

# Photography

## *Along Voortrekker Road*

These three photographs were taken on Wednesday, 27th April 2016. I chose to shoot on a cloudy and misty day in three locations along Voortrekker Road: Parow, Maitland and Salt River. The weather was changing quite rapidly - from cloudy to sunny, and this constituted a challenge because I wanted to have the same atmosphere in the three pictures. I followed the course of the clouds, hoping they would not allow the sun to shine through the clouds. I used a black and white filter because it allows for a larger range of emotions and conveys an impression of timelessness.

All three photographs have the same composition; a long road leading to a specific point: Lion's Head Mountain surrounded by tall street lamps. However, despite these common features, the locations are entirely different. In Parow, life is happening; the street is very busy and there are buildings, garages, and cars. In Maitland, I took the photograph next to the cemetery; there were no construction work so the place seemed quieter. There was also relative absence of cars; it is as if there is less life next to a cemetery.

The last photograph was taken at the very end of Voortrekker Road. I consider Salt River as the end, even though it can also be seen as the beginning, as the road starts at number one. However, Salt River was the last place my research led me to, so to me it represented the end. This was the place where the journey ends, where the road finally reaches other roads to go somewhere else.

Along Voortrekker Road, you encounter life in Parow, non-life or death, in the cemetery, and then you can start all over in other directions in Salt River. This process can be associated with religious beliefs that life does not end with death.

If the road stretching over the mountain represents a sense of possibility, freedom, discovery and even escape, the last photograph reminds us that there is always an end... leading to new beginnings, to new roads, as places to get lost and find yourself in the process.

- Clotilde Ravel

**386 Voortrekker Road, Parow**



**Maitland Cemetery**



**Salt River**

