



LUCINDA MUDGE

Does anybody know what's going on?



LUCINDA MUDGE

Does anybody know what's going on?

14 June – 13 July 2024



A major figure in the world of ceramic design, Lucinda Mudge has been internationally recognised for her unique vases, often described as 'extraordinary' for their large scale, rich colour and complex detail. Her pieces – sometimes, as high as a metre, and bold with omnipresent political and social implications – are instantly recognisable.

Both a visual and socio-political record, each collection of vases draws inspiration from a wide variety of references, including cartoons, pop songs, fabric and jewellery design, resulting in whimsical collisions of the popular and refined, the mundane and elevated, the violent and the beautiful.

This range of contemporary and historical sources merges to present a complex narrative. Themes, images and text are constantly repeated and reshuffled, embodying humanity's ability to carry contradictory impulses simultaneously.



DOES ANYBODY KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON?

Best known for her 'large, patterned vases in vivid colours, scrawled with amusing, pithy text', contemporary South African artist Lucinda Mudge presents a third solo exhibition with Everard Read London, comprising a new collection of ceramic vessels and – for the first time in London – acrylic paintings.

'The pot as decorative storyboard was popularised by the ancient Greeks,' notes writer Victoria Woodcock.** Mudge's pictorial pottery draws inspiration from a wide variety of references – from pop culture and cartoon strips, to fabric and textile designs, Art Deco and poetry.

Captivating the eye with their luxuriant glazes and intricate detail, Mudge's vases encompass all of life. Images unfold with a filmic quality, revealing the artist's witty, outrageous and provocative musings with all their contradictions, riddles and yearnings.

'I have been making ceramics for over a decade, relentlessly pursuing my practice, despite the country's battles with dwindling and irregular electricity supply,' says Mudge.

2023 was a particularly challenging year and rolling power outages across South Africa meant she was able to fire her kiln only a handful of times. And so Mudge turned to painting – a medium in which she has always felt at home. At the same time her husband and brother fashioned a new hybrid solar kiln system for her. 'This new body of work was fired using the new kiln – a major breakthrough for me,' observes the artist. 'With these light, tranquil paintings and heavy gold ceramic vases, my ambition for this exhibition is to bring a sense of balance.'

Mudge's paintings are infused with a kindred vitality and spirit. Foliage, feathers, birds, abstract shapes and symbols cascade down her canvases or swirl with the dizzying energy of an eddy. 'Painting and ceramics have formed a neat duo in my studio,' says Mudge. 'This exhibition was made by sharing my time and attention equally on both mediums.'

*Jo Buitendach, 'A cackling cauldron of female creativity', *Financial Mail, BusinessLIVE*, 30 March 2023

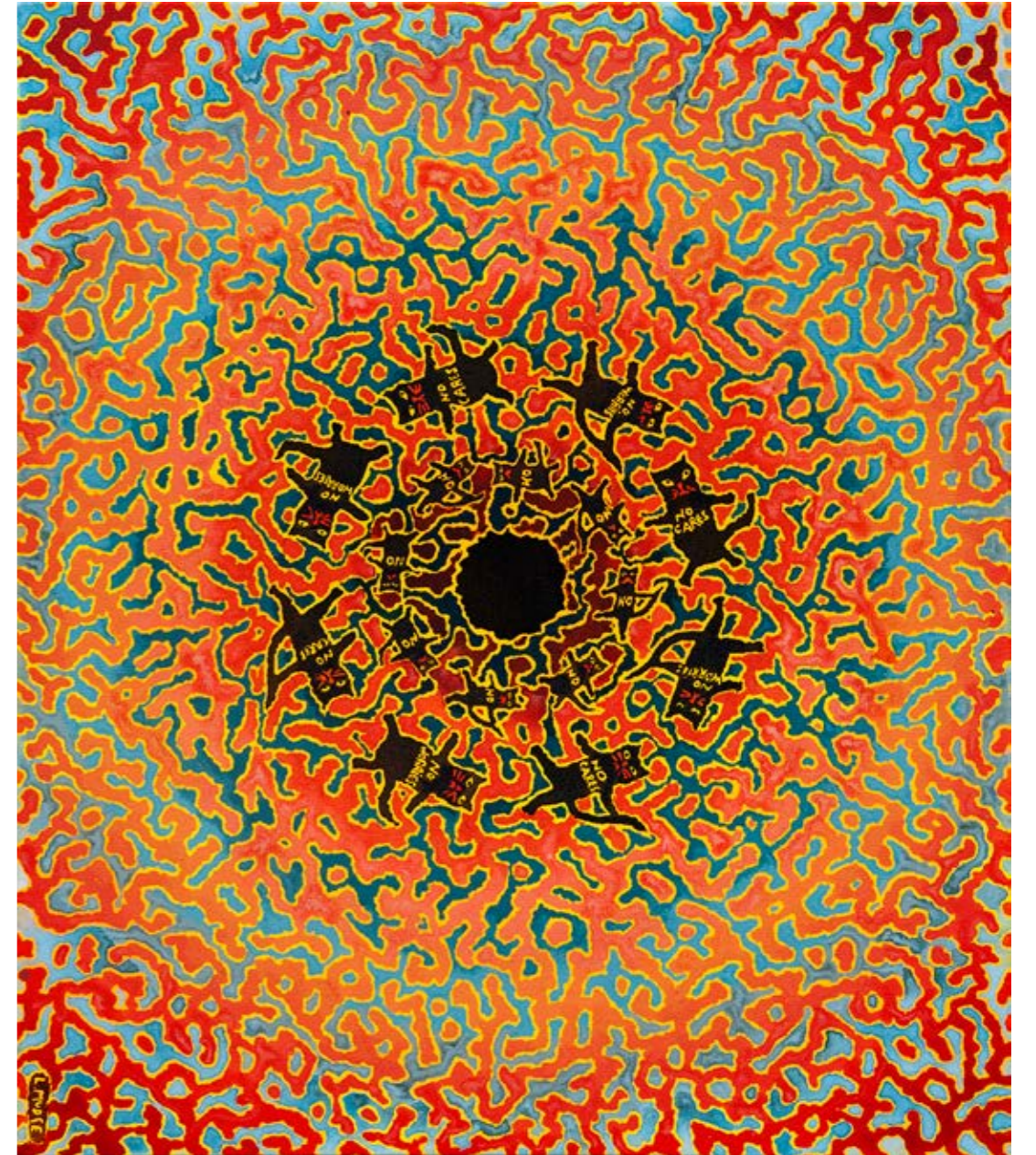
** Victoria Woodcock, 'Say it with clay', *Financial Times*, 12 January 2024



