South Africa has the biggest HIV epidemic in the world, with 7.1 million people living with the disease – that’s almost 20% of its population. Anti-Retroviral Treatment (ART) has turned HIV from a death sentence into a chronic medical condition, allowing people who are HIV positive to live longer and healthier lives. ART also plays a major role in halting the spread of the virus. Early detection of HIV in pregnant women, combined with adherence to ART, can prevent transmission of HIV to new-born babies.

A world-first ART hospital programme for children

One to One Children’s Fund has been a leader in expanding access to ART treatment for children, young people and mothers in Africa for over 15 years. In 2002, in the five-year period of ‘AIDS denial’ under President Mbeki, who opposed the scientific consensus that HIV does cause AIDS, One to One Children’s Fund funded the world’s first hospital programme to provide HIV positive babies and children with ART. By 2004, the lives saved convinced the Western Cape Government to provide free ART for all children living with HIV. This hugely significant step served as a beacon for the rest of the country to follow.

Eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV through ART

We continue to be innovators, promoting best practice models to scale up ART access for babies, children and their families across the continent. Our Peer Support initiatives harness the experience of living with HIV of young people and women. They are trained and equipped to become role models in their community; identifying the most vulnerable cases and providing first line health care directly in their homes, counselling and supporting patients in the management of their treatment, and reducing the stigma associated with HIV and AIDS. As a result of delivering ART as part of a continuum of community care, we have virtually eliminated transmission of HIV from mother to child in areas of the Eastern Cape where 25% of pregnant mothers-to-be are HIV positive.

In 2013, One to One launched its Art for ART project with a series of exclusive creative events. These have been designed to generate support and visibility for our work in increasing access to ART and eliminating HIV. Art for ART has given our supporters unique access and insight through private tours of the Deutsche Bank and UBS Art Collections, private views at Bonham’s Auction House and a major London gallery, and curated visits to The Chagall windows at All Saints’ Church, Tudeley.

We are now expanding this project by bringing our vision of Art for ART to South Africa. We aim to engage our network of supporters and art patrons in a dialogue with the South African contemporary art scene and with its communities. Very much influenced and shaped by the environment in which it is produced, the contemporary art scene has gained considerable momentum and international standing in recent years. We will be exploring this burgeoning scene as well as examining the social context from which the themes and trends evolve. We will seek to understand how the arts can affect and how art patronage can benefit local communities in their quest to eradicate HIV.

The South African artistic community has a history of using its talent to engage with the social issues that confront them on a daily basis and bring to the attention of the wider world the struggles faced by so many of the population – not least HIV.

It seemed appropriate and the timing right to bring together our Art for ART group with the rising talent of the contemporary art scene and generate awareness and access to art of a different kind and so help save children’s lives.
The 2020 Art for Art South Africa Tour

March 2021

The contemporary South African art scene has never been more exciting than it is right now. With highly regarded exhibitions and major shows bringing international attention, the African art scene is set to take over Asia’s place in the contemporary art spotlight.

This exciting and expansive tour will focus on the diffuse arts ecology of South Africa, meeting and hearing from a series of leading artists, gallery and museum directors, patrons and educators. Artists you will have the opportunity to engage with include Zanele Muholi, Igshaan Adams, Nicholas Hlobo, Haroon Gunn-Salie, Jared Ginsburg, William Kentridge, and Mary Sibande. We will learn from their insights on the current role of art in society and examine its potential within our ART vision.

The 7 day tour will be led by Josh Ginsberg, Director of the A4 Arts Foundation in Cape Town which he co-founded with Collector and current Guggenheim President, Wendy Fisher. Josh will take us to rarely accessible artists’ studios and collectors’ homes as well as the wonderful museums and vibrant gallery scenes in Johannesburg and Cape Town. To complete an Art for ART experience of a lifetime you will meet the amazing people who are helping to eradicate HIV and its effects from South Africa.

For further information or to reserve your place, please contact Natalie Hacker by calling 020 7317 7040 or email artforart@onetoonechildrensfund.org

*Subject to their availability in March 2021

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The cost of the Tour includes:

- 7-day tour, internal flight, all lunches and 5 dinners – £2,250
- Charitable contribution to ART support projects – £2,500

It excludes:

- International flights and hotels (special charity rates have been negotiated at The Saxon in Johannesburg and The Mount Nelson in Cape Town).

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Nicholas Hlobo, Thobor, UmXebe, 2008
© Nicholas Hlobo, courtesy of the artist and Blank Projects. Photo: John Kieffer

© Moshewa Langa, courtesy of the artist and Stevenson Gallery

Mikhael Subotzky, Exercise Yard (2), Pollsmoor Maximum Security Prison, 2004
© Mikhael Subotzky, courtesy of the artist and Goodman Gallery
In 2016, One to One received funding from UBS Optimus Foundation for a three-year pilot programme called ENABLE, aimed at reducing child mortality and morbidity amongst under-5s in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa – one of the poorest districts in one of the most under-served provinces in the country. We began recruiting local women (mostly HIV positive) as Mentor Mothers to bring integrated maternal and child health information and services directly into the homes of vulnerable children, pregnant women and their families.

The pilot has been hugely successful and we are now scaling up the programme, in partnership with the District Department of Health, to reach a much wider population. To date, our Mentor Mothers have supported more than 1,000 mothers-to-be, almost 30% of whom are HIV positive. They are closely monitored and, where appropriate, receive life-saving ART to avoid transmission of the HIV virus to their children. We are currently monitoring the health of more than 3,000 children and thousands more members of the community receive health and awareness-raising sessions. The stand-out achievement of the project has been a clear drop in infant mortality and an almost 0% mother-to-child transmission of HIV rate after more than 800 births. During the Art for ART Tour, participants will have the opportunity to meet some of our amazing Mentor Mothers.