

MOVART

Time
is a
flat
circle.

DAVID BRITS



MOVART

Time is a Flat Circle by David Brits

*"I'll walk a while on this ground
The soil rich in simple life
In this constant state of decay
Until of this earth I am again
Borne of circle, head to tail."* (Ouroboros, Unknown writer)

Some cultures considered snakes immortal because they seemed to be reincarnating from their own selves when they shed their skin. Snakes were also often associated with immortality because they would bite their tails to form a circle and, when they coiled, create spirals. Both circles and spirals were seen as symbols of eternity. In Egyptian myth, the state of existence before creation was symbolised as Amduat, a coiled serpent from which Ra, the Sun, and all creation emerged, returning every night and being reborn every morning.

In "Time is a Flat Circle", one witnesses a political-poetic collage in different layers of the archive. Between image, video and sculpture, we witness a permanent camouflage in which history, man and animal are demultiplied in a narrative and a mapping of memories.

John Wood, a photographer and filmmaker specialising in reptiles and snake catchers, has for sixty years captured thousands of snakes, spiders, scorpions, lizards and frogs for medical research and the creation of snake and spider antivenoms. By appropriating his archives, those of his maternal grandfather, David presents a video essay, with a circular looped narrative, recreating a visual camouflage between the multiple frames of the archive

David symbolically adopts the "ouroboros", a Greek word that describes the symbol of the snake consuming its own tail and connected it to an archive of images published on social media of groups of former South African recruits. Many of these ex-conscripts fought in what is known as the "Border War" in Namibia and Southern Angola from the 1960s to the late 1980s. The ouroboros presents itself once again in the black, circular strokes with which David erases the images, erasing the faces, in a sense vandalising them, thus incorporating the complexities of working with the inherited history of a post-apartheid South Africa. As Anfonso Dias Ramos states, Brits vandalises "the integrity of the original images, which were largely limited to scenes of male bonding and uneventful daily rituals, codifying the dominant way of talking about the war in terms of camaraderie and masculinity, ignoring the extreme violence surrounding it."

The sculptures, made of carbon fibre, crawl around the exhibition space just like the bodies of soldiers, which in the exhibition we gaze at from above, in a helicopter view, evoking the battle of Cuito Cuanavale, a large-scale mechanised tank battle that took place in southern Angola between Angolan, Cuban and South African forces between 1987 and 1998.

Snakes were regularly considered guardians of the underworld or messengers between the Upper and Lower worlds because they lived in cracks and holes in the ground. In "Time is a Flat Circle", David Brits generates an image whose logic is refuted and which somehow suspends the very circularity of time.

by Camila Maissune, September 14th 2022

MOVART

DAVID BRITS (RSA)

David Brits is an award-winning artist whose experimental métier is dedicated to investigations in public-scale sculpture. Equally energised by material exploration and archival investigation, Brits' practice spans installation, print-making, drawing and film. Born in 1987, Brits graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art (Painting) at the University of Cape Town in 2010.

Recent major public sculpture commissions include the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, the Spier Arts Trust and the Iziko South African National Gallery. Brits is the winner of the Rupert Foundation's inaugural Social Impact Arts Prize and a recipient of the Barbara Fairhead Award for Social Responsibility in Art. Born in 1987, Brits graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art (Painting) at the University of Cape Town in 2010.

David Brits é um artista premiado cujo métier experimental é dedicado a investigações na escultura à escala pública. Igualmente energizado pela exploração de materiais e investigação arquivística, a prática de Brits abrange a instalação, a impressão, o desenho e o filme. Nascido em 1987, os britânicos formaram-se na Escola de Belas Artes Michaelis (Pintura) da Universidade da Cidade do Cabo em 2010.

