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Artist Thokozani Mthiyani.

Art with heart in Melrose

Smile Foundation, in collaboration with August House and upstART Galleries, hosted *Colours of Compassion*, an art auction earlier last month at Melrose Arch.

The evening brought together more than 34 South African artists who donated works in support of Smile Foundation's work with children requiring reconstructive surgery and burns treatment. Artists featured in the auction included William Kentridge, Diane Victor, Usha Seejarim, Percy Maimela, and Melissa Haiden.

The works explored themes of identity, healing, belonging, and the human experience, deeply personal stories that connect closely with the journeys of the children and families supported through Smile Foundation.

Funds raised from the auction will help support reconstructive surgery, burn treatments, and psychosocial support for children across the country.

"Every artwork in this exhibition carries something personal," said Tarri Parfitt, CEO of Smile Foundation. "What makes this evening so special is that the artists are using their talent to help give children access to treatment, confidence, and a better future."

More than just an auction, *Colours of Compassion* aimed to create a space where art and purpose came together in a meaningful way.

Mother of Smile Foundation beneficiary Tebogo Motukisi.

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