

Antenie Carstens was born in Groot Drakenstein, Western Cape, in 1953. He attended Pierre Simond primary school in Simondium. High school education was at Paarl Boy's High. His interest in photography started in 1968 when he was given a small Agfa Rapid 100 camera and during the same year a photographic club was started at school by his science teacher Mr Jimmy de Jongh.

After high school in 1971, he started as an apprentice at the former Nasionale Handels Drukkery in Cape Town who was responsible for printing weekly magazines like Sarie, Landbouweekblad and Huisgenoot. Unfortunately he was not given the exposure to the direct side of photography and decided to resign to take up a technical assistant post at the former Department of Agricultural Technical Services on a research farm Bien Donne, close to Groot Drakenstein. Just before he left for military training in June 1972, he was transferred to a different section of the Department namely the Fruit and Fruit Technology Research Institute at Stellenbosch.

During his military training he was elected for the South African Air Force as well as the photographic training course. On completion of his military training at Langebaan Air Force Base, Flight Training school, he continued in his position at the Fruit and Fruit Technology Research Institute with main tasks being technical, scientific and research photography.

In 1980 he joined the Bureau for University and Continuing Education as photographer in the Audiovisual section, later becoming head of the section until 1998.

For a period of 11 years he specialised in aerial survey photography.

The move to digital photography raised many questions about data longevity and preservation and he decided to start doing research in this field. This research led to a Magister Technologiae: Informatics and Design (Photography) at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology in 2014.

In 2008 he was appointed as head of the Reprographic and Digital Services Section at the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town campus. This appointment opened the doors to continue and finish the research on his chosen topic which is relevant to his work environment.

In his private time he likes to spend time on abstract and conceptual photography. He is a Fellow of the Photographic Society of South Africa and has been an Associate of the Royal Photographic Society since 1980.

Photographic experience includes the following:

- > Photographic interest starts in 1968.
- > Join Paarl Photographic Society in 1968.
- > Join PSSA in 1970.
- > Professional career in photography started 1972.
- > Professional photographer for the Department of Agriculture Technical Services from 1972 to 1980.
- > National Service as photographer in the Air Force June 1972 to July 1973.
- > Join Helderberg Photographic Society in 1973 and still active, currently serving on the committee.
- > Join Cape Town Photographic Society in 1990 and still active.
- > Professional photographer and head of photographic department of the Media Centre of the University of Stellenbosch from 1980 to 1998.
- > Currently Head of Reprographic and Digital Service Section of the National Library of South Africa, Cape Town campus. (2008- )

Achievements in photography.

Academic:

- > National Higher Diploma Photography.
- > Magister Technologiae: Informatics and Design (Photography)

#### Photographic Society of South Africa awards

- > Associateship (Monochrome) in 1979.
- > Associateships: Documentary and Literary
- > Associateship: Audio Visual
- > Associateship: Visual Art
- > Associateship: Service
- > Fellowship: Audio Visual
- > Fellowship: Applied
- > Fellowship: Three categories
- > PSSA service medal (2006 & 2013)
- > PSSA Presidents award.
- > PSSA Director 1992- 2005

#### Royal Photographic Society:

- > Associateship awarded in 1980.

#### Judging.

- > Invited as judge for various National and International salons. Most recent judging: Tafelberg Afrikaanse Fotografieklub (May 2016).
- > Active in club judging and regular participation in the PSSA JAP program.
- > Co-organiser of the Western Cape Judging Forum.

#### Current interest.

Club photography which includes abstract, landscape, portraits and conceptual photography.

Digital preservation issues with file formats, scanning procedures, standards, workflow and policies for professional collection institutions in South Africa.

I strive to work for PSSA in a manner that will improve the standard of photography and efficiency of the society. I firmly believe that teamwork within the society is the only way to success.

30 May 2016