As principais comissões de escultura pública recentes incluem a Fundação Desmond Tutu HIV, o Spier Arts Trust e a Galeria Nacional Iziko South African National Gallery. Brits é o vencedor do Prémio de Artes de Impacto Social inaugural da Fundação Rupert e o galardoado com o Prémio Barbara Fairhead para a Responsabilidade Social na Arte. Nascido em 1987, os britânicos formaram-se na Escola de Belas Artes Michaelis (Pintura) da Universidade da Cidade do Cabo em 2010.

Time is a Flat Circle
David Brits
Curadoria Camila Maissune



The time of war is a time of an accumulated
and a time of a great change in South Africa
and the world. It is a time of a great change
in the way of life. It is a time of a great
change in the way of life. It is a time of a
great change in the way of life. It is a time
of a great change in the way of life. It is a
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MOVART

Time is a
Flat Circle

Sinusoidal
Nebulous
series



MOVART

**Drawing My Hand at Trying,
2022.**

**Carbon Fibre, Kevlar,
Aluminium, Resin, 2K
58 x 30 x 34cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 2600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Stealing With My Eyes, 2022

**Carbon Fibre, Fibreglass,
Aluminium, Resin, 2K
43 x 43 x 42cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 3200€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

**I Swore I Thought I Saw,
2022**

**Carbon Fibre, Kevlar,
Aluminium, Resin, 2K
42 x 25 x 46cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 2 500€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

The History of Form, 2022

**Fibreglass, Aluminium, Resin,
Automotive Paint, 2K
76 x 45 x 70cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 4 200€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

**Redrawing the Silhouette,
2022**

**Carbon Fibre, Aluminium,
Resin, 2K
80 x 80 x 50cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 6400€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Heirophant, 2022

**Fibreglass, Kevlar, Aluminium,
Resin, Pigment, 2K
50 x 40 x 30cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 3 100 €

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Bladder of the Sun, 2022

**Fibreglass, Aluminium, Resin,
Automotive Paint, 2K
70 x 55 x 56cm
Unique**

P.V.P. 7 000€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

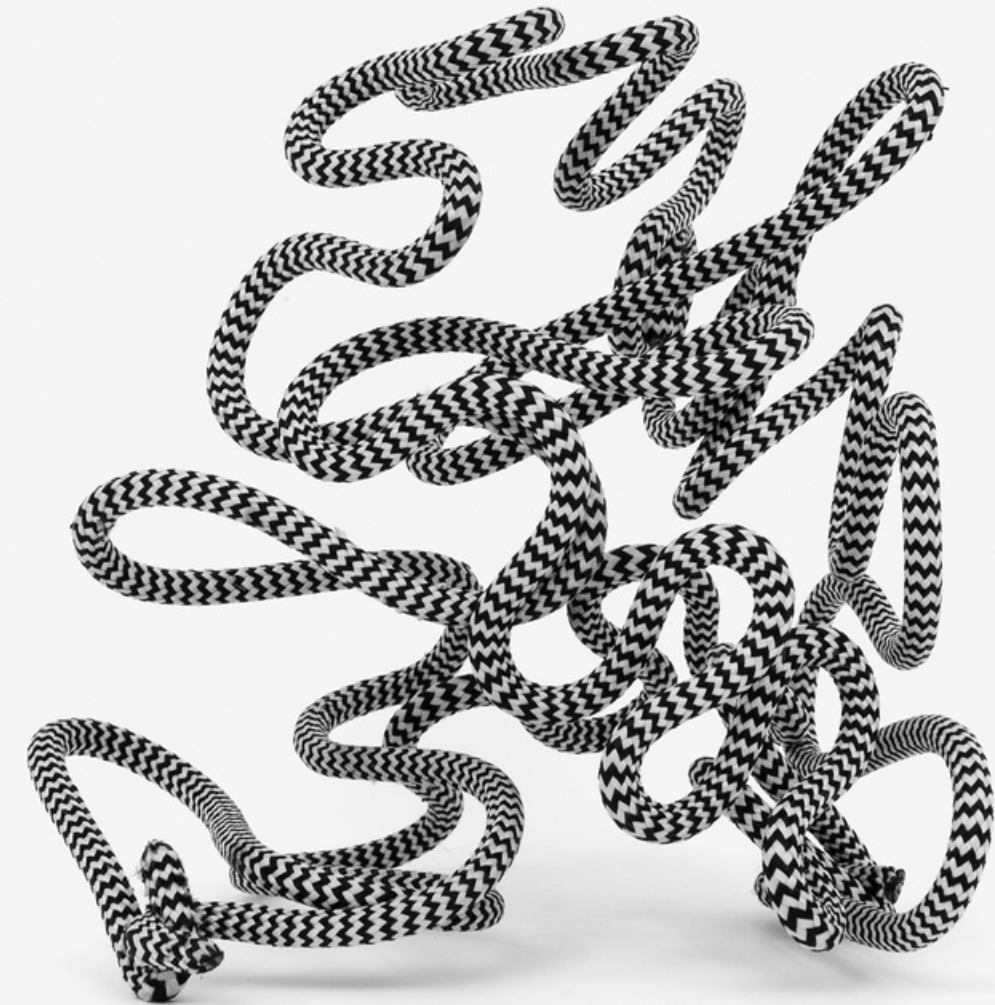
Prototype, 2022.

