

HEMELLIGGAAM or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW

An Art(-Meet-Science) Project by Tommaso Fiscaletti, & Nic Grobler

Lucia Marchetti, Mattia Vaccari, Michelle Cluver - UWC

@Luci_aMarchetti www.hemelliggaam.com #hemelliggaam



HEMELLIGGAAM or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW (CHAPTER ONE)

TOMMASO FISCALETTI AND NIC GROBLER

CURATED BY FILIPPO MAGGIA



'Then you look at Saturn with the nice rings around it,
it looks like a sombrero - it's just unbelievable.'

THURSDAY 8 MARCH 2018, 18:00 for 18:30

IZIKO SOUTH AFRICAN MUSEUM

25 QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, CAPE TOWN

9 MARCH 2018 ~ 22 APRIL 2018

DAILY 10:00 ~ 17:00



enel x



HEMELLIGGAAM

or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW – WHAT ?

- Hemelliggaam (Afrikaans: Heavenly Body) or The Attempt To Be Here Now is a growing fine art photography and video archive created by artists Tommaso Fiscaletti and Nic Grobler.

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- Through examples drawn from the History of Astronomy in South Africa, the project aims to display the interplay between the historical/present scientific astronomical activities and everyday awareness of Space with a contemporary perspective.

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- 400 kZAR NRF seed funding, 10 kEUR co-funding from the Italian Government and 50kZAR from Enel X South Africa (private energy company focused on renewable energy)

HEMELLIGGAAM

or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW – WHO ?

Tommaso Fiscaletti

<http://www.tommasofiscaletti.com>

PROJECT

Hemelliggaam or The
attempt to be here now

I couldn't be anything else

Between Home and
Wisdom

Landscape of a possible
condition

All over me

Mute

The missing part

The Persistence of
Wishes by Leaflood

Photographing Xhosa Shaman women
in South Africa

Written by B/P



Nic Grobler

<http://nicgrobler.com>

HEMELLIGGAAM

FIRST KITE

UNDER THE SUN

BICYCLE PORTRAITS

SA BICYCLE BUILDERS

GROWN IN PHILIPPI

IDENTITIES

MOTION DESIGN



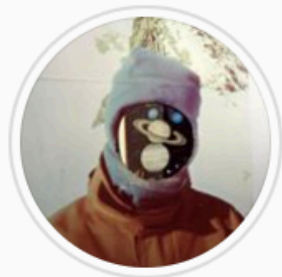
Bicycle Portraits

HEMELLIGGAAM

or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW – HOW ?



 | Instagram



hemelliggaam

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213 posts

274 followers

13 following

T.Fiscaletti • N.Grobler 'Then you look at Saturn with the nice rings around it, it looks like a sombrero - it's just unbelievable.'

www.hemelliggaam.com

HEMELLIGGAAM or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW – HOW ?



www.hemelliggaam.com

HEMELLIGGAAM / THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW

^{-32.30}
Hemelliggaam (Afrikaans: *Heavenly Body*) or The Attempt To Be Here Now,
is a visual exploration of the existential aspects of the human-environment-
astronomy relationship.

ARCHIVE PREVIEW

CONTACT / ARCHIVE ACCESS

www.hemelliggaam.com

HEMELLIGGAAM or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW

FEATURED

ABOUT

ARCHIVE

INDEX

The connection between distant heavenly bodies, the Earth and our own bodies inadvertently creates a reconfigured awareness of our environment.



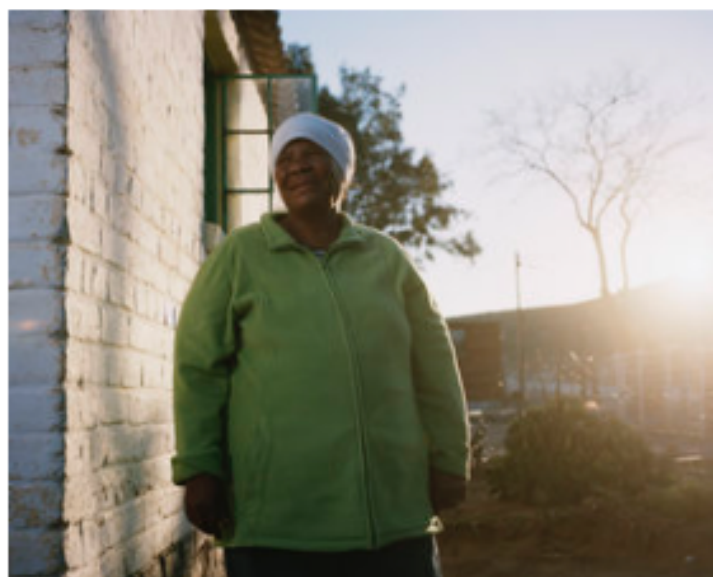
Contents can also be viewed by type or topics:

