



### FOOTWORK

From plain texture to modern geometric prints, the four new rugs from The Rug Company's Studio collection are simple enough to suit myriad tastes and graphic enough to lift a room in need of some floor loving. [therugcompany.com](http://therugcompany.com)

**CLICK CLICK**  
CAPE CRAFT & DESIGN INSTITUTE'S NEW DIGITAL PLATFORM, PEEK, SHOWCASES AN ALLURING ARRAY OF WORKS BY SOUTH AFRICAN DESIGNERS AND CRAFTSPEOPLE, AND DIRECTS ONLINE SHOPPERS TO THE BUSINESSES' OWN WEBSITES - WHERE THEY CAN ORDER, BUY, DISCOVER MORE OR MAKE ENQUIRIES. [PEEK.ORG.ZA](http://PEEK.ORG.ZA)



**HOT NOW!**  
**WHEN CAPE TOWN JEWELLER GITHAN COOPOO'S COLLECTION OF CLAY EARRINGS AND RINGS WERE SPOTTED ON THE RUNWAY AT DESIGNER RICH MNISI'S SOUTH AFRICA MENSWEAR WEEK SHOW, THE FASHION WORLD TOOK NOTICE. TO ORDER BESPOKE PIECES, EMAIL [GITHANC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GITHANC@GMAIL.COM).**



### IN THE ROUND

In her first solo exhibition outside South Africa, ceramicist Lucinda Mudge will present her new collection of 20 vases, *The Wolf is Always Near*, inspired by a variety of references ranging from art history to cartoons, pop songs, fabric designs and Art Deco vase patterns. Mudge's work captivates the eye with rich colours and intricate detail, yet beneath the glimmering surfaces of her vases lurks a world simmering with paranoia and tension. Made using hand-mixed glazes and stains, and produced over a year, each creation is as unique as the stories it tells, as reflected in Mudge's 'More than a feeling' vase (above). We find out more about her work.

**What sparked your love of ceramics?** I've been fascinated with ceramics since childhood. It's the transformation that the clay undergoes, the potential that an unfired piece holds and the chance beauty of the final product.

**Why use vases as your medium?** The joy of a round canvas is that the story will link up and repeat. My vases tell stories and I use them as a reference to the human condition, the idea that we are on repeat. Also, with a vase, you can't see the whole picture at once. The image on the back will always be hidden, but we know it is there. This is a reference to the way we live - what we choose not to see even though we know it's there.

**What is your design process?** I have no formal ceramic training and learnt to make vases by watching tutorials on YouTube, so I find building them technically challenging and very demanding - if I do one thing wrong, the vase will fail. It's also not in my nature to make test tiles or measure the amount of stain in milligrams, and this carefree attitude results in a rawness that carries through to the final work.

**Where do you draw inspiration from?** My inspiration comes from observing people's actions. I live in a semi-remote part of Plettenberg Bay and am surrounded by natural beauty. This paradise, however, sees a fair amount of casual violence and social unrest, which is largely due to South Africa's terrible history of racial division. We have one of the biggest gaps between the haves and the have-nots, and these are issues I can't ignore and which I spend a lot of time digesting.

**Tell us about the title of your latest collection.** The title, *The Wolf is Always Near*, is taken from a Russian lullaby and refers to my conceived pressures in my career to succeed, as well as drawing on fables and the idea of animal predation. My work continues to reference paranoia and fear, two themes that I feel most South Africans can relate to on many levels.

*The Wolf is Always Near* will exhibit at the Everard Read gallery in London on 5-27 May 2017. [everardlondon.com](http://everardlondon.com)

# NOTED

TEXT KHOLEKA KUMALO, ROBYN ALEXANDER  
PHOTOGRAPHS SUPPLIED



### HELLO THERE

Adding to the company's impressive range of decorative, architectural and outdoor lighting, Flos brings you the ethereal Bon Jour collection by French designer Philippe Starck. It will be shown for the first time in South Africa at Keyes Art Mile and can be bought there at the European Light & Design Centre's Flos showroom. 19 Keyes Ave, Rosebank, Joburg. [eldc.co.za](http://eldc.co.za)



### PLANKED

Flooring specialists T&G Wood have joined forces with Dutch artist Joost van Veldhuizen to produce Planca by VanJoost, an exclusive range of unique wooden floors. The extra-long oak boards (up to 6m!) come in industrial colours such as Grey Haze, Burned Black, Concrete Grey and Morning Mist, are available in two widths (25cm and 30cm) and are compatible with underfloor heating. 'I love to deviate from what is standard,' says van Veldhuizen. [zimboosakflooring.co.za](http://zimboosakflooring.co.za)