Lapidary Practice:
The Twentieth Century’s First Death Camp, William Kentridge, and the World’s Last Northern White Rhinoceros Male

Brian Macaskill
John Carroll University

Friday, 26 April 2019
15:00 – 17:00
Dunton Tower 1811

Macaskill’s presentation circles and cycles around the insufficiently-known genocide committed against the Herero nation in German Southwest Africa, locus of the first death camp in twentieth-century history. It celebrates the artistic response to that disaster by internationally renowned South African artist William Kentridge, who memorializes the catastrophe in Black Box / Chambre Noire (2005), a beautifully and sympathetically nuanced multimedia reaction to genocidal atrocity.

Glimpsing rhinoceri now and then along its also intermedial trajectory (voice, image, music, text, genealogy too), the presentation pauses — with a sidewise glance at the Shoah — over some difficulties confronting memorial commemoration in lapidary practice.