

MEDIA ADVISORY

Unisa to confer honorary doctorate on renowned South African artist Angus Van Zyl Taylor

Approved for public release.

DATE: Tuesday, 09 April 2024

The University of South Africa (Unisa) will confer the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Art History (*Honoris Causa*) on well-known South African artist, Mr Angus Van Zyl Taylor at a graduation ceremony to be held at its Muckleneuk Campus in Pretoria on Wednesday, 12 April 2024.

The honorary degree will be conferred on Mr Van Zyl Taylor in recognition of his invaluable contribution to the field of visual arts. His contribution to society, art and sculpture are aligned with Unisa's mission of serving humanity, while his contribution as an artist, sculptor and lecturer also embodies Unisa's mission of serving society by promoting the African perspective of respect, peace and love. He is also worthy of the honorary doctorate as a result of the impact of his lifelong efforts in nurturing the talents of young and developing artists.

Mr Van Zyl Taylor's works appear in a wide range of locations, from public plazas and malls to private collections. He was commissioned to a work for the Lange Voorhout Exhibition Museum aan Zee in Den Haag, Netherlands, which was opened by the then Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

He is a previous winner of the PPC Young Sculptors Award (1994) as well as a recipient of the Eduardo Villa Best Sculpture Student (1994). He was bestowed with an Alumni Laureate Award by the University of Pretoria (2005) and the prestigious Helgaard Steyn Award (2017) for his notable contribution to South African sculpture.

The details of the graduation ceremony are as follows:

Date : Wednesday, 10 April 2024
Time : 18:00
**Venue : ZK Matthews Great Hall, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela Building, Unisa
Muckleneuck Campus, Pretoria**

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the graduation ceremony.

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