



photos from session 7

BITS OF MEMORY (FROM BIRUNGI):
How many times a day do I flinch?

Why do I want them to look at me?

When must I come inside to stay safe?

When did I realise I was raped?

How can I trust another in my bed?

Why did I "let" it happen?

Why is it so easy to disassociate?

How do we keep from screaming?

How can we start to reclaim our humanity, today?

BITS OF MEMORY (ENTRY FROM STACEY)

I can not speak for anyone going through pain, nor will I assume to understand what they might have gone through in that moment, what thoughts ran through their minds within the split seconds of 'that' lonely, scary and helpless encounter. I can only imagine how healing must feel like for them if they managed to make it alive and what pain those closest to them feel.

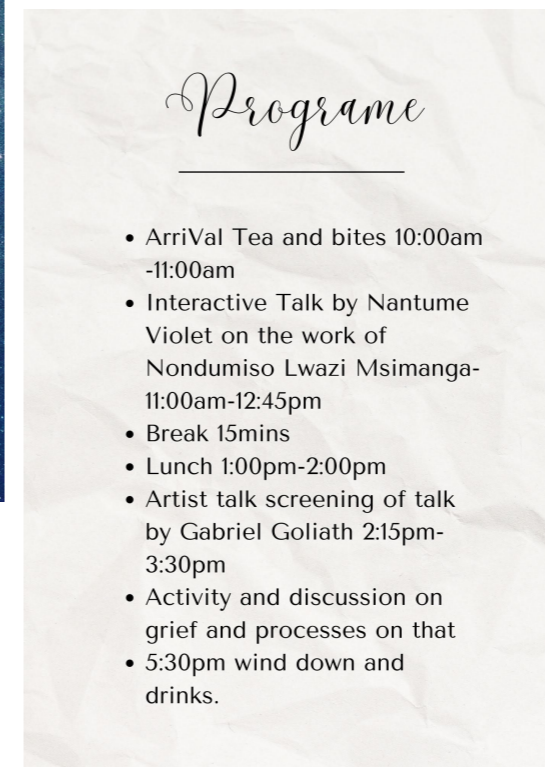
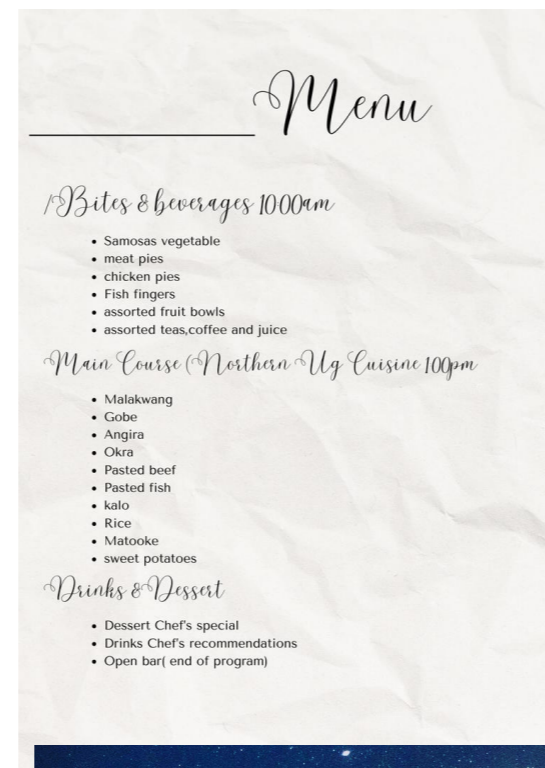
So I leave you with these quotes.

"I can be changed by what happens to me, but I refuse to be reduced by it." — Maya Angelou

"Today in science class, I learned every cell in our entire body is replaced every seven years. How lovely it is to know one day I will have a body you will never have touched." — L.M.

"Our job is not to deny the story, but to defy the ending — to rise strong, recognize our story, and rumble with the truth until we get to a place where we think, 'Yes. This is what happened. This is my truth. And I will choose how this story ends.'" — Brené Brown, "Rising Strong"

But no matter how much evil I see, I think it's important for everyone to understand that there is much more light than darkness." — Robert Utaro



TEXT EXTRACTED FROM LINK SHARED BELOW.

EXHIBITION: THE NORMAL at Talbot Rice Gallery 2021.

Gabrielle Goliath's 'This song is for...' presents an opportunity for participants to reflect on the de-subjectifying violence of rape, whilst foregrounding personal and political claims to life, dignity, hope, faith, even joy. This talk provides an opportunity to hear Goliath reflect on the development of this work – which is at the heart of 'The Normal' – and her broader artistic practice. Speaking with, alongside and from the work, she will reflect on two key concepts, or sites of encounter: the scratch and the rhapsodic. From these sites, and in broaching the incommensurate experience and afterlives of rape, she will reflect on the limits (or failure) of representation in relation to traumatised black, brown, femme and queer bodies; the politics of difference and bearing that mark our relation to the suffering of others; and the possibility of convening alternative and potentially transformative aesthetic encounters. In the words of her recent interview with The Guardian, this engagement will ask those present to respond, personally and self-reflexively, to "a history that commodifies bodies and continues to render many individuals still precarious today – and that demands an accounting of racial slavery, colonialism and apartheid, and the ways in which bodies continue, even now, to be differentially valued."



TESI'S FIRE .pdf
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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CDU4L8l>

[Gabrielle Goliath | Artist Talk](#)

<https://www.gabrielleqoliath.com/>

[Gabrielle Goliath](#)

Gabrielle Goliath is a South African-based artist who situates her performance and multimedia-based practice within contexts marked by racialised, sexualised and gendered violence.

artist's website and other works