

RED IN THE RAINBOW EXHIBITION

"The story of Fred and Sarah Carneson is one of pain mixed with joy. By imagining a different world, they led extraordinary lives, had remarkable stories to tell and contributed directly towards the massive transformation our country has undergone."

- Albie Sachs

A POIGNANT STORY OF HUMANITY IN THE FACE OF POLITICAL TURMOIL

This multi-media exhibition about a family of activists and their comrades in Cape Town takes the visitor through a vivid experience of what it was like for people of all races to oppose the Apartheid regime. Based on Lynn Carneson's writings, Ruth Carneson's artworks and original materials from the Carneson archives such as documents, prison letters and love letters, photographs, posters, and artifacts, the exhibition journeys through six decades of Apartheid. The ETV documentary, 'The Trouble with Truth' is a feature of the exhibition and explores the history of the Guardian, Spark and New Age, the few newspapers that opposed the Apartheid regime, where Fred Carneson worked up till it was banned in 1963. The Red in the Rainbow exhibition is an opportunity to challenge the present while learning from the past. It is an accessible historical experience for the public and has educational value for pupils, students and scholars as well as all South African and people from other countries who are interested in history, social justice, racial harmony and the importance of keeping the spirit of democracy alive.



MANKINDS GREATEST SHAME: LEGALISED RACISM!

NET BLANKES
EUROPEANS ONLY
NON EUROPEAN FEMALES



ABOUT THE RED IN THE RAINBOW TEAM

- LYNN CARNESON, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR**
Wrote *Red and in Rainbow and Home to Hope*, an autobiography of her childhood in diary form. Initiated and directed the Red in the Rainbow exhibition project.
- RUTH CARNESON**
A prolific artist who works with a wide range of mediums. Prints of her artworks form part of the exhibition, as well as her installation "52 weeks".
- RICO MINAAR**
Project Manager and Co-ordinator for Red in the Rainbow exhibition as well as the website designer.
- SYLVIE GROSCHATAU-PHILLIPS**
Art-therapist and independent curator. She has played a major part in designing posters and banners as well as curating this exhibition.
- ANZU PHILLIPS**
A Cape Town based artist and sculptor. Exhibited internationally, AnZu created the silhouettes artworks and contributed to the graphic design of this exhibition.

RED IN THE RAINBOW EXHIBITION

ABOUT THE RED IN THE RAINBOW EXHIBITION

The Red in the Rainbow Exhibition is vivid experience of what life was like for a family of activists during Apartheid in South Africa.

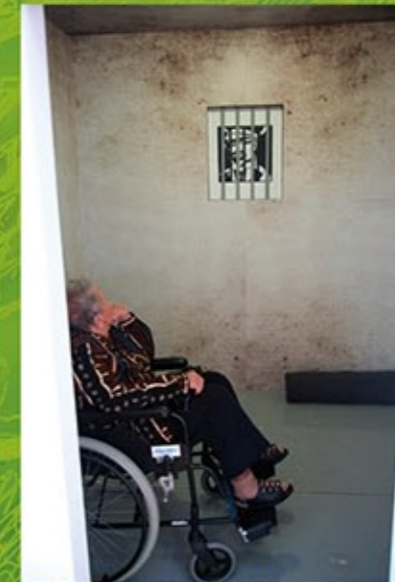
The details may be different but the experience is similar for most people opposing repressive regimes. It is a journey through pain, fear and suffering, about survival and winning through in the end.

It is a story about idealism, the endurance of the human spirit and the efforts of millions of people to create democracy in difficult circumstances.



Lynn Carneson, Omar Badsha and silhouettes [by AnZu Phillips] of security police and jubilant couple at end celebrating first democratic elections

A TRUE STORY TOLD BY THE CARNESON FAMILY



Sarah Carneson remembering terrible times

Lynn Carneson wanted to touch people at different levels; for those who been through it to have hope and for those who have not experiences it to understand what loss of human freedom really means so that they can make their own choices. Lynn hopes that this will help people not to make the same mistakes as the past.

The story is based on her book, *Red in the Rainbow*, a biography about her parents and the artworks of her sister, Ruth Carneson. Her brother John recorded his father's prison letters in a replica cell.

DEFIANCE 1950's

1960's

1970-1991 EXILE

RETURN 1991-1994

Sarah and Fred

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Fred's Catholic childhood memories were of a crowded brick house, pictures of the Virgin Mary, Friday night pubs and a total ban on political discussion.

Sarah looked back on a comfortable middle class Jewish family life, intellectual discussions and her parents' role as founding members of the South African Communist Party.

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

!AMANDLA!

Sanctions continued to be imposed. Many countries and organisations supported the ANC financially and put pressure on the government to change.

FREE SOUTH AFRICA

ENEMIES OF THE APARTHEID STATE

TORTURE IS PART OF THE SYSTEM

ANC FREE SOUTH AFRICA CAMPAIGN

STRUGGLING AGAINST APARTHEID

THEIR STORY
OUR PAST
MEANS WHAT?
YOUR CHOICES
OUR FUTURE
WHAT NOW?

THE FREEDOM CHARTER

We the people of South Africa believe that all our country and the world to know that South Africa belongs to all who live in it, black and white, that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people, that no people have the right to be ruled by those who do not represent them, that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people, that no people have the right to be ruled by those who do not represent them, that no government can justly claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people, that no people have the right to be ruled by those who do not represent them...

WHAT NOW?

WHY RED IN THE RAINBOW?

Nelson Mandela referred to the Rainbow Nation at his inaugural speech in 1994. Red is for the blood that was shed and the sacrifices that were made to win freedom. It is also for the important role that communists played particularly in fighting racism and equal rights.

A MULTI-MEDIA INSTALLATION

The exhibition is designed for the visitor to move through it sequentially in decades. Each decade describes four events that were of importance to the family.

Materials: A mixture of banners and posters with graphic art work containing extracts from the book, copies of original documents and letters and photographs. Also artwork by Ruth Carneson and silhouettes by AnZu Phillips. The central piece of the exhibition is replica of a prison cell with recordings of prison letters. Footsteps guide the visitor from one decade to another.

THE JOURNEY

The visitor is invited to use these words to reflect on the present through the past:

THEIR STORY
YOUR CHOICES

YOUR PAST
MEANS WHAT?

OUR FUTURE