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Tel: 011 862 8500 Fax: 011 869 7335

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SAX IN CINCINNATI

LOCAL MUSIC TEACHER IMPRESSES IN THE US



Tenor saxophonist Sebenzile Langa was recently invited by the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, a museum in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio, to perform in the FotoFocus Biennial 2016 event.

The FotoFocus Biennial is a regional, month-long celebration of photography and lens-based art held throughout Cincinnati and the surrounding region, featuring various museums, galleries, academic institutions, and community organisations.

Langa was invited to collaborate with South African artist Zanele Muholi in her visual art exhibition titled *Zanele Muholi: Personae*.

Zanele Muholi: Personae explores identity in two distinct bodies of work: *Faces and Phases* and *Somnyama Ngonyama*.

The *Faces and Phases* series comprises more than 300 images, documenting the lives of black South African women who identify as lesbians.

Somnyama Ngonyama is a series of self-portraits which explores various historical stereotypes, suggested through pose, costume, and gesture.

For both series, Langa used music to interpret the work by playing the tenor saxophone.

Langa is a music teacher at Mondeor Primary School and the Johannesburg Youth Orchestra Company. She is also the founder of the Ongamele Music Project which provides music lessons to kids from previously disadvantaged backgrounds. She often works in orphanage homes.

E: Tenor saxophonist Sebenzile Langa performing at the FotoFocus Biennial 2016 event in Cincinnati, Ohio