

2018 Creative Works Award
Citation for *Satellite Cities* (Solo Exhibition)
Associate Professor Svea Josephy

Svea Josephy is awarded the Creative Works Award in 2018 for her solo exhibition, *Satellite Cities*. *Satellite Cities* was held at the Wits Art Museum, Johannesburg, 19 January – 6 March 2016 and co hosted by the WITS City Institute.

Satellite Cities was a curated exhibition including an impressive body of photographs accompanied by text panels and a catalogue. The exhibition arises from a substantial research project over a number of years. Josephy investigated parallels in the naming of 'twin towns' in South Africa and other parts of the world – for instance Delft in Cape Town and Delft in The Netherlands. Initially focused on a colonial past, these photographs have more recently connected different locations, in South Africa and abroad, as sites of struggle, and of war, liberation and reconstruction, for example Kosovo in Eastern Europe and Kosovo in the Western Cape. In *Satellite Cities* Josephy presents large colour photographs that explore what these connections mean to the people in the places that adopted these names. The photographs are often displayed as diptychs to draw out parallels, similarities and differences between events taking place in the war zones and similar conditions in life circumstances, facilities and infrastructure in the places in South Africa at the time.

In *Satellite Cities*, Svea Josephy has developed a body of original creative work, which demonstrates a distinctive contribution to the field of visual art production. This exhibition engages with contemporary art, producing artifactual research, which connects the construction of land, place and identity and what these might mean, particularly in relation to lens based practice in contemporary South African art. The exhibition generated critical and peer review, media interest, excellent visitor attendance from educational institutions and the general public, several walkabouts, two public workshops, an academic seminar and peer reviewed journal article. In working closely with the WITS City Institute, a research centre for Critical Urbanisms, the exhibition occupied an interdisciplinary space - both within the academic arena and in the area of engaged scholarship.