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**I am Themba**

**R 40,000.00**



This image forms part of the body of work, "Reimagining Themba" - a project in celebration of resilience and human spirit, created in collaboration with Little Lions Child Coaching (Cape Town). At the heart of Little Lions lies a steadfast commitment to go beyond statistics, to delve into the depths of human experience, and to amplify the voices of those whose stories are often overlooked.

"Reimagining Themba" stands as a testament to this commitment, an embodiment of our unwavering dedication to spark meaningful conversations and cultivate a culture of empathy and understanding. Inspired by the indomitable spirit of Themba a symbol of hope and curiosity we embarked on a transformative journey, guided by the visionary artistry of Mikhailia Petersen. In collaboration with twelve young mentees from the Little Lions programme, Petersen crafted a series of photographs that transcend the boundaries of mere imagery; weaving together narratives of resilience, courage, and joy. For Petersen, this project is not merely a creative endeavour; it is a deeply personal odyssey of healing and rediscovery. Having grown up in the shadow of mental illness, she intimately understands the stigma and shame that often accompany discussions surrounding mental health. Yet, through her lens, she reframes the narrative, celebrating the inherent strength and beauty of every individual. "Together, we ventured into a world of boundless imagination and uninhibited expression, where each frame serves as a testament to the unique qualities that define us – courage, kindness, intelligence, and humour. Through this collaborative effort, we strive not only to initiate dialogues but also to cultivate a sense of belonging and acceptance within our community."

- Mikhailia Petersen

25% of the profits of each artwork sold will go to support the Little Lions programme.

Frame	Framed with aluminum frame and museum glass
Edition Size	5
Medium	Pigment Print on Hahnemühle Photo Rag
Location	Cape Town, South Africa
Height	90.00 cm
Width	75.00 cm
Artist	Mikhailia Petersen
Year	2024

