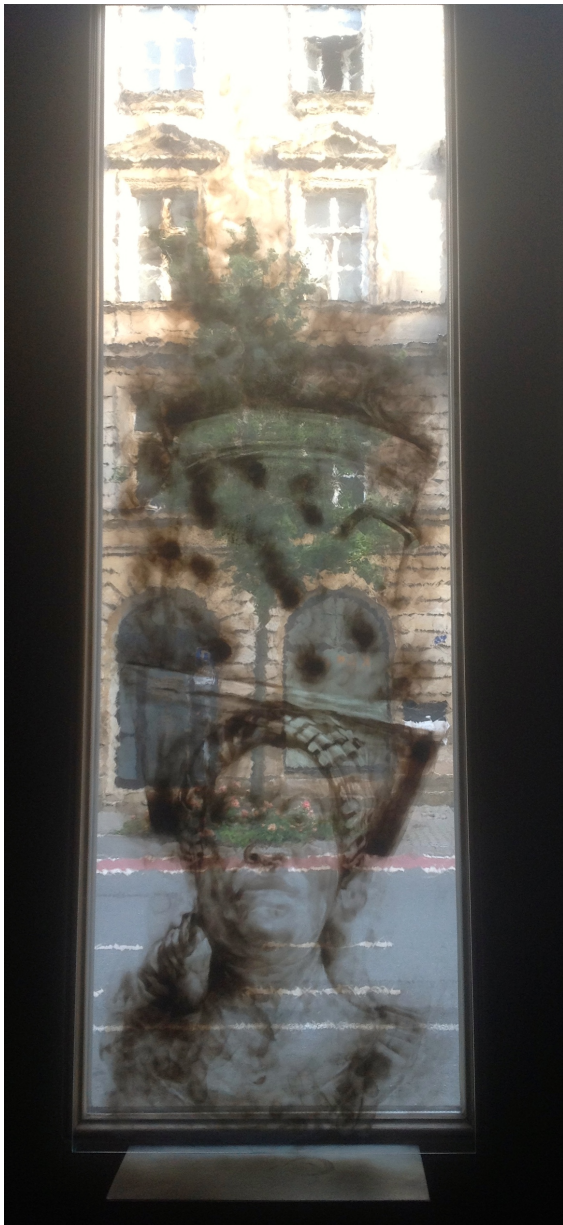


## COFA 2: DIANE VICTOR



**Title:** The Fire Bringer

**Medium:** Smoke on glass installed into entrance door at Iwalawahuis, Bayreuth.

**Dimensions:** 70 cm [w] x 160 cm [h] glass panel only

**Venue;** Installation in the entrance door of Iwalawahuis in Bayreuth Germany July 2016

**Annotation:** As part of a residency to which I was invited at Iwalawahuis in Bayreuth Germany I proposed and produced an intervention in the form of a drawing in smoke on glass which was fitted into the entrance door of the institute. The drawing – **the Fire bringer** was of the head of a woman carrying a drum filled with fire and billowing smoke. Used as a portable and makeshift cooking fire this moving cooking stove carried on the

head is a not uncommon image in inner city Johannesburg. Iwalawahuis is an institute affiliated to Bayreuth University with a focus on the research, documentation, and teaching of recent African cultural studies. It houses an important archive, hosts exhibitions, funds research groups and provides residencies for artists from Africa and its diaspora. While on this residency I worked with a number of their students, made a presentation on my work practice and had discussions on contemporary drawing practice in South Africa. Smoke on glass is rather ephemeral medium creating a ghost image that slips itself into the world and its always seen through it and in relation to its surroundings. By selecting to work with the image of a black working woman carrying a drum of smoking ashes and fire with which she will cook her food to sell to the public I attempted to bring a ghost of this street presence in to pristine and sanitised world of Bayreuth. She was installed in an entrance door opening to the street at the perceived eye level of a figure looking inward through the glass and meeting the spectator face to face as they push again the door to exit the building. The smoke drawing was installed against the existing window glass with a small gap between the two sheets of glass [ somewhat like double glazing] thus becoming a fixture in the door and protecting the smoke work by facing inward. The gift of new of ideas and innovations is associated with Prometheus the fire bringer of Greek mythology. Yet the woman here remains outside the door, only allowed to look in through the glass - perhaps some migrant diaspora kept out and seen only by those passing through the portal. Potential of new Ideas and cultural practices waiting on the threshold.



looking through her .





Bitte Tür fest ran ziehen  
zum richtigen Schließen

Please pull the door hard  
for correct closing.

