

Nokwanda Themba

Freelance Contemporary Illustrator, Visual Artist

E-mail: nylamexico@gmail.com

Website: www.nylamexico.weebly.com

Currently based in Cape Town, South Africa

Years active: 2012 – Present

Instagram: [@nylamexico](https://www.instagram.com/nylamexico)

Behance: [@NokwandaThemba](https://www.behance.net/@NokwandaThemba)

Current Themes:

- } Visual Anthropology on Beauty, Social and Cultural Identity and the Representation of Women of Color from different global ethnicities

Mediums:

- } Water Color, Gouache, Tempera powder, Compressed Charcoal, Ink, Print-making, Acrylic

Education:

Bachelor of Science: Human Physiology
University Of Pretoria (2018)

Languages: English, Tswana, Korean (Beginner), German (Beginner)

Editorials:

- } Rebel Girls: 100 Real-Life Tales of Black Girl Magic (New York, USA, Sep, 2021)
- } Gumbo Media Magazine Issue 001: Black (Feb, 2020)
- } Napizum Magazine Issue 002
Sep 2017 (Washington, USA)
- } Napizum Magazine Issue 003
Dec 2017 (Washington, USA)
- } Dynamic Africa Blog - Copywriter and Creative arts contributor 2015-2016
- } POVO Journal 10th Anniversary Edition Issue 05
2014 (ZIM)
- } Elle Magazine South Africa - The Future Is Now: Emerging Artists
2018

Collaborations/Projects:

- } Spring Hike' by Dineo Dowd Childrens book illustration-2020
- } AWID Feminist Realities Workshop- Illustration collaboration
2019-Canada, India, South Africa
- } Hafu2Hafu social project (JPN)-2019
- } Maki & Mpho- [Hamba Collection](#) (USA/JPN)
Position: contributing designer-2015
- } Children's Book Illustration For Nani (SA)-
2019 (Commissioned work)

Podcasts:

Power FM 98.7 MHz Arts & Culture segment (ZA) 2017

Panel Discussions:

- } Young African Creative Conference (2017)
'The Future of the creative industry'

Exhibitions:

- } 'The Sovereign' solo exhibition
Alliance Francaise du Cap(SA)
Feb 2020
- } *A Cultural Exchange*
National Arts Festival(ZA)
Imiloa Collective & Slow Sunday
June, 2019
- } *1000 Drawings*
Johannesburg (ZA)
March, 2019
- } Cerebral Group Installation
Exhibition
Newtown (ZA)
Feb, 2019
- } Print Art
Group Exhibition
Trent Gallery (ZA)
2018
- } Rooftop Group Exhibition
SA Creative Network (ZA)
2016
- } ULTRACONTEMPORARY#EMERGENCYART #AFRICA
Copenhagen Ultracontemporary Biennale (CUB)
@MOAD - The Museum of African Design (ZA)
2015
- } Africa Day
Group Exhibition
University of Pretoria (ZA)
2014

Competitions:

- } Golden Baobab Illustration Prize for African children's Literature
(GH) 2014
- } A City Joburg-my-homeburg Illustration challenge (ZA) 2014
- } The Ink-Fish Print Studio T-shirt Design Competition #Top16
2014

Organizations/Databases:

- } Women Who Draw - open directory for female* illustrators (2017-present)
- } AWID- Association for Women's Right in Development member (2019-'')

Online Features & Interviews:

- } 2014
Accra dot Alt Radio - 'NOKWANDA THEMBA'S BENIGN SERIES IS
BLACK MAGIC' (GH)
- } 2015
SA CREATIVE NETWORK- 'VIBRANT SELF TAUGHT CREATIVE ARTIST-
NOKWANDA THEMBA'
- } 2016
Accra dot Alt Radio - ILLUSTRATING AFRICA: IN VIVID COLOR WITH
NOKWANDA THEMBA'
- } 2017
DESIGN INDABA - 'Playful and powerful illustrations by
Nokwanda Themba'
- } Bubblegumclub - 'Illustrator Nokwanda Themba creates
whimsical reflections of self and women of colour'
- } 2018
Between 10 and 5- Q&A 'Nokwanda Themba -
The medical student and illustrator carving a multi career'
- } 'Afriquette- Meet South Africa's Nokwanda Themba - the self-taught artist
celebrating the grace and strength of black women in her work'