

## The Claire & Edoardo Villa Will Trust has made its inaugural selection for the VILLA Extraordinary Award for Sculpture.

This generous award acknowledges exceptional achievement in the field of sculpture by a South African artist; and empowers the continuing practice of the recipient through an agreed program.

The first recipient of the award is Nicholas Hlobo.

Born in Cape Town in 1975, Hlobo lives and works in Johannesburg. His solo exhibitions include Lehmann Maupin, New York, Museum Beelden ann Zee, the Hague and Level 2, Tate Modern, London. His upcoming solo show at Stevenson Cape Town opens in November 2016.

His work has featured extensively at the Venice Biennale, the Centre Pompidou, Tate Modern, the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and other leading venues, worldwide.

Nicholas was previously the Tollman Award winner, the Standard Bank Young Artist for Visual Art and the Rolex Visual Arts Protégé, working with Anish Kapoor as his mentor.

The Claire and Edoardo Villa Will Trust fulfills the artist's legacy to perpetuate and enhance his name and reputation and to support deserving South African artists, in particular sculptors

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