**The Waking Bed**

**Artist Kelly Wainwright is one of a number of international artists to take part in Infecting The City 2010. She spoke to Laetitia Pople.**

Everyone likes to jump on a bed. As a child you tend to become yourself - thinking it’s just kids’ play. But artist Kelly Wainwright encourages everyone to be silly and jump to share the immense satisfaction from seeing people of all ages, shapes, sizes and vocations, jumping. Even evidence from studies show: “There is a common thread running, all mankind together through the simplicity of jumping on a bed. So you take a creature in Texas or a monkey in Bangkok. I feel the sounds of that also help bring out the beauty in any space or location,” says Wainwright, who photographs the people as they jump. She finds Cape Town, where she has resided the past year, an immense inspiration, and it fits in San Francisco, her second home. “The city has incredible light, incredible colors, incredible landscapes, incredibly telling people, incredibly diversity. It has been incredibly easy to get people on board in the project in Cape Town, I looped with them while they jumped.”

She was inspired by the Infecting the City festival and has been long harboured a desire to do something “playful” in it. “It is critical to take people out of the daily grind,” says Wainwright. Jump!” encourages all people to realise how important playful activity is. “Joy is fundamental, otherwise what is the point of life? I think it is easy to forget our human side - we wake and sleep, wake and sleep. We are in survival mode. Therefore we need spontaneity and the unexpected.”

Wainwright also dreams of offices having regular office chair races on the sidewalk. She has come across offices having random dance for 30 seconds. “It doesn’t have to be elaborate. I believe these small injections help to refresh and maintain people in productive and innovative ways.”

She encourages people to participate by offering suggestions and enticements. She dances people. “I never ever force it. My intent is not to change anyone or anything. My theme is inner. I think you. And when is this, I am not with some resistance at times, to which case I either let them walk away, or I tell them the reasons who end up [maybe] to stop jumping on the bed!”

“Like the discipline of other performance pieces – leaving the audience to forget the programme. The creative ideas unfold organically with too many ideas, even though there are sections of movement to club beats did not fit the context. The ending could be more probing. Yes, keep the audience,” says Wainwright. “I wanted to build momentum for a final piece – leaving the audience with something ‘photobomb’ is in.”

**The Helpful Dance**

Bongani Mndonana-Breen reviews Quiet Emergency.

Quiet Emergency is a Cape Town based multi-disciplinary performance and visual arts company which was formed in 2004 by Quiet Emergency founders, the contemporary choreographer and dancer, Thamsanqa Dlamini, and the writer, performer and visual artist, Bongani Mndonana-Breen. Quiet Emergency consists of professional artists and, according to the festival’s trendy pocket guide, the marginalised people of City Street children, sex workers, security guards, street cleaners. The multicultural quality of Quiet Emergency consists of professional artists and, according to the festival’s trendy pocket guide, the marginalised people of City Street children, sex workers, security guards, street cleaners.

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Paper chaser takes the wrap

World-renowned Chinese fine artist Hua Jiming is visiting South Africa for the first time. Aliyah Khan asked him what he has in store for the Mother City.

On Thursday and Friday at 14h30 at The Old Town House, Hua Jiming will

Rhodes Memorial at 11h00 to walk up to District 6 from 08h30 until noon on

Grey Matter will be around Harrington, Plein, Buitenkant and Wale streets in

STOP PRESS

Grey Matter will be congregating at Rhodes Memorial at 11h00 to walk up to

Jumps! will be at the Icon Building (Food Lovers Market, bottom of Long Street

Infecting the City presents... INFECTING THE CITY FESTIVAL 2010

Grey Matter will be around Harrington, Plein, Buitenkant and Wale streets in District 6 from 08h00 until noon on Wednesday, February 17.

Grey Matter will be congregating at Rhodes Memorial at 11h00 to walk up to the Black Box and Sussex to District 6 from Friday, February 19.

Jumps! will be at the Icon Building (Food Lovers Market, bottom of Long Street at Stroom Straat Avenue) from 12h00 to 22h00 on Saturday and Sunday, February 13 and 14.

Information People, Hua Jiming will walk from Thibault Square at 08h00 to the top of Table Mountain on Thursday, February 18.

Dancing Jesus takes place on Wednesday, February 10th and Friday, February 12th at the Old Town House, Green Market Square. Be quick, the tap dance only last 5 minutes.

The spread of information in China has always been a contentious issue — with mandala censorship rules. This is something that visual artist Hua Jiming hopes to explain by bringing the information gaps between and within China and South Africa.

“I think that both South Africa and China are very open and receptive politically, and to social issues. We are investigating in the right directions. I will have to learn more about South Africa in order to identify the difference between the two countries.”

Despite being a visual artist, Jiming has experimented with performance art since the 1990s. Information People is his piece for the INFECTING THE CITY FESTIVAL.

“ITC gives artists like Such Initiative the scope as artists.

We have twice the creativity, twice the energy, twice the resources, skills and drive. As a collaborative, we are able to think more ambitiously,” says Seejarim.

Co-founder Hannelie Coetzee hopes that the public will participate in the mandala-building project. “We invite people to use the mandala as a means to heal their own pain. We invite the public to be brought into their own place where their rights were violated. “The sand will be used to make time for their own work. Seejarim had an exchange and to understand the people from Cape Town and Beijing carries different information of the two cities. "It is a necessary tool in transformation. "We live in a chaotic and often unstable world. I believe that play is one of our greatest tools and a necessary tool in transformation. "Coming from different cultural backgrounds, but sharing a common South African identity, has influenced their work.

In our first conversation we realised how much we have in common. We carry the impact of our history, we share in our work, in the process we heal scars,” says Coetzee.

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The mission statement for Such Initiative reads: “to change perceptions through cross-cultural public art.” They formed, according to founding member Usha Seejarim, in public art “with an environmental awareness that is... considered of the community in which the artwork... happens.” “We live in a country that proudly boasts one of the best constitutions, and simultaneously presents a history of gross violations of human rights. Despite the Truth and Reconciliation process, and incredible acts of giving and forgiving, our scars as a nation have not fully healed and violations of human rights continue to occur.”

“Our intention with the making of this mandala is really to engage with this material and inspire an energy of collective healing,” says Seejarim.

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