



DANIEL NAUDÉ

*The Bovine Prophecy – Xhosa Cattle
on the Shore of the Wild Coast*



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18 February – 12 March 2022



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As if meeting us from the sea, patiently awaiting our arrival, we encounter them. Mythical. Majestic. These beasts seem to occupy a space and time that is beyond our conception. The creatures we encounter in this body of work by Daniel Naudé are forceful reminders of our complex relationship with the animal world. Over a period of ten years, Naudé travelled to the beaches of the Wild Coast, South Africa, to photograph the indigenous cattle that frequent these shores.

The process called for patience, with Naudé scouting the area, waiting for a particular animal to be in just the right place at the right time. The release of the camera's shutter would signal that moment when Naudé would, after careful consideration, transform animal into image.

As with his previous work, a delicate stillness permeates this photographic encounter. The weather and the effect of light on the landscape, as well as the temperament and composure of the animal, are all taken into careful account.

Naudé explains further: 'It is important to approach the landscape and the animal with an open mind. In many ways, it comes down to the process of exploration. I have learned to be receptive and slowly immerse myself in my working

environment. I always try to find the balance between mindfulness and abandonment that comes from being in nature. To me, it is a moment of stillness, a place where I am able to rest with the landscape and the animal.'

Naudé engages with the highly emotive relationship between human and animal – a theme that is embodied in much of his work to date. The wonder of his photographic practice lies in his ability to set up an intimate visual encounter between human viewer and animal subject. For Naudé, there is a vibrant energy that comes from that moment when he connects with an animal through the lens of his camera. And it is this exact moment of mutual recognition that he wishes to share with the viewer.

*Adapted from a text by Dr. Ernst van der Wal, PhD (Visual Arts),
Head of Department: Visual Arts, Stellenbosch University*

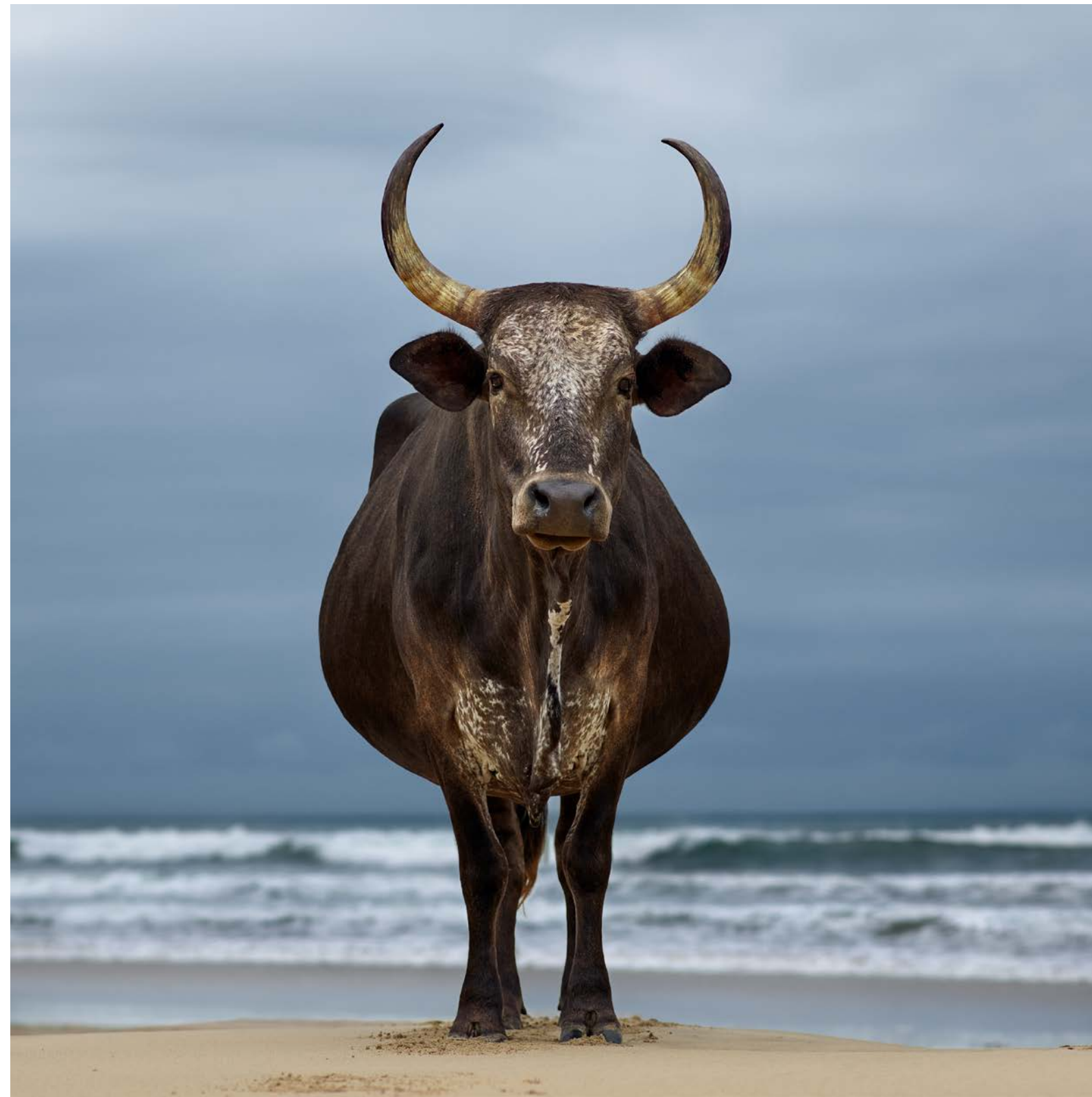
All work: C-Print, Lightjet on Kodak Professional Endura
Premier Paper (Printed by Grieger, Dusseldorf, Germany),
Dibonded on aluminium and Diasec