[Films](#), [humans](#), [telescopes](#).

Selected locations:

[Carnarvon](#), [Cederberg Astronomical Observatory](#), [SAAO](#)

[Observatory in Cape Town](#), [Iziko Planetarium](#), [Sutherland](#).



ANNA SKIPPERS # 2 SUTHERLAND, NORTHERN CAPE

'That was the most beautiful to me, when there is a shooting star, I always believed you could make wish - for good luck. Then I asked some questions and they answered, 'o, no - when there is a shooting star, it means it is dead and it is going to fall' and there where it falls, everything must just pray and ask 'God don't let it fall on a house, don't let it fall on a person' - because it can burn and kill, and you don't know if it has fire inside, you don't know if it has hail inside or even iron inside.'

Anna Skippers, Kamammas Community centre coordinator, Sutherland, Northern Cape.

Anna lives in Sutherland, close to the largest optical telescope in the Southern Hemisphere.



IAN GLASS, CEDERBERG ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY, CEDERBERG, WESTERN CAPE

'I enjoyed the scientific work, especially solving problems and understanding the physics of the stars, so doing something like this is a kind of motivation for other people to become interested in astronomy and until you study physics and astronomy, you don't really know what is going on in the stars and you don't see what professional astronomers are interested in. There are many things happening in our own galaxy and in our own solar system and of course with the space age we know a lot more now about planets and asteroids and many things. So even quite nearby objects turned out to be more interesting than people realised in the past. I studied the heat radiation from stars, with infra-red light. Usually stars that are forming or stars that are dying have a lot of dust around them and this shows up very strongly in the infra-red, so I studied basically variable stars that show up brightly in the infra-red and I studied certain types of galaxies which have active centers, the nuclei we call them - and quasars. So you think of stars, but dust and gas are also very important parts of the galaxies in the sky.'



PROF. IAN GLASS, CEDERBERG ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY, WESTERN CAPE

Ian Glass is an infrared astronomer and scientific historian. He is a member of the Royal Society of South Africa, and the International Astronomical Union. He has twice been elected President of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa and in 2016 was made an honorary member thereof. ☺

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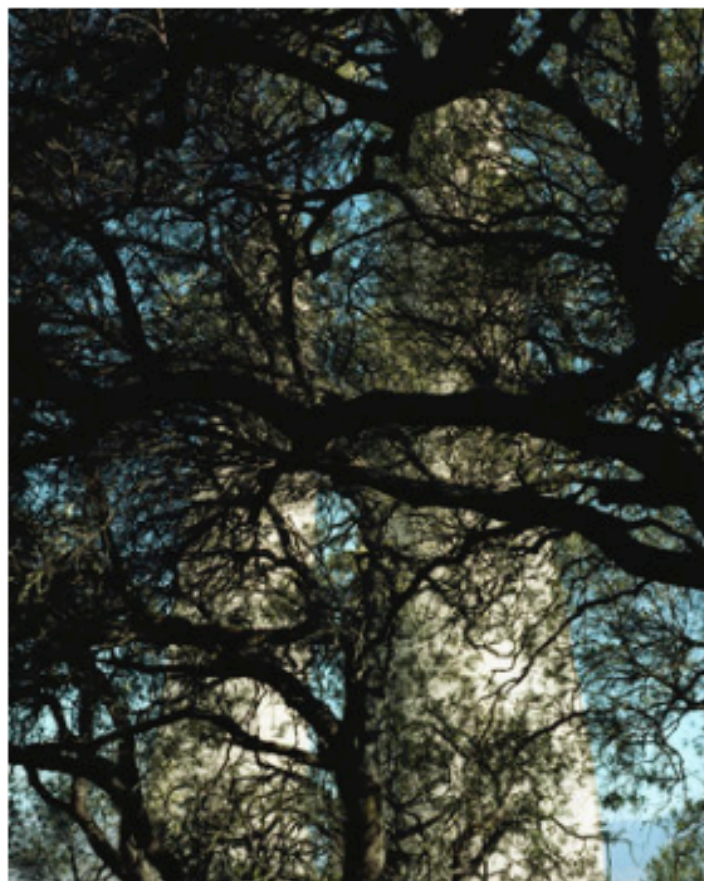
[Carnarvon](#), [Cederberg Astronomical Observatory](#), [SAAO](#)

