The House is Small but the Welcome is Big: Photos by African Women and Children Affected by AIDS

A Social Art Initiative of Venice Arts

A uniquely intimate glimpse into the lives of African women and children affected by HIV/AIDS, *The House is Small but the Welcome is Big* is a multiyear, participant-created documentary photo project exploring the intersection between significant public health issues and poverty.

The first phase of *The House is Small* was completed in Cape Town, South Africa in February 2006 with 15 women—mothers or moms-to-be—living with HIV/AIDS. The second phase of *The House is Small*, took place in Maputo, Mozambique in August 2007 with 18 children who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS and youth activists.

The images are visually compelling and powerful narratives of the participants’ resiliency, determination, hope, and joy. The project puts real faces and real stories to the global HIV crisis. Venice Arts hopes the project will educate, raise awareness, and enlarge the notion of what it means to be affected by HIV in Africa, by showing how African communities—particularly women and children—are finding ways to “live positively” despite a myriad of social, economic, and political challenges that affect their health and well-being.

For more information about the project and participants, please visit www.thehouseissmall.org and www.venice-arts.org.

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The House is Small
Funeka Nceke
My Neighbors
Irenio, age 18
Girl with a Baby
Irenio, age 18
Peeking Out
Phumza Brikwa
Kids in Their Hood

Funeka Nceke
Sentimental Photograph and Sadness 
at the Loss of One’s Parents

Antonio, age 15
Rosa
Amelia, age 15
My Memories
Joaquim, age 16
Antonio Thinking of His Parents
Damiao, age 16
Latifa’s Look
Nilsa, age 17
My Best Friend

Irenio, age 18
In the Cemetery
Irenio, age 18
Friend
Nwabisa Ndlokovane
At Pumla’s Grandma’s Grave
Danielle Gana