



eclectica
contemporary

Justin Dingwall
When I Stare At The Night Sky

5 June - 30 June 2025



Justin Dingwall

Justin Dingwall's riveting photographs challenge traditional beauty ideals. Known for his theatrical portraits, Dingwall constructs staged images noted for their surreal and fantastical elements. Dingwall studied photography at the Tshwane University of Technology. Since graduating in 2004, he has gained recognition for his work in his native South Africa and abroad.

Dingwall is particularly noted for his explorations of taboos, stigmas, and how beauty ideals are conditioned by cultural attitudes and politics, particularly in African contexts. The artist addresses albinism in a portrait series of South African model-activists Thando Hopa and Sanele Xaba titled "Albus," which he began in 2014. In the whimsical "Fly by Night" series (2015–19), made during a heightened period of racial violence in South Africa, the artist tackles Black Swan Theory. The idiom refers to a surprising or unprecedented event and takes its name from the ill-founded assumption that black swans didn't exist. Dingwall was the 2015 winner of the SA Taxi Foundation Art Award.

When I Stare At The Night Sky

Justin Dingwall's latest series embodies a profound exploration of memories, investigating the transformative impact of actions, events, interactions, and experiences on our recollection and response to the world.

The full title, *When I Stare at the Night Sky, I Don't See Any Stars*, serves as a metaphor for the obscured and nuanced nature of our memories.

The significance of family is an important part of this series; it highlights its pivotal role in shaping future generations. This is conveyed through the incorporation of remembered objects into the photographs. Within the physical spaces we inhabit, objects serve as silent narrators, communicating volumes about their owners and the memories they encapsulate. These objects, often enriched with emotional resonance, become vessels of personal history, connecting us to the people and moments that have shaped our lives.

The choice of printed fabric as an artistic medium is a deliberate effort to bridge the intangible realm of memories with the palpable world. The way that memories are woven into our minds is depicted in the physical weave of the material, sewn together by threads of time. It is a metaphorical stitching together of past and future memories.

Much like the night sky devoid of stars, memories are not always pristine; they are subject to the distortions of time and personal interpretation. The deliberate fragmentation of material into distinct pieces and the reimagining of the artwork into different layers symbolises the imperfect nature of our recollections. It invites contemplation on the gaps and imperfections in our recollections, emphasising the idea that memories, like stars in the night sky, can be obscured, unseen and overlooked.

As viewers engage with the work, it becomes a shared space of artistic and personal exploration; the viewers contribute their own narratives and memories, enriching the dialogue between the artwork and its audience.