[Observatory in Cape Town](#), [Iziko Planetarium](#), [Sutherland](#).



BLACK ROCKS # 2, BETWEEN CALVINIA AND WILLISTON, NORTHERN CAPE

These rocks contain a high percentage of iron and their dark appearance forms a truly ancient landscape. The rocks make a 'metal sound' when played; they are referred to with different names like 'rock gongs', 'ringing rocks' or 'bushman pianos'. Found in various areas around the world and accross Africa, tradition formed around communicating with the help of the rocks - evident by the ancient drumming marks often found on them. The rocks and the sounds they make were seen to have magical powers.



AFRIKAANS TAALMONUMENT, PAARL, WESTERN CAPE

"Ten . . . Nine . . . Eight . . . Seven . . . Six . . . Five . . . Four . . . Three . . . Two . . . One . . . Zero!"

The constant punch of thunder shakes the whole area. All eyes are focussed on the heavens or monitors that show images of the heavens. Inside them VR3 shrinks on top of an intense column of fire, first moving slowly, then faster, then unbelievably fast until it microscopically swims into the blue sea of heaven.'

'If man ventures out into space, he needs to be prepared to realise quite a few other things. That he was not the first intelligent being to do so and that he was not even the first child of *Terra* to leave his mother planet in this way. He'll learn to be humble. And further: That *Terra* is not the only planet in the heavens. That he can forget his allegiance to *Terra*. That he himself might change out in space, that he will never totally be and think the same as his fellow humans on *Terra*.'

From chapter 1 and chapter 11, *Die Groen Planeet* (The Green Planet), Jan Rabie, First edition, 1961. Translated from the original Afrikaans by Nic Grobler.

Photograph inspired by *Die Groen Planeet*, Jan Rabie, 1961.





LESS TECHNICAL & MORE INSPIRATIONAL

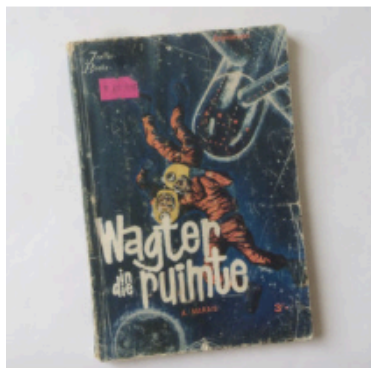
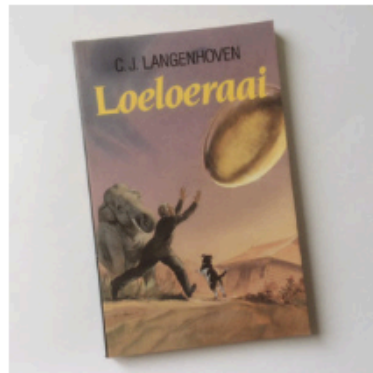
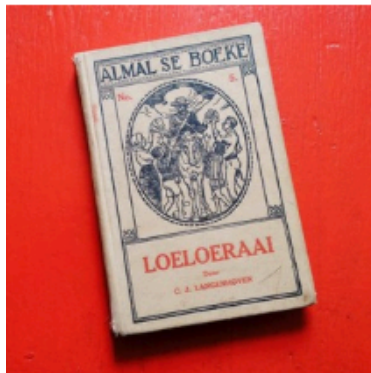
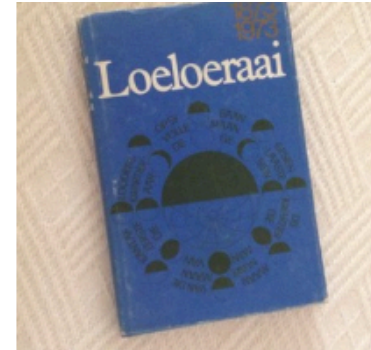
SALT, SAAO, SUTHERLAND, NORTHERN CAPE

The Southern African Large Telescope (SALT) is the largest single optical telescope in the southern hemisphere and among the largest in the world.

