

# New ground in photo essay

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A White woman painted black sitting naked on a Black man whose body is coated in white.

This is one of the ways in which the myth of Orpheus of the Underworld will come alive in a photographic exhibition opening at Gallery 101 in Johannesburg on February 20.

"African Orpheus," a photographic essay by Karl de Haan, will break new ground in the city by being on display in an art gallery.

The theme concerns a White woman who wants to be Black but will not be accepted in the villages. The story is told through superimposed pictures in montage form.

He took the idea to transpose the colour of some of his subject from the desire in South Africa of Blacks who want to become White, and of the passion of White women to get a tan.

The pictures were taken over a period of five years.

The final portfolio of eight photographs will be published in Japan by

Orion Press later this year.

His first book of photographs, "Sunday Sue," was first published in Japan a couple of years ago. Sue Wilson, the model for that book, was also the model for "African Orpheus."

The German edition of the book of nude pictures of Sue was selling well in

this country when the English edition came out and was banned.

Mr de Haan's next venture will be about Arabian horses.

Photography has brought romance into Mr de Haan's life. His photographic wife, Gail, is a keen photographer and they met in a photographic dark room.

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