JUSTIN DINGWALL

Fray, 2025

Mixed Media Photography

134.5 x 99.5 x 1 cm

\$12,800 ex. VAT



JUSTIN DINGWALL

Eclipse, 2025

Mixed Media Photography

84 x 129 x 1 cm

\$11,700 ex. VAT





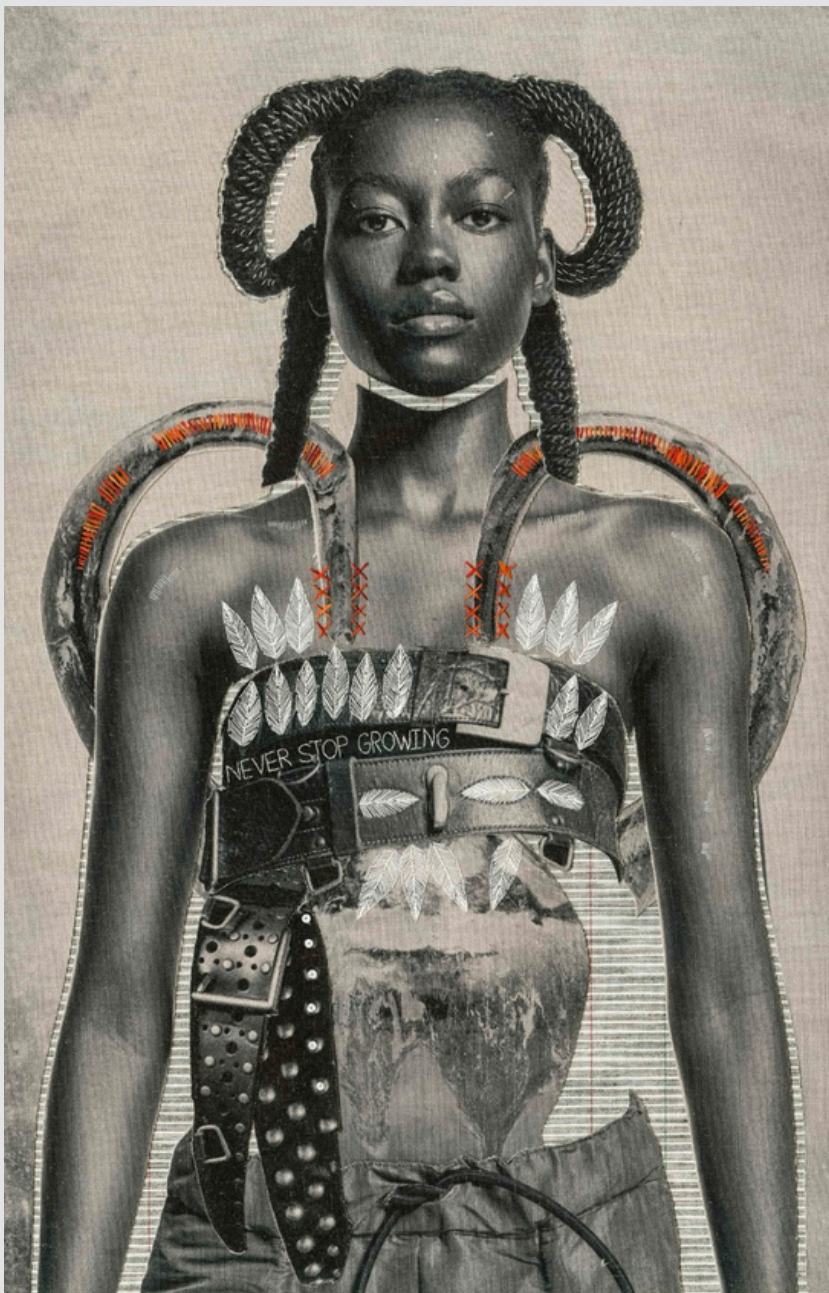
JUSTIN DINGWALL

Fabric of time, 2025

Mixed Media Photography

67 x 94 x 1 cm

\$8,900 ex. VAT



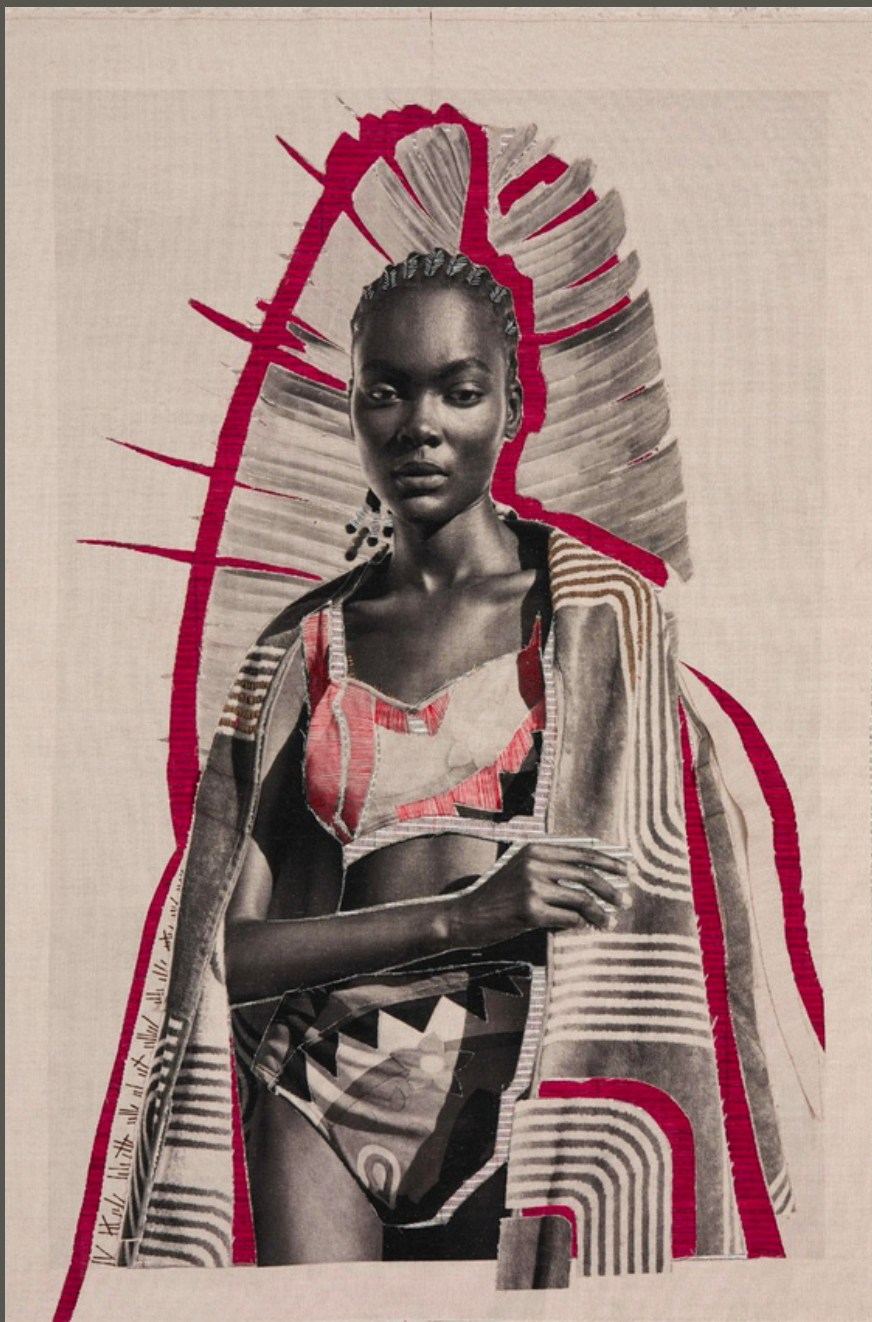
JUSTIN DINGWALL

Journey, 2025

Mixed Media Photography

54.5 x 83.5 x 1 cm

\$7,650 ex. VAT



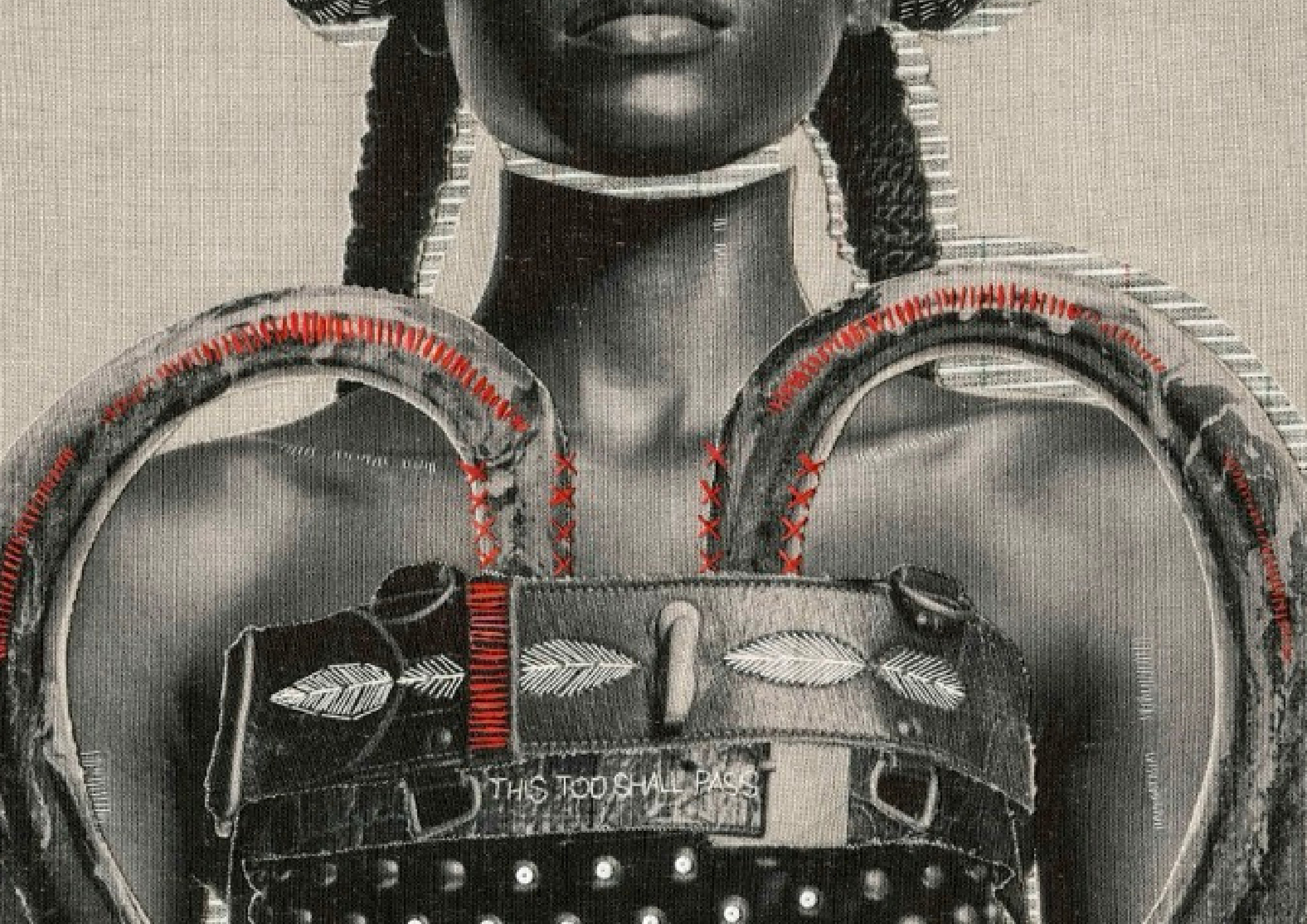
JUSTIN DINGWALL

Reverie, 2025

Mixed Media Photography

94 x 62 cm

\$8,500 ex. VAT





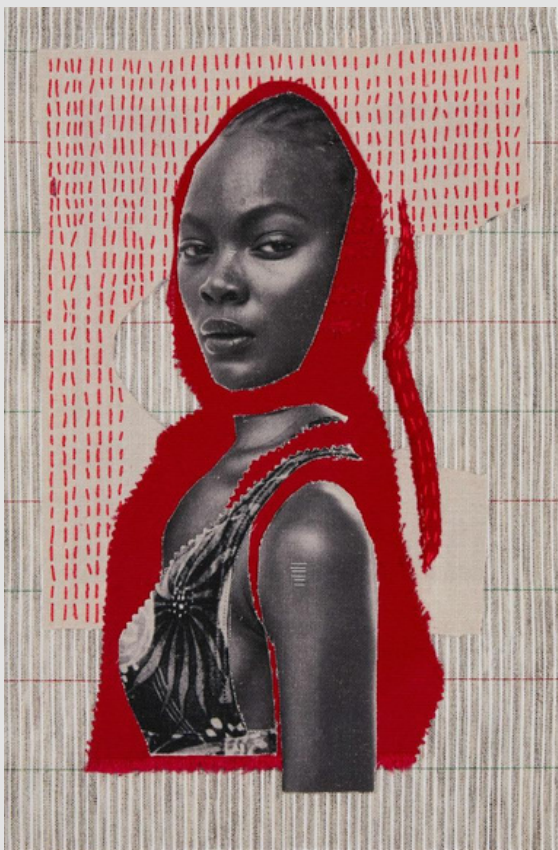
JUSTIN DINGWALL

This too shall pass, 2025

