

BEACH CALLIGRAPHY

-an introduction to the tools and techniques of mark-making, pattern-making and calligraphy in sand

presented by Andrew van der Merwe

ABOUT

Beach calligraphy is an exciting new art form that uses the expanse of a beach as a canvas and some cool tools to make marks and cuts in the wet sand.

Developed by Andrew van der Merwe, a leading South African calligrapher and letter artist, it involves the use of simple tools which he designed for the purpose of doing calligraphy effectively in the sand. The tools also lend themselves very well to mark-making, pattern-making and drawing. In this workshop Andrew will share his tools and techniques.

You can see more of Andrew's work by Googling "beach calligraphy" There is a portfolio here: www.behance.net/beachscriber/frame and a wide variety of work in his Facebook albums: www.facebook.com/beachscriber. You are invited to send a friend request.

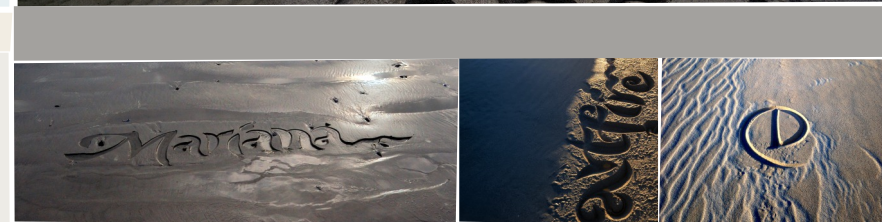
CONTENT

The morning session will begin with an introduction to the "Beach Wand" tool and a demonstration, followed by hands-on instruction in basic techniques. Some time will be given to using the tool for basic writing in the sand as well as the making of expressive marks. Even on their own, lines and marks can convey a surprising range of feeling. A simple but remarkably effective system for understanding expression with line will be taught. This will be followed by some free play and mark-making so you can get to know the tool.

In the last part of the session we will start **exploring the pattern-making, the calligraphic and drawing potential of the tool.**

The afternoon session will have the same structure, using a version of the "Beachscriber" tool. This is the tool which enables one to cut the sand out. It is a very different tool requiring different techniques.

For those who would like to attend a second day, if it is made available, a higher level of input will be provided and you will have time for some small projects.



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DATES & LOCATION

The workshop will be held on **Robberg beach** just South of the Beacon Isle Hotel in Plettenberg Bay on **Saturday the 17th from 6.45 to 9.45am** (the official unveiling of the biennale is at 10) **and 2.00 to 6pm**.

If this workshop fills up and there is enough interest, a second workshop will be offered on **Sunday the 18th** but with slightly different times.

Dates are not a straightforward affair because one needs to consider tides and allow for bad weather. Friday the 16th, and possibly the Sunday, are kept aside as bad weather fallback dates. Any decision in this regard will be made in consultation with those who have signed up, but for now, the workshop is set for the Saturday and we won't allow a little rain or drizzle (say, 5%) to hold us back. You'll see, it will be exhilarating regardless!

EQUIPMENT

Two different, handmade tools will be provided.

- a "Beach Wand" and a "Beachscriber". You get to keep them.
- You should bring a raincoat, and a sun hat, just in case!
- Bring a camera, if you can. Tips on photographing your work will be given.
- You'll also need to bring a bucket.

SUSTENANCE

If starting at sunrise is a scary thought, we'll sweeten the deal with **coffee and croissants, sparkling wine and OJ**. You'll see: the sky will be glorious, the light will be lovely and warm, and except for a little welk calligraphy, the beach will be a pure, untrodden canvas from the night's high tide.

The afternoon sessions will run through to sunset following the dropping tide, and end with **sundowners and cheese**.

COST

The workshop fee is **R550** or R900 if you attend the potential second day too. This includes the two tools and drinks and snacks mentioned above. The workshop is limited to **11 places** with 1 place available for a deserving student or emerging land artist.

On registration you will be awarded a **Site_Specific Land Art Passport**, which will give you access to significantly discounted accommodation and services in and around Plett for the duration of the land art biennale.

To register or just to express interest, email Andrew on:
beachcalligraphy@gmail.com