**Steel and Fabric
20 x 20cm**

Made to the order

P.V.P. 200€

* Shipping not included.





MOVART

Time is a Flat Circle

From the South
African Defence
Force Facebook
series



MOVART

**Bungalow Bill (from the South African
Defence Force Facebook series), 2022**

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Boxing (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

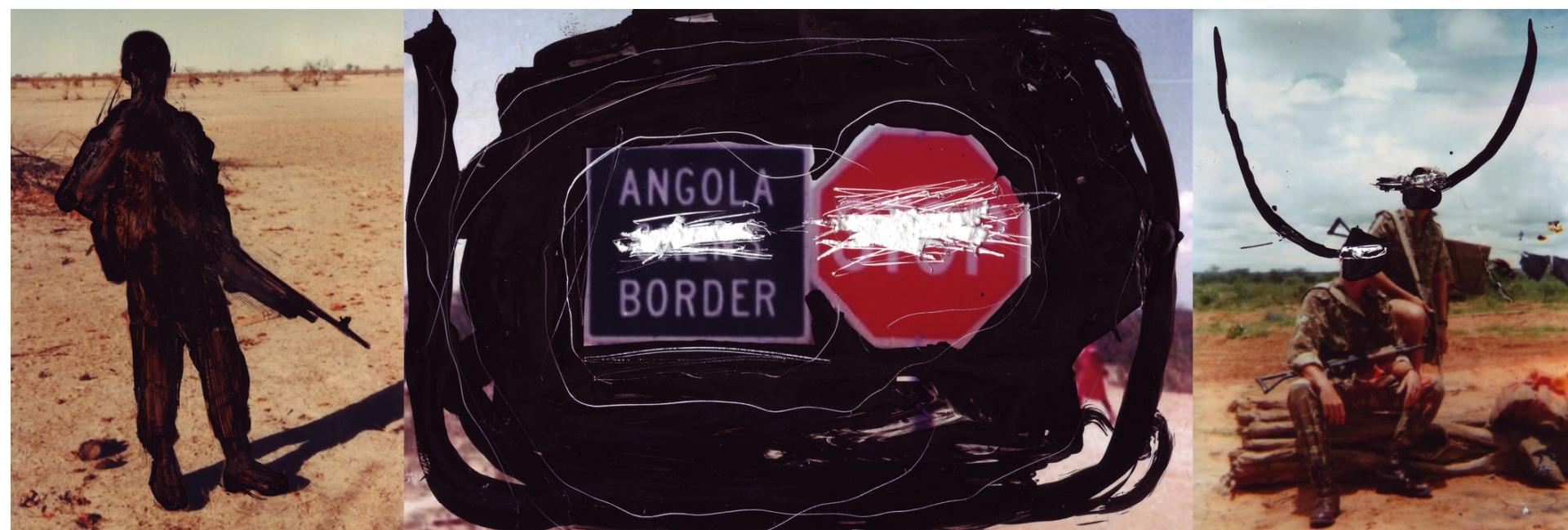
Angola Grens Border (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag

