



South African National Society

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PROGRAM FOR APRIL 2021

MEETING DATE: SATURDAY 24 APRIL 2021

VENUE: Courtyard of KwaMuhle Museum, Bram Fischer Road [Ordnance Road]

TIME: Registration 9.30 am

PARKING: Off Bram Fischer/Ordnance Road [next to the Museum]

COST Members: R20.00 Visitors: R40.00

TITLE OF TALK: From "Clothing fashion" to "sartorial disruption", 1975-2020: A brief survey of recent research in textile and costume history in South Africa

SPEAKER: **Steven Kotze : Curator Durban Local History Museum Services**

When Daphne Strutt published her illustrated history "Clothing fashions in South Africa" in 1975, she used a very narrow definition of how historical clothing was seen at the time. In the decades which have passed, but in particular since the turn of the 21st century, new scholarship on textiles has critically explored the tension between ethnographic collections ("dress") and costume collections ("fashion") in South African museums. Writers such as Juliette Leeb-du Toit, Erica de Greef and Vibeke Viestad have examined diverse elements of these collections including *isishweshwe*, nineteenth-century trousers in the Iziko Museums, and articles of San attire, among others. These new approaches to costume history have been described by one author as "sartorial disruption", which is a useful description. This talk will give an overview of recent research that has advanced the pioneering work done by the former Curator of the Durban Local History Museum.

Join us for tea coffee and cake at the conclusion of the talk

The Daphne Strutt Award for 2021 will be presented at this meeting

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