Mixed Media Photography

82.5 x 53.5 x 1 cm

\$7,650 ex. VAT



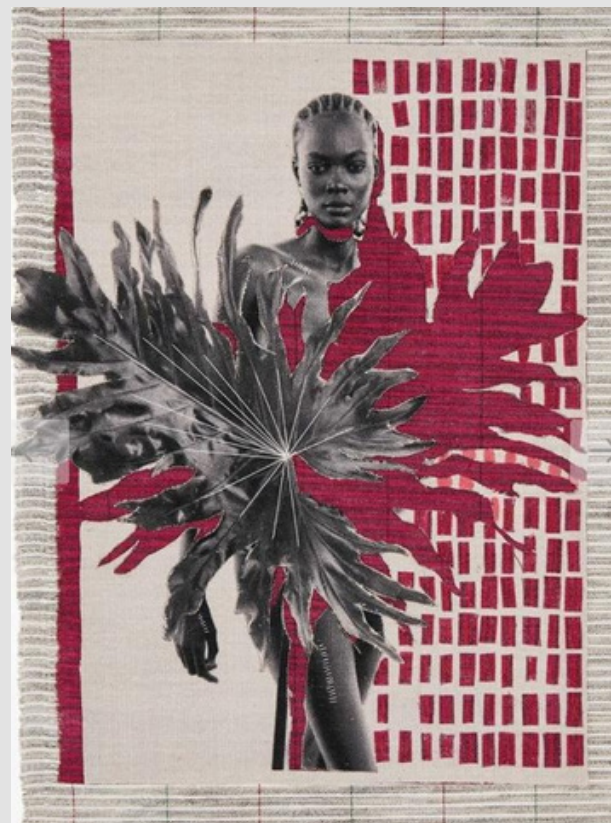
JUSTIN DINGWALL

In the cards, 2024

Mixed media

29.5 x 44 cm

\$3,950 ex. VAT



JUSTIN DINGWALL

Home again, 2024

Mixed media

43 x 31 cm

\$3,800 ex. VAT



Prints



JUSTIN DINGWALL

Look Behind the Sun, 2025

Digital print Replica Edition of 5

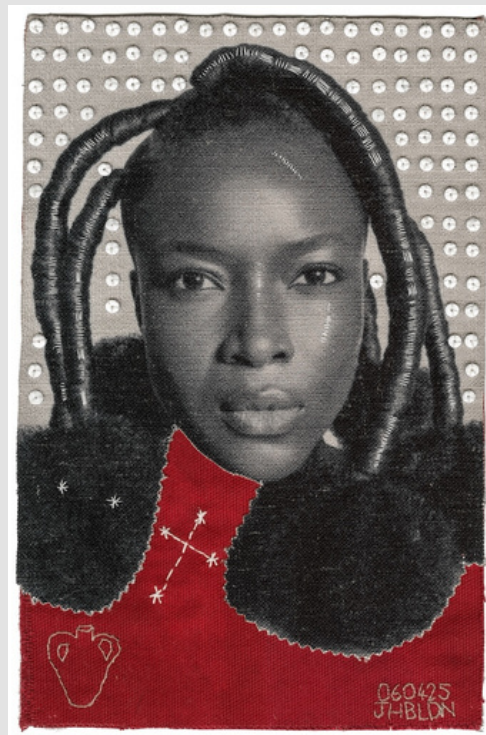
Variable size edition of 5

Size options

A2 (59.4 x 42cm): **ZAR 14 000 ex. VAT**

A1 (59.4 x 84.1cm): **ZAR 16 000 ex. VAT**

A0 (84.1 x 118.9cm): **ZAR 20 000 ex. VAT**



JUSTIN DINGWALL

Wayfinder, 2025

Digital print Replica Edition of 5

Variable size edition of 5

Size options

