

The Theme of 2011

The theme for any AfrikaBurn is intended as a point of possible connection, or inspiration, it's a conversational start point, a proposition for discussion, it's a post to rub up against, it's a platform to dream from....do with it what you like. There are no theme police*, so if your art or performance is not in line with the theme. Don't fret.

STOF - THE PRIMAL MUD

STOF Is the Afrikaans word for dust. The Germanic word for matter. matter and energy, is the building material of everything, plofstof are explosives, ignition dust - Tankwa is all about dust, stuff - materials - the stuff we work with stuff- materialism...we have too much stuff, too many belongings kool stoff is carbon, the base of all life the stuff in my head.....what to do with it! Stof is fabric, the fiber of our being Stof is felt, its drapery, It is to mold...to shape our own reality Stof is soil, clay, sand, the elemental silt Stof-sujer - domestic applications Dust to dust, substance, energy, particles, kick up dust.

For four years running we have headed into the desert with all manner of different intentions. A kind of alchemy happens, creating a moment where we are reminded of our primal state; joy, playfulness, imagination, survival, community, celebration, invention, exhaustion the real stuff. With this theme we invoke the primordial mud, archetypes, the base materials, which make us. Like the stof/dust that gets into every part of your car. camping gear and the inner most parts of your psyche Larry Harvey, when describing the first effigy (of a man and a dog) that he and Jerry James produced, in reflection said "what turned out to be most important...was that we happened to do it in a public space. It was done impetuously as a pure gesture. That was a part of the culture I had absorbed, the culture of the self-expressive gesture, this bohemian notion that you could manifest your spirit by acting on creative impulse and have the courage to do it in a public way. It was sort of spiritual extravagance"

What is inside? What is the stuff that you put inside this thing we do out there. What does that STOF do to you, where does it take you? Be reminded that you can make AfrikaBurn what you want it to be, make the world what you want it to be. Engage with the substance, what it is that you put inside that thing we call AfrikaBurn. Engage.



Not essential, but we highly reccomend you bring along:

- * A shade structure other than your tent, that you can share as communal space with your camp mates
- * Umbrellas
- * Parasols
- * A wide brim hat
- * Sun screen, lip balm
- * Sun glasses
- * A bicycle (mountain bikes or just any bikes with fat tyres are best) decorate your bike, make it an installation, light it up for night time cruising.
- * Tyre repair kit (these also make excellent gifts)
- * A portable shower
- * Earplugs, in case you want to sleep and the rest of those at AfrikaBurn don't.
- * Smokers please bring a portable ashtray, an old tin with a lid is good, anything that means you wont leave your cigarette butts on the ground is good.
- * Plastic bottles, old tennis balls or old doll heads, anything that is going to make your extruding tent pole friendlier to the wondering foot.
- * An extra set of car keys, just in case, keys are easy to lose on a camping trip and there are no locksmiths at AfrikaBurn (as far as we know)
- * Costumes, musical instruments, signs, body paint and anything else that might enrich and make your AfrikaBurn more fun for you and your neighbours.

Toilets

The toilets at AfrikaBurn are longdrops mostly with lovely views. Here are the rules. If it wasn't made by your body, don't put it in the loo. Use these facilities only for their intended purpose - not for dumping rubbish or your personal toilet bags. Putting anything but human waste and one-ply toilet paper (2-ply is a BIG no-no) into the portable toilets makes decomposition nearly impossible. This includes tampons, rubbish, and wet-wipes. Here it is again: NO TAMPONS, RUBBISH OR WET-WIPES in the toilets. Put the lid down when you're done - it helps keep odours under control. Do not dump grey water or bags from your personal camping toilet in the toilets: doing so will fill them up much faster than normal and result in nasty toilets for all. Clean toilets are a good thing from a public health standpoint.

Camping

Our village will be set out in a large half circle facing the open area that we are calling the binnekring. Camping at AfrikaBurn will be in demarcated areas, please do not set up camp in the open area meant for art. Open space is important. Other camping tips.

Cars

Our village is for pedestrians and bicycles only. No cars, motorbikes, scooters or golf carts are allowed to drive at AfrikaBurn after they have arrived and found a camping spot. The only vehicles allowed to drive at AfrikaBurn are art cars and emergency vehicles. **The speed limit is 10km/h.**

Commerce

AfrikaBurn is a non-commercial event, this means that there will be absolutely no vending at the event. The aim is to create a gift economy. Nothing will be for sale, with the exception of ice. The proceeds of which will go towards paying for infrastructure costs.

Fire at AfrikaBurn

You may have fires in your campsite at Afrika Burns for cooking. If cooking by fire is what you intend to do, please have a fire extinguisher visible near the fire at all times. Please note that is absolutely your responsibility and duty to keep it under control AND never leave it untended. This is a desert environment so wind picks up ... especially in the evenings....NEVER LEAVE A FIRE UNTENDED. Put it out completely before you leave your camp.