Xhosa Heifer sitting on the shore. Mpande, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 14 January 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa cow on the shore. Eastern Cape, South Africa, 6 April 2018

Edition of 3 *Last available in this edition*

150 x 150 cm



Xhosa Nguni cow on the shore. Kiwane, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 5 April 2018

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa cow on the shore. Kei River Mouth, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 9 December 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa Nguni cow sitting on the shore. Mpande, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 10 January 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa bull on the shore. Kiwane, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 12 April 2018

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa Ox sitting on the shore. Hluleka, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 4 December 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa Kraal. Ncata, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 12 December 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa bull on the shore. Kiwane, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 14 April 2018

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa cow sitting on the shore. Noxova, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 5 December 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa Ox on the shore. Umthata River Mouth, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 5 December 2019

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



Xhosa cow on the shore. Qoloha, Eastern Cape, South Africa, 14 April 2018

Edition of 5

110 x 110 cm



DANIEL NAUDÉ

b. 1984, South Africa

Daniel Naudé was born in Cape Town, where he continues to live and work. He graduated with a BA Visual Arts Honours degree from the University of Stellenbosch in 2007.

For more than a decade, Naudé has practised capturing and perfecting moments of stillness in the natural realm. Martin Barnes, senior curator of photography at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, observes that each of Naudé's photographs 'is a shared moment in time, one in which the animal and the human seem at once named and yet nameless, specific and yet universal. There is a mutual "now-ness" to his arresting human-animal gazes, mediated by the camera. In total, they read like a remarkable series of ecstatic, intensified meeting points in which we query what it means to be alive, locked in momentary register with another sentient being.'

Naudé's work is included in public and private collections around the world including the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles and Huis Marseille in Amsterdam.

Naudé's first book, *Animal Farm*, was published by Prestel in 2012, followed by *Sightings of the Sacred: Cattle in India, Uganda and Madagascar* in 2016. His third book, *Cattle of the Ages* together with South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa was published by Jacana media in 2017. He self-published his fourth book *The Bovine Prophecy* in 2020.

[Read more about Daniel Naudé.](#)