'With the 1.9m we were looking at the spectra itself. Like looking at a prism, we used refraction gratings where you could shift the light and look at different parts of the color spectrum - from there you can tell from what stars were made of and so forth. Just doing star gazing, especially if you look at Jupiter and Saturn, it blows your mind away. If you look at Jupiter it looks like a solar system on its own. The big mother planet with a few small moons around it, and from time to time you see one of the moons disappear. Then you look at Saturn with the nice rings around it, it looks like a sombrero - that is just unbelievable. My first three years I was working with other people, as I was undergoing training. From there on most of the time I was on my own. Sometimes for 14 hours in winter, just with a CD player, my night lunch and my coffee. Then it is up to you to make all the decisions. You just got to make sure you stay awake and alert. Otherwise you can screw up big time. I did fall asleep, but the thing is, if you feel you are tired it is best to close the dome, switch everything off and sit and sleep. If you leave things on and you fall asleep then you are in trouble.'

Francois van Wyk, Night Assistant and service observer, South African Astronomical Observatory, Sutherland.

HEMELLIGGAAM or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW – SCI-FI inspirational element



HEMELLIGGAAM

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@ South African Iziko Museum (9th March – 22nd April 2018)

Curated by Filippo Maggia - curator of Italian photography
and manager of the historical photographic collection at the
Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo in Torino

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JOIN US!

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@ Company's Garden (1st March – 22nd May 2018)



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BE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SCENE

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& OPEN TO ANYONE

WHAT's NEXT:

- Contents for the Planetarium

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- Contents for the Planetarium



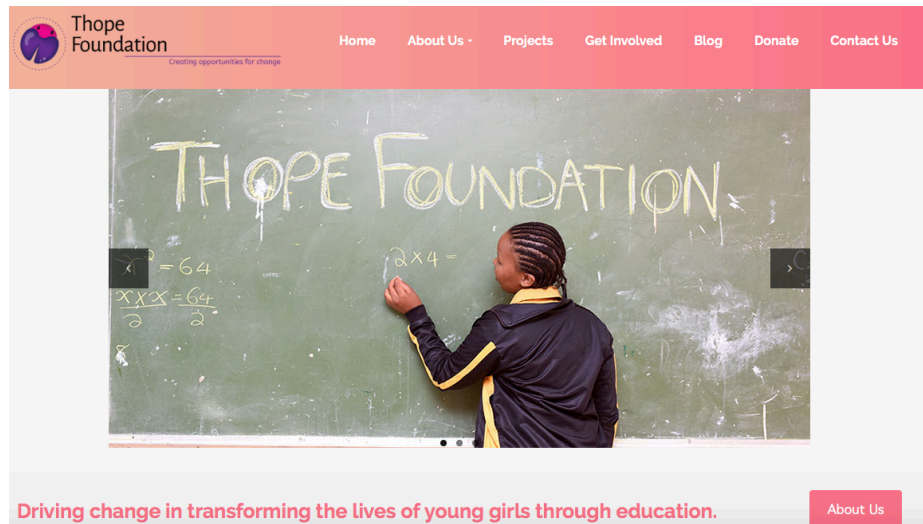
Under development

WHAT's NEXT:

- Contents for the Planetarium
- Engage with schools and general public during this first exhibition with ah-hoc workshops/events/walks-about

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WHAT's NEXT:

- Contents for the Planetarium
- Engage with schools and general public during this first exhibition with ah-hoc workshops/events/walk-about
- Travel Exhibition to the places protagonists of the exhibition.
- Final exhibition and archive publication in 2020 during the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the Astronomical Observatory at the Cape