30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Dummy (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series) 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Sout Piel (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Dopping (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Span (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

**Elbow to Shoulder (from the South African
Defence Force Facebook series), 2022**

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Operations (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



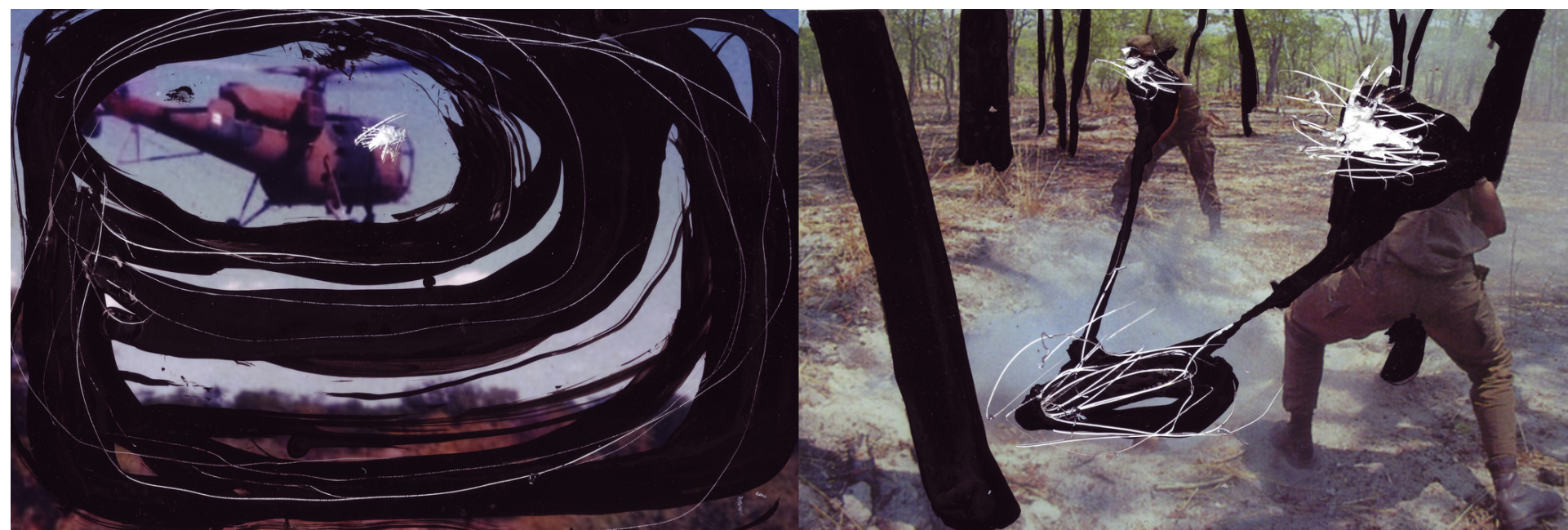
MOVART

Alouette (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Attention (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

**Studio Portraits (from the South African
Defence Force Facebook series), 2022**

India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Potorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Iron (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Bucket (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Shells (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Potorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

**Upside-Down (from the South African
Defence Force Facebook series), 2022**

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Tree Uit (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Moffie (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

