



‘Make the show go on’

The “Who ist Brenda Fassie?” exhibition was part of the CAPE 09 Biennale in Cape Town. The exhibition took place in the Langa High School from the 9th May to the 7th June 2009.

We were invited to participate at the exhibition by the curator Nkuli Mlangeni promoted by Pro Helvetia.

Brenda was one of the greatest pop stars of South Africa in the nineties. Her will to become famous was very strong. She had the power to overcome enormous difficulties of her humble origin of a township, believed in herself and in her incredible abilities. She went to the Langa High School (where the exhibition took place) and became an internationally known icon.

Her confidence and her crazy power was the starting point for us for that project. We wanted to offer the students the possibility to make performances and to get more confidence.

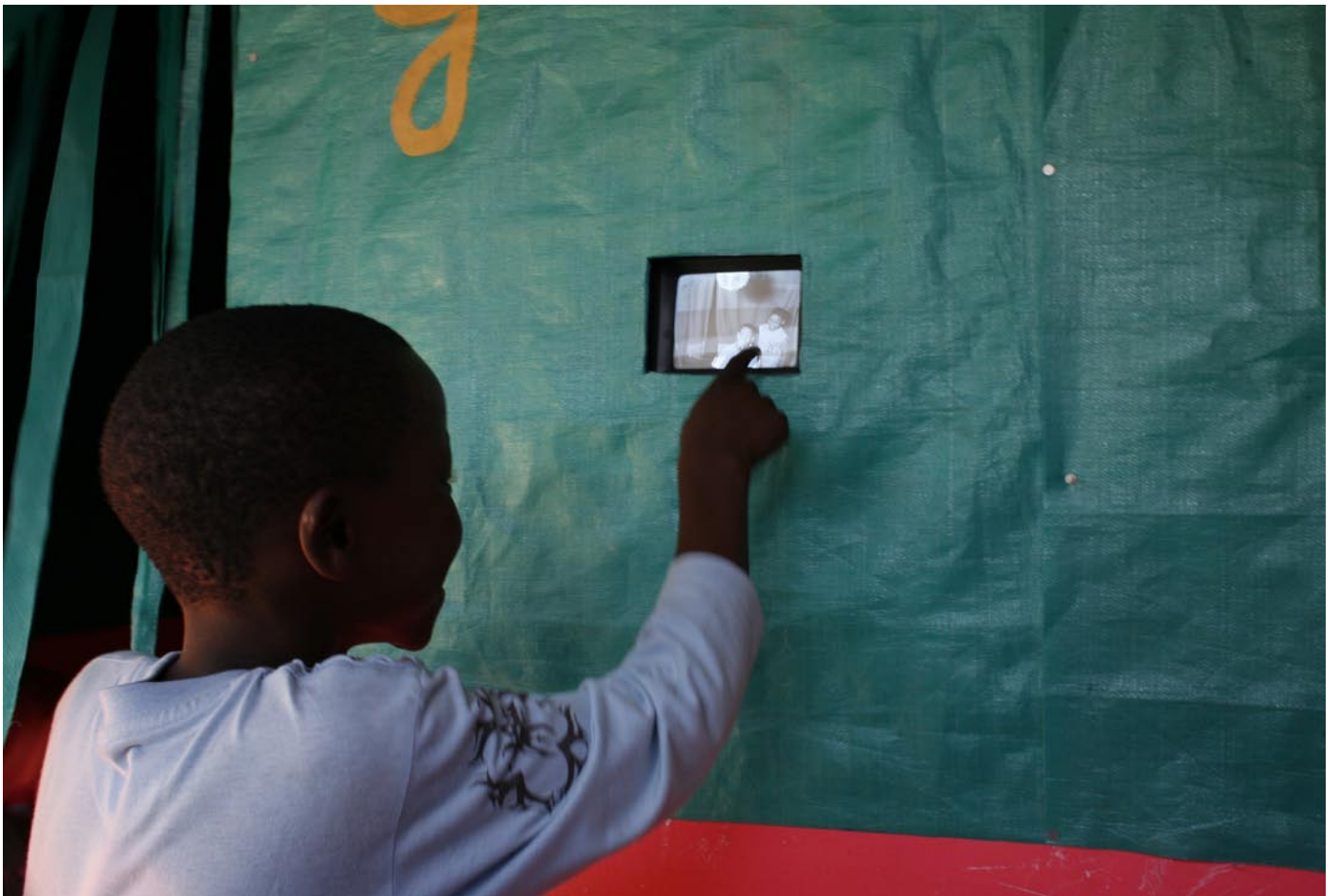
Inspired by the dancing and singing skills of the Langa High school teenagers and the security tools infecting Cape Town, the ‘Make the show go on’-project was developed.

We transformed a small room into an exciting but intimate stage with backstage area.

The unique feeling of being a superstar, stepping in front of the screaming audience, was explored. At the door the visitor stepped in a backstage area. The soft mirror light and strong coloured wallpaper underlined the moment full of energy before the show. Two steps led to the stage. By stepping through the curtain the visitor, in that moment the ‘superstar’ got blinded by the switching on light. The music started to play. On the dazzling stage the microphone was ready, the show could start.

An observation camera transmitted the show to a b/w monitor for the audience outside. So the new ‘superstar’ could be seen live on TV.

The success was great, the young people were excited and made good use of our installation







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photography: Alexia Webster
Kueng Caputo