A2 (59.4 x 42cm): **ZAR 14 000 ex. VAT**

A1 (59.4 x 84.1cm): **ZAR 16 000 ex. VAT**

A0 (84.1 x 118.9cm): **ZAR 20 000 ex. VAT**



JUSTIN DINGWALL

Sound Vessel, 2025

Digital print Replica Edition of 5

Variable size edition of 5

Size options

A2 (59.4 x 42cm): **ZAR 14 000 ex. VAT**

A1 (59.4 x 84.1cm): **ZAR 16 000 ex. VAT**

A0 (84.1 x 118.9cm): **ZAR 20 000 ex. VAT**

eclectica contemporary

With an increasing focus on African Art around the world, Eclectica Contemporary aims to present a carefully selected and focused collection of art from the continent that interrogates issues facing us in a globalized world. The art at Eclectica Contemporary often showcases practices and materials from art history but which push these boundaries and explore uncharted territories of representation, technique and theory.

Based in Cape Town, South Africa, Eclectica Contemporary sees itself as an African gallery with an international vision. We celebrate the diversity and depth of art making on our continent while aiming to contextualize it for a growing global market.

Our program of exhibitions shows a mix of solo shows by gallery artists alongside curated group shows. In addition, the Eclectica Contemporary exhibition space has facilities for experimental, new media and project- based works.

**For any enquiries please contact
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