O Fok (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



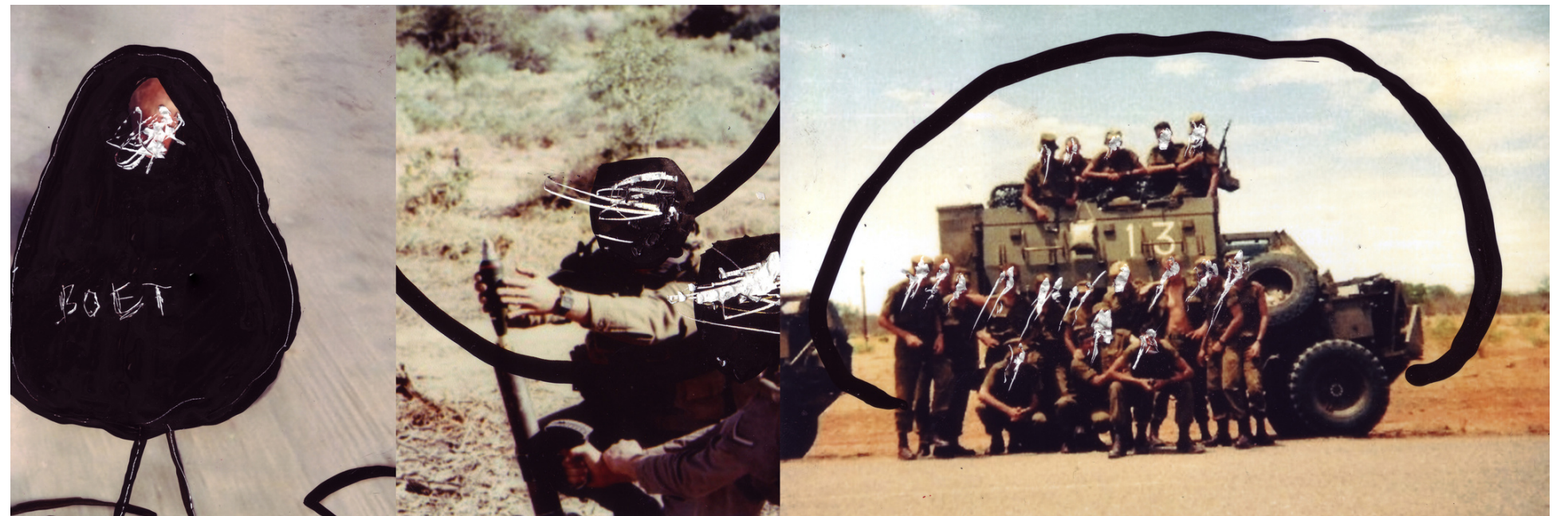
MOVART

Boet (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

**Poes (from the South African Defence Force
Facebook series), 2022**

**India Ink on Incised Facebook Photograph.
Printed on Baryta Photorag
30 x 90cm,
1/3+1AP**

P.V.P. 600€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Installation (from the South African Defence Force Facebook series), 2022

installation with India Ink on Incised
Facebook Photograph. Printed on Baryta
Photorag (14 pieces and support)
425 x 93 cm.

P.V.P. 9300€

* Shipping not included.



MOVART

Time is a Flat Circle, 2022

**Video. Runtime: 3'48''
Edition 3 +1 AP**

P.V.P. 2 787€

* Shipping not included.





The raw material for this film was shot by David Bitt's maternal grandfather, John Wood, during the 1950s and 1960s, before the introduction of television in South Africa. Wood was one of South Africa's most prominent snake catchers and reptile experts. At the time it was the only footage of its kind and was shown in lecture halls across the country. The purpose of the original film was to explain how snakes were caught and how antivenoms were produced.

Filming: John Wood
Editing: Percy Arntsen
Screen: David Bitt



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Currently present in Luanda and Lisbon, MOVART started its journey in Angola with pop-up projects in 2015 and opened its doors at the beginning of 2017 on the Luanda Marginal, with its mission to ensure that the world knows what Africa and its diaspora they have to offer at the level of art, not because of a notion of “otherness” or exoticism, but because artists express realities and discourses that are often invisible, or underrepresented, in the international artistic scene.

Accessing new markets, MOVART has been standing out in the biggest international contemporary art fairs, from New York and London (1-54), Miami (ART SHOW), Cape Town (Investec Cape Town Art Fair), Johannesburg (FNB Joburg Art Fair), Madrid and Lisbon (Arco) and Paris (AKAA Fair), causing a positive and admirable impact on collectors and visitors.

