

Zandberg JANSEN - art critic, publisher, gallery director, rugby commentator

(†18th September, 2006)



Two press photos from 1958 – Cecil Skotnes and Edi Caveng/Egon Guenther Gallery archives





Zandberg Jansen – deaf Rugby commentator – 1988

'Nag, ou grote...'

Posted on 21 September 2006 - 14:12

Zandberg Jansen, the forthright and often controversial rugby critic, has died in Pretoria at the age of 80.

Jansen, although he was deaf, attracted a great following as a radio and television commentator on rugby who pulled no punches.

His comments were often scathing but his fans loved his outspokenness.

Zandberg's trademark was to end all his programmes with the greeting, "nag, ou grote" (good night, big guy) – apparently referring to the former Springbok and Eastern Province prop Frans 'Domkrag' Erasmus.

According to Beeld newspaper, Jansen passed away in the Pretoria Academic hospital on Monday after being taken up suffering from heart, lung and kidney problems.

He had become ill in Bronkhorstspuit and had been transferred to the Pretoria hospital at the weekend.

Zandberg did not marry and is survived by two stepchildren. Funeral arrangements are not yet available.

Downloaded from superrugby.co.za on 1st November, 2006

Zandberg Jansen lived most of his life at Roosweg 8, ZA-1401 Dawn View / Germiston; from 2003 he lived in Wellington in the Cape.

The classic 80's rugby show in South Africa featured the deaf commentator Zandberg Jansen. With his forthright views on the game and the players of the time, he was always entertaining to watch. His catchphrase was 'Nag, Ou Grote' - a greeting to his friend Frans 'Domkrag' Erasmus.

Zandberg Jansen was on the Editorial Board of "Fontein", together with Charles Eglinton, Donald Turgel ("Fontein – a quarterly devoted to Art in Southern Africa") (published by Sable Publishers, Fondrie / Germiston) 1960

See https://art-archives-southafrica.com/lib/cceaba/FONTEIN_Quarterly_1960_3issues-jvo69frd.pdf

Zandberg Jansen was one of the judges in "The Gallery 101 – U.A.T. 1963 Competition

We are very grateful to Mr. A. M. van Schoor for consenting to open the exhibition; also to the Judging Panel which included Prof. M. Bokhorst, Cape Town; Mrs. Esmé Be-man, Johannesburg; Mr. Monty Sack, Johannesburg; The Hon. Justice V. G. Hiemstra, Pretoria; and Mr. Zandberg Jansen, Germiston.

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Zandberg Jansen – "The Gallery", Johannesburg 1968 to 1969

As from 18.02.1968, the Adler Fielding Galleries was carried on under a new management, including Herbert Prins, **Zandberg Jansen**, Ken Arber and Diana Norwood Young. It was named "**The Gallery**" for short. However, this venture did not last long; the gallery's assets were disposed of by public auction end of August, 1969.

See: http://www.pelmama.org/Johannesburg_artscene_AdlerFieldingGalleries.htm

Zandberg Jansen curated the exhibition "Art Labantu" (Zulu, Kavango, Vambo, Shangaan, Venda, Tswana, Pondo, Swazi, Bushman) shown at Gallery 101, Hollard Street, Johannesburg, from 8th March, 1972 - See:

http://www.pelmama.org/Johannesburg_artscene_Gallery101_masterlistings.htm

In 1969 to 1974 **Zandberg Jansen** assisted the Bantu Investment Corp. of SA Ltd to acquire and exhibit beadwork, wood carving and pottery mostly from the Venda, Zululand and the Transkei regions...

https://repository.up.ac.za/bitstream/handle/2263/65309/DeKamper_Taking_2018.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

Zandberg Jansen was a well-known art critic for Afrikaans newspapers, such as “SA Stem” and publisher of “Water of Mispah” by Dot Serfontein IN 1964 (<https://www.litnet.co.za/dot-serfontein-1925/>)

Zandberg Jansen commissioned a door from Lucas Sithole for his home in Dawnview, Germiston - see http://www.sithole.com/Sithole_Mini_Master_Registry-other_media_lb..htm

On 8th August, 1958, **Zandberg Jansen** opened an exhibition of woodcuts by Cecil Skotnes at Egon Guenther Gallery, Connaught Mans., Johannesburg (see: <https://art-archives-southafrica.com/egon-guenther-gallery-mannheim-johannesburg>)

Gallery 101 got its name at the suggestion of **Zandberg Jansen** over a cup of coffee at the Chesa Coffee Bar, Johannesburg, as “101” sounded better than “103” which was the number of the second room to be occupied by the Gallery on the first floor of Rand Central, a building just completed and owned by Cyril Hofman. Next door to the Gallery’s premises was the Head Office of the Progressive Party with constant to and fro by all PP leaders. Zandberg Jansen promised that he would get Adolph Jentsch for the opening exhibition, but somehow this did not materialise.

See: http://www.pelmama.org/Johannesburg_artscene_Gallery101_history.htm and

http://www.pelmama.org/images/Chesa_RandCentral_1967.jpg

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