



ON THE RUN BOOKS together form an encyclopedia that catalogs graffiti and shows all those around the world. Since 1999, the ORB team has built an ever-growing archive, eventually to be donated to the Museum of Urban Art, a project presently under development as part of the Campus of Urban Culture, which focuses on hip-hop and graffiti culture. With every title we digitize and preserve original material from various key artists, and bring their story to the public. All this, and in keeping with our motto: **KNOW YOUR HISTORY**



12



# FAITH 47

FAITH 47

**INITIALLY** recognized for her unique graffiti and street art work, Faith 47 is a self-taught artist who draws inspiration from her own intuitive political and existential questions. Her art takes on the form of metaphor. Both abstract and definitive in meaning, plucking at our heartstrings in harmonious and sometimes dark tones as she paints.

Faith's images thrive on broken-down cars and old factories, dusty side roads of lost towns and inner-city alleyways. Her deep affinity with lost spaces allows her to gracefully bring attention to the most honest and humble of environments. Her interactions resonate with our fragility and our elusive relationship with dreams, memory, human interaction and urban decay.

Faith has established herself internationally, exhibiting her work in galleries and participating in projects across the globe. Despite this she remains rooted in South Africa, where the soil is red and her blood feels comfortably and peacefully on edge.



supported by



ON.THE.RUN.DE



FROM HERE TO FAME  
PUBLISHING

www.fromheretofame.com

ISBN 978-3-037946-09-2



9 783937 946092



ARTIST

ON THE RUN





above: 'power to the people' / 2006 / Photo by Rowan Pybus

page 26: 'there shall be work and security' / 2010 / Photo by Rowan Pybus

left page: 'the freedom charter' / 2009

page 27: 'a fair exchange is not blind' / Stellenbosch / 2010 / Photo by Testity Films



Above: 'cape town loves graffiti' / 2007  
right page: 'all shall be equal before the law'  
2010 / Photo by Rowan Fyous



## CAPE TOWN LOVES GRAFFITI

**THE CITY** of Cape Town has introduced cumbersome permit systems and strong laws against graffiti, alienating young artists who in turn move away from doing 'legal' walls and only bomb. The laws are in line with the city's 'anti nuisance' by-

laws—which outlaw begging, skateboarding, the climbing of trees, hawking—and are basically an attempt to whitewash the city and portray the idea of a 'perfect' system, when in fact the real issues are being swept under the carpet.



*Innocent' / Mulzenburg / 2010 / Photo by Rowan Pybus*



*right page: 'land and liberty' / 2010 / Photo by Alexis Webster*



The People Shall Share in The Country's Wealth



*'similar to a butterfly, if you pin me down i die' / 2010*



## REST, LEISURE AND RECREATION

**JOHANNESBURG'S** inner city is nostalgic, gritted in memories. Empty high rise buildings speak silently of long nights in insecurity. The red ants have made their mark, leaving only overcrowded, scribbled poems on burnt bedroom walls. Allowing for surreal and smoky parties in the bottom floors of abandoned hotels with my good friends Dominique, Masilo and Mellissa. Best early hours jumping into cold swimming pools under moonlight. We drove a taxi into a ditch. Argued with taxi bosses in police stations. Slept in Soweto listening to tales of how it was to live there years ago from Mxoli's father. Painted a 6-story building in two days. Walked the mass of Chinese stores on Market Street. Climbed a 16-story empty building to reach the sunrise, and painted under a bridge in Newtown—a cathedral of a home to about 60 of Joburg's lost people, bedroom to the lowest economic spectrum of our society. Now I've painted many areas that have left me startled but this place is just too much. Joburg beer absorbed into the veins of the downtrodden children growing up with a reality so twisted... My heart was so heavy from the energy there. As we are leaving, a guy with blood coming from his mouth is running from three men screaming. They trip him down, kicking him, dragging him by his arm and leg up the gravel road... Some kind of pole for hitting... My mind goes quiet with noise. Today the lighting and thunder broke my heart by opening it up. There is no other city that speaks to me in this way. Return home to Cape Town, city of segregation and sea with a hundred ideas and images beneath my skin... Beautiful.

*'rest leisure and recreation shall be the right of all' / Newtown / 2010 / Photo by Roman Pybus*



light is recognizable only in comparison to shadow / Berlin, Germany / 2010

## LOSING VILLAGE, FINDING CITY

**THIRTY YEARS** ago, Shenzhen City was a fishing town with 30,000 people living in it. Today there are about 16 million people living there. This stark push from the village and pull toward the cities is intensified in China but it is a universal phenomenon. The water buffalo or the cow is a powerful image as it holds a lot of significance in different

cultures, symbolizing rural life, wealth, status, holiness. The man who is leading this water buffalo is on his cell phone, feeling very important and in control. Yet he is so small in comparison to the magnificence and emotional weight of the animal. A reminder that we little humans need only look around to acknowledge the real power and wealth of nature, the villages, the earth.

right: losing village, finding city / Shenzhen, China / 2010 / Photo by Minlu