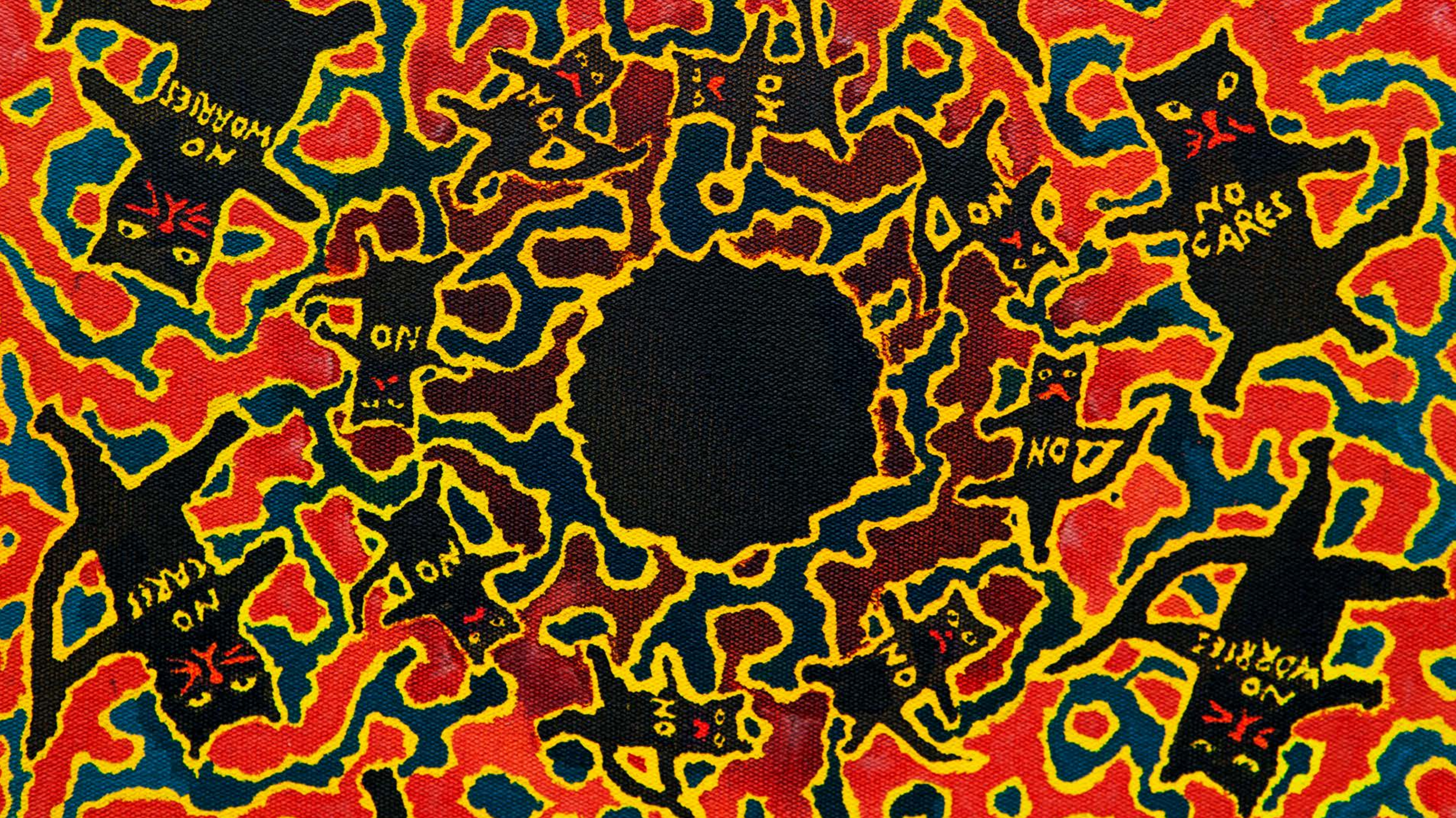
Do Nothing, Say Nothing, Be Nothing
 acrylic on canvas
 70 x 60 cm