Hemelliggaam






A map of locations as seen in hemelliggaam.com

All changes saved in Drive

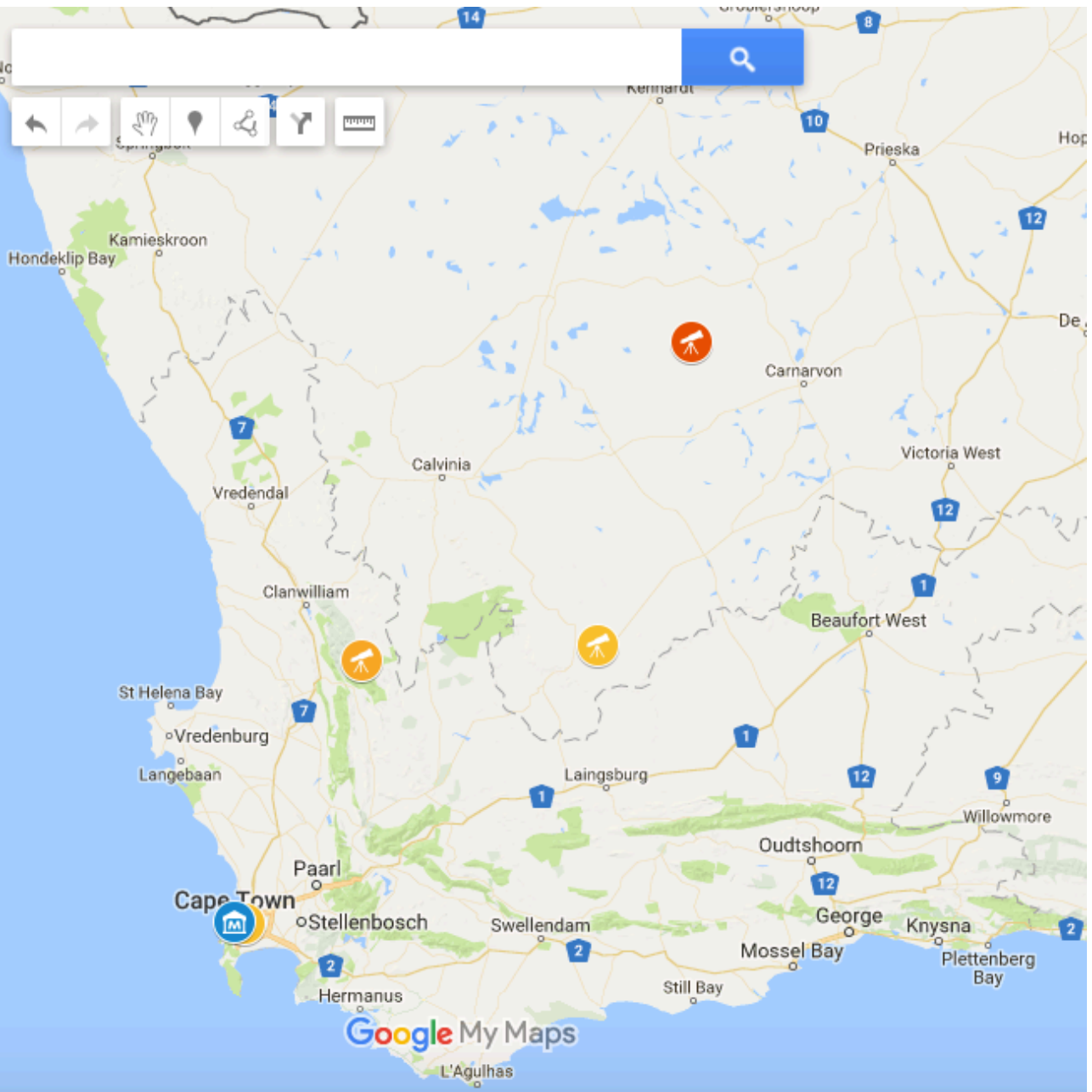
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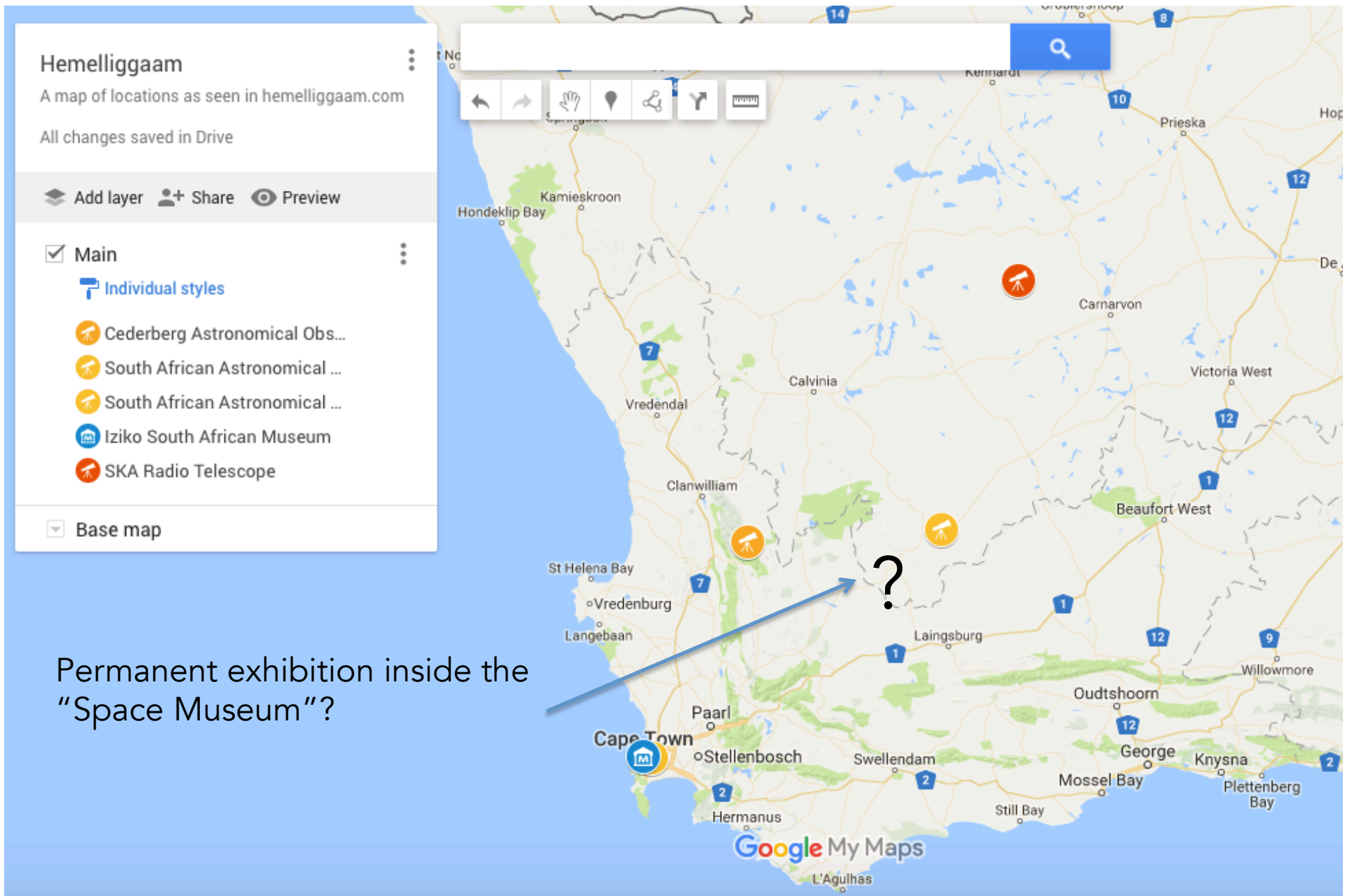
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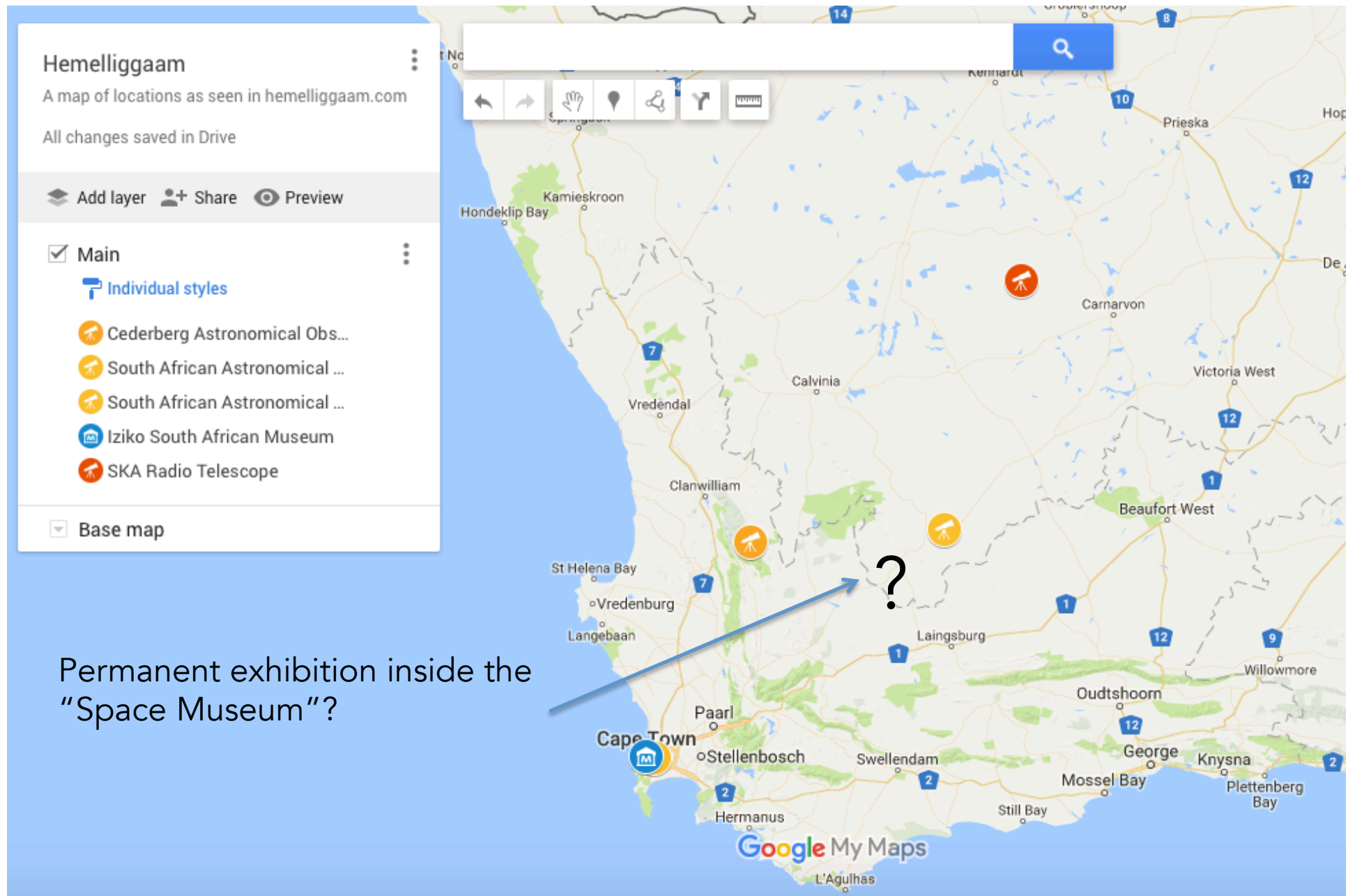
 Individual styles

-  Cederberg Astronomical Obs...
-  South African Astronomical ...
-  South African Astronomical ...
-  Iziko South African Museum
-  SKA Radio Telescope

☐ Base map







Astro-tourism opportunities...

HEMELLIGGAAM

or THE ATTEMPT TO BE HERE NOW – IMPACT &
DISSEMINATION ?

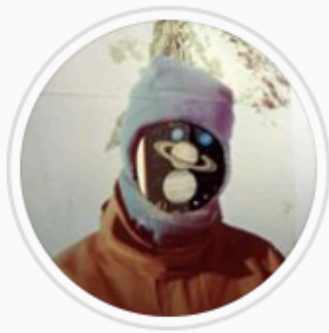
- Count the number of people and communities engaged
- Evaluate schools activities
- Exploit Press Releases and Media coverage opportunities brought by the exhibition(s) – e.g. the Conversation
- IAU & Media INAF interested write about the project
- Exploit current and future sponsors to promote our messages and explore common ground of interest
- Bring the project abroad: international exhibition, National/ international conferences (e.g. IAU CAP, IAU GA).

THANKS & FOLLOW US !



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hemelliggaam

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