# UNIT LONDON

## Sthenjwa Luthuli B.1991 Based in Durban, South Africa

# Introduction

The intricate and complex nature of Luthuli's artistic process ensures that each work he produces is a remarkable and singular result of a formidable artistic effort. Each work is meticulously hand carved and then painted; his pieces can take months to create. Luthuli has remarked on the importance of the circular shape in his works. For Luthuli, the circle opposes the starkness of the square, which is frequently used in modern architecture. Luthuli's use of the circle opposes any severity of form as his works undulate before the viewer in boundless and gentle movement. Luthuli's works frequently involve the notion of ancestral identity; his headless forms are tied to his Zulu culture and rituals.

## Education

- 2012 Themba Shibase's Mentorship Programme, Durban University of Technology, Durban, South Africa
- 2011 Velobala Art School, African Art Centre, Durban, South Africa
- 2010 Artists In-Action Residence, Visual Arts Course, BAT Centre, Durban, South Africa

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 Inzalo Yelanga (BirthPlace Of The Sun), Unit London, London, UK
- 2022 Imbewu Yokhokho (The Seed of Our Ancestors), Gallery 1957, Accra, Ghana
- 2021 Imfumbatho, Unit London, London, UK Umthente Uhlaba Usamila, BKhz Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2020 Inkaba Yami, WHATIFTHEWORLD, Cape Town, South Africa

## **Group Exhibitions**

- 2023 Museum Volkenkunde, Leiden, Netherlands *Africa Inspires*, Afrika Museum, Berg en Dal, Netherlands
- 2022 1-54 Art Fair, Unit London, London, UK
- 2021 Untitled Art fair, WHATIFTHEWORLD, Miami, Florida, USA
- 2020 *Liminality In Infinite Space,* Mike Adenuga Centre, Ikoyi, Nigeria *African Artists Foundation,* Victoria Island, Nigeria *BLACK VOICES: Friend of My Mind,* Ross-Sutton Gallery, New York, USA *The Medium Is The Message,* Unit London, UK
- 2017 Sasol New Signatures, Pretoria Art Museum, Pretoria, South Africa Ukushintsha Isigcawu, Woordfees Festival, Stellenbosch, South Africa Members Exhibition, KZNSA Gallery, Durban, South Africa
- 2016 Johannesburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa
- 2015 New Printmakers, SA Print Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa Emerging, Design Indaba Simulcast, Cape Town, South Africa Izimpande, KZNSA Gallery, Durban, South Africa Expo Durban, Durban, South Africa Cape Town Art Fair, Cape Town, South Africa Hilton Group Exhibition, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa Johannesburg Art Fair, Johannesburg, South Africa Turbine Art Fair, Sandton, South Africa

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- 2014 National Arts Festival, Grahamstown, South Africa
- 2013 Business of Art, Beautiful Things Gallery, Eshowe, South Africa African Art Centre, Durban, South Africa
- 2012 Velobala Mentorship Exhibition, African Art Centre, Durban, South Africa
- Who am I, Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa
  Velobala Class, African Art Centre, Durban, South Africa
  Don't Panic, Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa
- 2010 *Izikhwephe zethu*, Durban Art Gallery, Durban, South Africa

# Press (selected)

2022

October 'The Best Booths at 1-54, From an Indigo Bed to a Wall of Crosses', ARTnews

#### 2020 December 'Artists We Love: Sthenjwa Luthuli', Visi 'Finding home in an 'unknown place', Maverick Life

#### November

'Sthenjwa Luthuli: Inkaba Yami', Contemporary And 'Sthenjwa Luthuli: Inkaba Yami', Mail & Guardian 'We have lost a limb': Azu Nwagbogu, the visionary curator bringing African art home', The Guardian

October 'Sthenjwa Luthuli', Elephant

September 'Emerging Artists Explore Blackness at Unit London', Widewalls

## 2019 November

'Sthenjwa Luthuli – Tackling Tradition with a Carving Knife', Tame Until

## September

'Latitudes Art Fair', House & Garden

#### 2017 April 'Centre kick starts artist's career', news24 'Telling stories with silhouettes', The North Coast Courier

2015 August 'Edition 4', Ja. Magazine

## Collections

Kunsthal KAdE Museum, Amersfoort, Netherlands

Schulting Art Collection, Wassenaar, Netherlands

Fubon Art Foundation, Taiwan

Robyns Collection, London, UK

Gatreaux Collection, Kansas City, USA

Norval Foundation, Cape Town, South Africa

Leiterin der Stadtischen Galerie, Bremen, Germany

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Oliewenhuis Museum, Bloemfontein, South Africa University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa Phansi Museum, Durban, South Africa