Artists ‘Gift of Water’ during drought

As Cape Town remains drought-stricken and water consumption levels continue to rise to dangerous levels, artists SaySayLove’s latest photo exhibition ‘Chapter Two: The Gift of Water’ comes at no better time.

This exhibition, which opens 28 December and runs until 13 January, is inspired by the visual artist’s world around him, particularly the global source of life; water. The photographs that form part of the exhibition were taken mainly in Cape Town. Hopefully, these powerful images will make viewers think twice about their water usage.

All photos were taken by SaySayLove himself, who is visually impaired. He was born with an optical handicap — a condition that prevents him from seeing in 3D. He is also blind mostly in his right eye. However, his disability enabled him to focus on different depths and perceptions, and to portray how he experiences the world around him.

Viewing the striking images, one would never guess that they were simply captured on the artist’s iPhone. According to SaySayLove, the limitation of the smartphone allows the beauty of the subject to speak for itself. Any editing of the photos is also done on his phone, but even this he does sparingly. “I may just add some lipstick,” he says, meaning that he does not tamper with the image too much.

Before turning to art, SaySayLove was an entrepreneur. At the age of 50, however, he decided to retire from his day job and dedicate his time to art and photography. He is described as “a vibrant and enigmatic gentleman with eclectic tastes that make him stand apart from the crowd. In his presence, you experience his energy, love, and passion for life, which transcends into his photographs.”

This is SaySayLove’s second exhibition. “Chapter Two” will be presented at the AVA Gallery in Cape Town and will also feature in 2018’s initial First Thursday’s event.

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