned his dance techniques as a member of the Whizzkid Dance Group in Soweto in the late 1980s. He has practiced ballet, break-dancing and tap-dancing. As dancer and choreographer he has been involved in Arts Alive and the Grahams town Arts Festival.

Sithole is much inspired by ritualistic and spiritual journeys, with his work (painting, sculpture and dance), way of life and love of nature being inextricably linked. Since childhood he has been fascinated by the philosophy and painting techniques using natural pigments on the raw rock face - of the San people. Following an exchange of ideas with Asian students during his exhibitions in New York and Vermont, Sithole has been influenced also by Shaman and Buddhist philosophies. The work on show reflects a certain calligraphic quality, using oriental inks and collage techniques on textured rice papers. Sithole explores the relationship between the elements earth, wind, water and fire and his paintings speak of human spiritual experience in uncovering our hidden sentiments as we confront our reality in relation to time and space.

Selected solo and group exhibitions: *Meditating with the Shamans*, Franchise Gallery, Johannesburg (2005); *Dinkies Sithole*, Hanover Street Gallery, Liverpool (2001); *Leaving Room for the Eye to Discover II*, Johannesburg Art Foundation (2000); *Leaving Room for the Eye to Discover I*, Johannesburg Art Foundation (1998); *Imidlalo*, Rembrandt van Rijn Gallery, Newtown, Johannesburg (1997). Selected group exhibitions: *New Paintings*, at the KZNSA Gallery in Durban, it also traveled to Unisa Art Gallery in Pretoria and also to the Johannesburg Art Gallery (2005-2006); Vermont Studio Art Centre Gallery, Johnson, USA (2002); *Identities: Cross Path Culture*, New York, USA (2001), *Cross Overs*, Cross Path Culture Studios, Johannesburg (2001); *Black Visions*, Mofolo Art Centre, Soweto (1995); *Primitive Sculpture Exhibition*, Newtown Galleries, Johannesburg (1992).

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact Kizo on 031 566 4322 and www.kizo.co.za

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