Sorry Sorry - Too Late
 acrylic on canvas
 70 x 60 cm



No Cares, No Worries
 acrylic on canvas
 70 x 60 cm



NO HORRIBLE CATS

NO HORRIBLE CATS

NO HORRIBLE CATS

NO HORRIBLE CATS

NO HORRIBLE CATS

NO HORRIBLE CATS

NO HORRIBLE CATS



*Reaching to the Sky for
Some Kind of Peace*
ceramic, gold lustre
63cm high



No Rain, No Flowers. Baby.
ceramic, gold lustre
65cm high



Turn up the Music
acrylic on canvas
100 x 150 cm



Passion II
acrylic on canvas
100 x 120 cm



Love and Marriage
ceramic, gold lustre
61cm high



Lost in a Moment
 ceramic, gold lustre
 44cm high



Forget It
 acrylic on canvas
 100 x 120 cm



Closer to the Soul of the World
acrylic on canvas
100 x 150 cm



Good Times Only
ceramic, gold luster
64cm high



*Fuelled by that Fire that's
Keeping Us Together*
ceramic, gold lustre
48cm high





Some People
ceramic, gold lustre
51cm high







*Holding on to Our Shadows,
Seen and Unseen*
ceramic, gold lustre
54cm high



Deliverance
ceramic, gold lustre
57cm high





Cheers to Me
ceramic, gold lustre
61cm high



In Charge. Of Nothing.
ceramic, gold lustre
64cm high

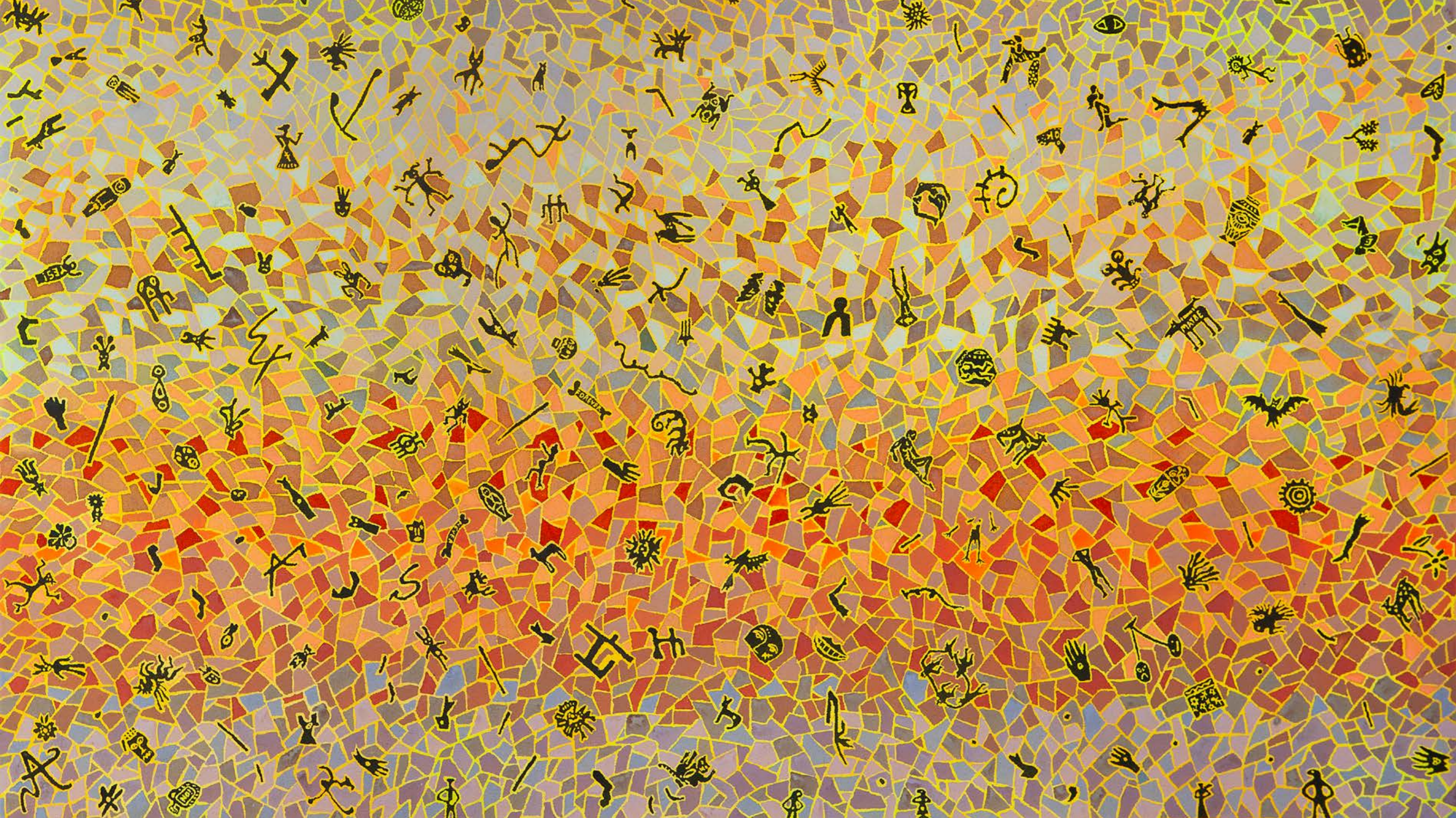




YES NO MAYBE
acrylic on canvas
100 x 150 cm



Born to Wish for More
ceramic, gold lustre
56cm high





This Is Not About You
ceramic, gold lustre
62cm high

No Dancing
acrylic on canvas
180 x 90cm







Passion
acrylic on canvas
100 x 150 cm



*Just Tell Me a Story –
Make It Up*
ceramic, gold lustre
66cm high





LUCINDA MUDGE

b. 1979, South Africa

Lucinda Mudge is a contemporary South African artist working primarily in the medium of ceramics. After graduating from the Michaelis school of Fine Art, University of Cape Town (1997–2000) she spent the following years between Cape Town and London, before moving to Keurboomstrand, South Africa, where she now lives and works.

Lucinda Mudge has artworks in major corporate and private collections nationally and internationally, including Australia, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, the United Kingdom and the UAE.

