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Reference in support of the application for Ms Marieke Kruger

Marieke Kruger completed her BA degree in Fine Arts at Stellenbosch University in 1994 and her MTech degree (Cum Laude) at the University of Johannesburg (former Technikon Witwatersrand) in 1998. She is currently registered for the MA programme in Visual Arts at Stellenbosch University. Ms Kruger has been an excellent undergraduate and postgraduate student in both her practical and theoretical areas of study. During her studies at our Department she has been an exceptionally enthusiastic and inquiring student. She is an intelligent, conscientious and bright person who takes a meticulous and professional approach to her studies. She responds constructively to criticism and guidance and is open to taking up challenges and engaging in debates. She is a dynamic, hard-working and reliable individual, as well as a good team worker, and I know her as an honest, responsible, caring and committed person. Her relationship with her peers is excellent, and she is always more than willing to take on additional work.

Ms Kruger demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of, and sensitivity towards, methods and contexts regarding the production of visual art, and particularly her ability to engage in a wide range of research disciplines with specific focus on drawing. She has also gained considerable teaching experience at both schools and colleges in Gauteng and the Western Cape, and has begun acquiring regional and national exposure as an artist by participating in 19 national and 2 international group exhibitions, and 5 solo and duo exhibitions in South Africa. She has also participated in an international student exchange with the Karel de Grote Hogeschool in Antwerp, Belgium, and her work is represented in 5 corporate and public collections in South Africa, as well as a number of private collections in South Africa and abroad. As such, Ms Kruger has begun contributing to art and culture in South Africa.

Between 1997 and 2013 Ms Kruger has been the recipient of a number of prestigious awards, including two NAC scholarships and an Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust scholarship for overseas study. She has proved to be a highly responsible person and has demonstrated her leadership potential by actively engaging in over 15 significant community interaction projects in Gauteng and the Western Cape between 1996 and 2013. Her involvement in such activities clearly confirms her commitment to her development both as a scholar and a leader.



DEPARTEMENT VISUELE KUNSTE • DEPARTMENT OF VISUAL ARTS

Privaat Sak / Private Bag XI • Matieland 7602 • Suid-Afrika / South Africa
Tel: +27 21 808 3046 • Faks / Fax: +27 21 808 3044 • E-pos / E-mail : kd2@sun.ac.za

Given Marieke Kruger's performance and personal qualities, I am convinced that she is an excellent candidate for this residency and I believe that she will bring new and important knowledge and values back to South Africa. I have no hesitation in recommending Marieke Kruger and I wish her everything of the best with her application.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Dietrich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Keith Dietrich (D Litt et Phil)

Professor and Director of the Centre for Comic, Illustrative and Book Arts (CCIBA), Department of Visual Arts, Stellenbosch University