

**PRESS RELEASE**

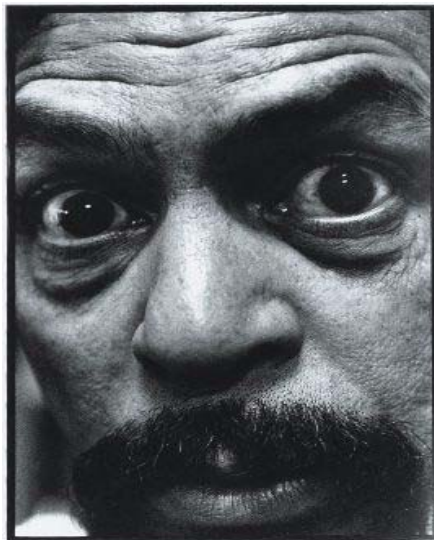
**APRIL 2005**

PRO HELVETIA, ARTS COUNCIL OF SWITZERLAND PRESENTS:

**ILUMINANDO VIDAS—Mozambican Photography 1950 – 2001  
Ricardo Rangel & the Next Generation**

Exhibition of photographs by master Ricardo Rangel and over a dozen photographers of the next generation, in Windhoek.

**ILUMINANDO VIDAS** is an itinerant exhibition on contemporary Mozambican photography curated by Bruno Z'Graggen (Switzerland) and Grant Lee Neuenburg (USA / Mozambique). It is the first exhibition to offer a comprehensive view of Mozambican photography since the end of 16 years of civil war in 1992. The exhibition invites the public in Windhoek to discover the fascinating and unknown tradition of Mozambican photography.



© Ricardo Rangel, self-portrait 1972

*"I used to say to the younger photographers, photography is one of the most beautiful professions you can have. I can take you to places more strange and wonderful than you have ever imagined."  
Ricardo Rangel*

Ricardo Rangel is regarded as one of Africa's most outstanding photographers in the area of photo-journalism working in the tradition of the Magnum photographers. Based on 25 photographs of the 81 year old master, the exhibition focuses on over 100 works of 14 of his 'disciples'. The photographs tell the story of daily life in Mozambique from colonial times to date and are a moving testament to the search for identity by the photographers. All photographers are presented with a statement, their biography and self-portrait.

Besides Ricardo Rangel it presents photographs by Kok Nam (born in 1939) and thirteen younger photographers ('pupils'), who learned their trade during courses at the CFF or on the job from Ricardo Rangel or Kok Nam. At the start of his career, Kok Nam worked for Rangel as a photojournalist and later became one of the most important photographers in the country.



© Kok Nam, self-portrait 2001

*"I have a weapon. And the  
weapon takes me to war.  
Because behind the war is a  
name, a face, a flowering life to  
be counted, a village, an  
expectant bride. Behind my  
weapon is me: of heart and soul,  
veins coursing, a dream delayed.  
In front is a target. (...)"  
Fernando Manuel*

The complete exhibition contains 126 prints, all black and white, gelatine silver prints, image: 20x30 cm, sheet: 30.5x40.6cm, courtesy of the photographer, printed by the Centro de Documentação e Formação Fotográfica (CDFF), Maputo. There is an extensive catalogue published by Christoph Merian Publishers (Basel), German/French edition with an English/Portuguese booklet.

The exhibition will show in Windhoek from 3 May to 28 May 2005 at the National Art Gallery of Namibia.

### **The National Art Gallery of Namibia**

Corner of John Meinert Street and Robert Mugabe Avenue  
Windhoek  
Namibia  
Tel: 061-23 1160  
Fax: 061-24 0930

### **Gallery Hours**

Opening hours: 8am – 5pm (closed to public on Mondays), Saturdays: 9am – 2pm

### **Exhibition Opening on 3 May at 6.30pm for 7.00pm.**

Speaker: Robert Müller, Consul General of Switzerland in Cape Town  
Curator Dr. Bruno Z'Graggen and photographer Rui Assubuji will attend the opening

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND BIOGRAPHIES:** [www.iluminandovidas.org](http://www.iluminandovidas.org)

**FOR PRESS PICTURES:** <http://www.iluminandovidas.org/presspict/index.htm>

For more information, please contact the Pro Helvetia office at +27-21-425 4701 or visit [www.pro-helvetia.ch/capetown](http://www.pro-helvetia.ch/capetown).

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