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## Center for Historical Reenactments

Website under construction  
h.reenactments@gmail.com

**Address**  
32 August House  
76-82 End Street  
Doornfontein  
2028, Johannesburg  
South Africa

**Mailing Address**  
P.O. Box 16877  
Doornfontein, 2028  
South Africa

**Public Hours**  
Wednesday–Friday: 11 am–4:30 pm  
Tuesday and Saturday–Sunday: By appointment only, except during events

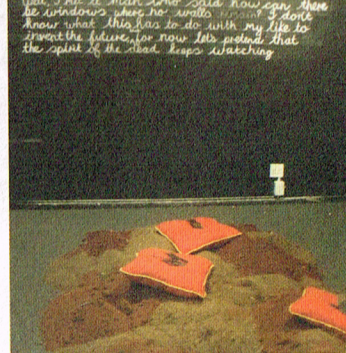
**Office Hours**  
Tuesday–Friday: 10 am–4:30 pm (flexible)

**Founding Year**  
2010

**Number of Staff**  
Paid: 1  
Unpaid (including interns/volunteers): 3

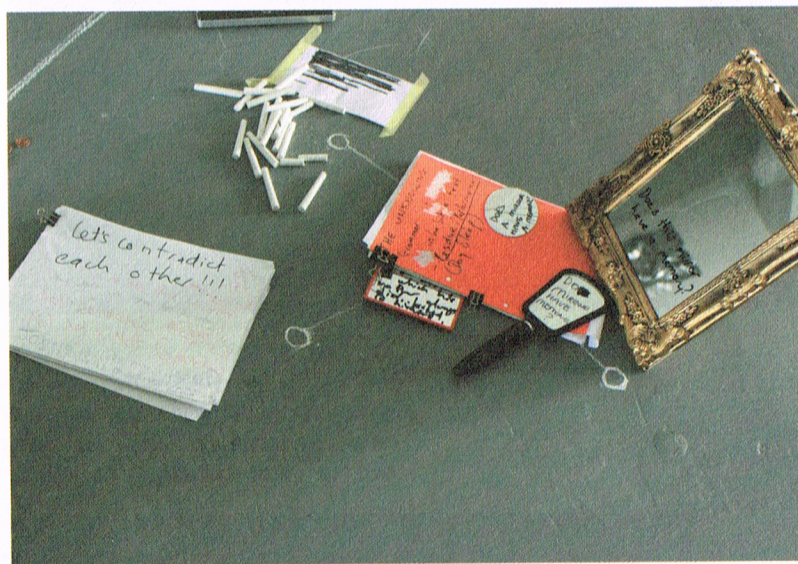
**Funding Sources**  
Foundations, Individuals

**Activities**  
Archives, Publications, Public programs (lectures, performances, screenings, etc.), Workshops, Other: Research



The Center for Historical Reenactment (CHR) is a Johannesburg-based independent platform founded in 2010. CHR looks at history to investigate how, within a particular historical hegemony, certain values have been created and promoted into a broader universal discourse. No doubt, historical constructions play essential, almost central roles in the formation of this system and what is often taken for granted as a given. Therefore, within the scope of emancipatory artistic productions, historical reenactments can and do play a significant role.

CHR is a platform in which artistic productions become central in helping to deconstruct particular readings of history and how historical context informs artistic creation—both of which become central questions of how art can help us reinterpret history and its contextual implications, and how can it add and suggest different historical readings and help in the formation of new subjectivities.



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### "PASS-AGES: References & Footnotes" 2010

"PASS-AGES: References & Footnotes" was CHR's inaugural exhibition that took place at the historical site of the Pass Office, where the most basic work of the apartheid state was accomplished: the control of black bodies across the South African landscape. The project pulled together ideas that have helped shape practices of contemporary artists from South Africa, alongside ideas that have and continue to shape history and our memories of it. Contributors included artists, writers and a designer.

### A Re-enactment of a Rehearsal—Echoes of Our Footsteps 2010

CHR hosted a performance by Kemang Wa Lehulere, titled A Re-enactment of a Rehearsal—Echoes of Our Footsteps, and a talk by Eungie Joo, Director and Curator of Education and Public Programs at the New Museum, New York.

### "Xenoglossia" 2010–11

CHR launched "Xenoglossia," a six-month research project that looked at historical misunderstandings that happen through language. It featured performances, screenings, panel discussions and a commissioned public artwork.

01 Kemang Wa Lehulere, Remembering the Future of a Hole as a Verb, 2010. Chalk on wall. Installation view at Center for Historical Reenactments, Johannesburg. Courtesy the artist

02 Nothando Mkhize, project proposal for the window of the Center for Historical Reenactments, Johannesburg, as part of the research project "Xenoglossia," 2011. Courtesy Center for Historical Reenactments

03 Donna Kukama and Kemang Wa Lehulere, An Unknowing Grammar of Inhabiting a Text, 2010. View of a performance at the Center for Historical Reenactments, Johannesburg, as part of the research project "Xenoglossia," 2010. Courtesy Center for Historical Reenactments

04 Hlonipha Mokoena in conversation with Khwezi Gule at the book launch of Magema Fuze: The Making of a Kholwa Intellectual, as part of the research project "Xenoglossia," at the Center for Historical Reenactments, Johannesburg, 2011. Courtesy Center for Historical Reenactments