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09 SEP 2015

21 Icons: Behind the Scenes with Athi-Patra Ruga

How photographer Gary Van Wyk captured performance artist Athi-Patra Ruga for 21 Icons.

In his *21 Icons* (<http://www.mblife.co.za/People-to-Watch/Athi-Patra-Ruga-Portrait/>) portrait, Athi-Patra Ruga stands upright, shirtless, with his hand pressed to his chest. An image from his 'Azania' series is projected directly onto his bare torso, illuminating a look of strength in his face and literally immersing him in his own art.

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Highlighting Ruga's utilisation of his own body as one of his primary mediums of expression, the portrait constructs an increased intimacy between the artist and his art.

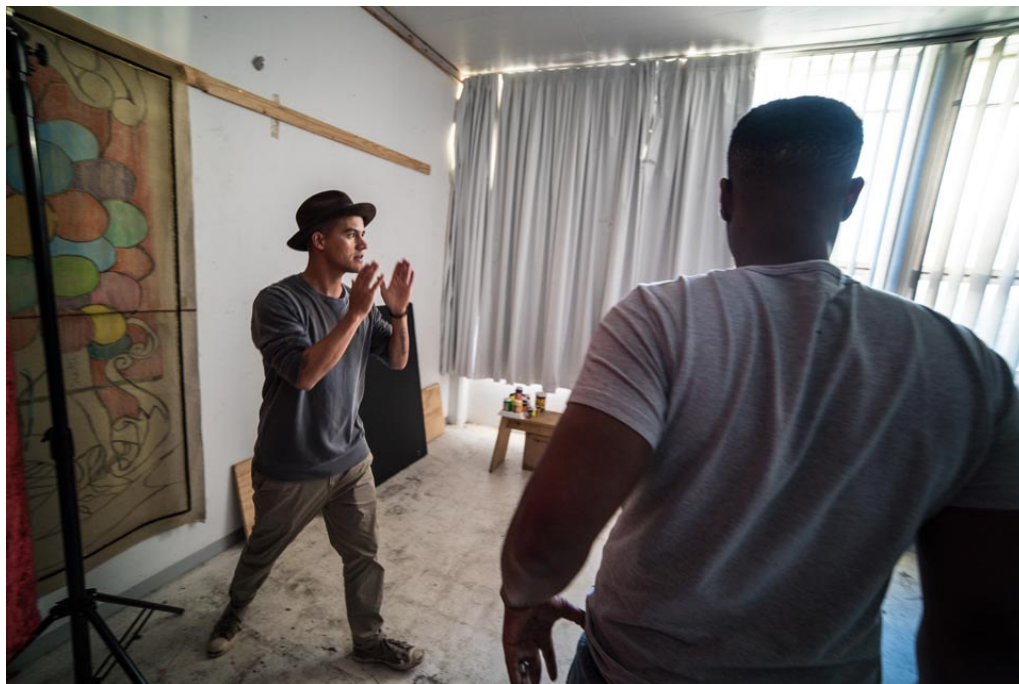
Take a behind-the-scenes look at his shoot with Gary Van Wyk.



Athi-Patra Ruga and photographer Gary Van Wyk outside Ruga's studio prior to the portrait shoot in Cape Town as part of the 21 Icons South Africa Project.



Athi-Patra Ruga in his studio prior to the portrait shoot with photographer Gary Van Wyk in Cape Town as part of the 21 Icons South Africa Project.



Athi-Patra Ruga and photographer Gary Van Wyk discuss the shot during the portrait shoot in Ruga's studio in Cape Town as part of the 21 Icons South Africa Project.



Photographer Gary Van Wyk photographs Athi-Patra Ruga and discusses the shoot with crew in Athi-Patra Ruga's studio in Cape Town.



Photographer Gary Van Wyk captures Athi-Patra Ruga.



Photographer Gary Van Wyk interviews Athi-Patra Ruga in his studio in Cape Town as part of the 21 Icons South Africa Project.



Photographer Gary Van Wyk with Athi-Patra Ruga in his studio in Cape Town as part of the 21 Icons South Africa Project.

Behind the Scenes images by Adrian Steirn.



27 AUG 2015

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19 AUG 2015

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