Her artwork is included in various publications including *CLAY FORMES: Contemporary clay from South Africa* (2023); *African Generation: The power of design* (2019); *Making Africa: A continent of contemporary design* (2015); *The Bauhaus: #itsalldesign* (2015), *VASE: Function Reviewed* (2016).



SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2024

Does Anybody Know What's Going On?, solo exhibition, Everard Read, London, United Kingdom

2023

All Is Well, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

Bitches Brew, group exhibition, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa

2021

Some Kind of Love, solo booth, Cologne Art and Design, with Nuweland, Germany

Nothing's Ever Enough, Everard Read at Leeu Estates, Franschhoek, South Africa

Everything all the Time, solo exhibition, Everard Read, London, United Kingdom

2019

Love Story, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

2018-19

Making Africa, group exhibition, Albuquerque Museum, New Mexico, USA

Making Africa, group exhibition, Blanton Museum of Art, Austin, USA

2018

Space Is The Place, solo exhibition, Knysna Fine Art, Knysna, South Africa

Making Africa, group exhibition, High Museum of Art, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

Eternity Bam!, solo booth, Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

2017

Pixel Vases, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

The Wolf Is Always Near, solo exhibition, Everard Read, London, United Kingdom

Investec Cape Town Art Fair, with Everard Read, Cape Town, South Africa

Making Africa, group exhibition, Kunsthal Rotterdam, Rotterdam, Netherlands

2016

1:54 Art Fair London, with Everard Read, London, United Kingdom

VASE – Function Reviewed, group exhibition, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland

FNB Joburg Art Fair, with Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa

Making Africa, group exhibition, CCCB Barcelona, Spain

Kill You Eat You, solo exhibition, Everard Read, Johannesburg, South Africa

2015

Making Africa, group exhibition, Guggenheim Bilbao, Spain

Making Africa, group exhibition, Vitra Design Museum, Weil am Rhein, Germany