Showing through events and exhibitions that contemporary African art is not a fad, but a permanent element in the art market, it allows artists to gain the recognition and notoriety they deserve.

With a focus on Portuguese-African artists, MOVART is committed to raising its profile internationally, exposing the rich artistic language of a reality that is sometimes little known to a global audience.

Actualmente presente em Luanda e Lisboa, a MOVART iniciou o seu percurso em Angola com projetos pop-up em 2015 e abriu suas portas no início de 2017 na Marginal de Luanda, tendo como sua missão garantir que o mundo conheça o que África e sua diáspora têm a oferecer a nível da arte, não por uma noção de “alteridade” ou exotismo, mas porque os artistas expressam realidades e discursos muitas vezes invisíveis, ou sub representados, no cenário artístico internacional.

Acedendo a novos mercados, a MOVART tem vindo a destacar-se nas maiores feiras internacionais de arte contemporânea, desde Nova York e Londres (1-54), Miami (ART SHOW), Cape Town (Investec Cape Town Art Fair), Joanesburgo (FNB Joburg Art Fair), Madrid e Lisboa (Arco) e Paris (AKAA Fair), provocando um impacto positivo e de grande admiração em colecionadores e visitantes.

Mostrando através de eventos e exposições que a arte contemporânea africana não é um modismo, mas sim um elemento permanente no mercado de arte, permite que os artistas ganhem o reconhecimento e notoriedade que merecem.

Com foco em artistas luso-africanos, a MOVART está empenhada em elevar o seu perfil internacionalmente, expondo para uma audiência global a rica linguagem artística de uma realidade por vezes pouco conhecida.

EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS | SELECTION

MOVART

2022

"NÃO HA CURA", (Alice Marcelino, Pamina Sebastião, Carlota Bóia Neto, Daniela Vieitas, Gabriela Noujaim, Indira Grandê e Sofia Yala), MOVART Gallery, Lisboa

"THE EMPOWERMENT OF THE BLACK MAN", (Kwamé Sousa), Coletivo 284, Lisboa

"INVISIBLE NO LONGER", (Alice Marcellin), MOVART Gallery, Lisboa

ARCO Lisboa (Fidel Évora, Kwame Sousa, Rita GT Keyezua), MOVART Gallery Booth C17, Lisboa

AFRICAN GALLERIES NOW, Group Show, MOVART Booth, Online exclusive.

"OXI DRETU, MANHAM MARIADU", (Fidel Évora), MOVART Gallery, Lisbon.

CAPE TOWN ART FAIR, (Keyezua, Fidel Évora, Ana Silva, Mário Macilau), Booth G4, Cape Town

2021

"CUM LAUDE", Solo Show by Rita GT, MOVART Gallery, Lisbon.

AKAA FAIR, (Keyezua, Mário Macilau, António Ole, Kwame Sousa), Booth C13, MOVART Gallery, Paris.

"SOMBRAS DO TEMPO", Solo Show by Mário Macilau, MOVART Gallery, Lisbon.

ARCO MADRID, (Ihosvanny, Gonçalo Mabunda, Keyezua, Kwame Sousa, Raquel Van Haver), MOVART STAND 7C18, Madrid, Spain.

AFRICAN GALLERIES NOW, Group Show, MOVART Booth, Online exclusive.

"NEW ERA FOR HUMANINTY", (Group show), Marvilla Art District, Lisbon.

"MATÉRIA VITAL", (António Ole), MOVART Gallery, Lisbon.

"ENTRE MONSTROS E HOMENS", (Thó Simões), Banco Económico, Luanda

2020

"AIR IHOSVA", (Ihosvanny), MOVART Gallery, Lisbon.

Showroom Lisboa, Group Show, MOVART Gallery, Lisbon.

AFRICAN GALLERIES NOW, Group Show, MOVART Booth, Online exclusive.

ARCO LISBOA, Group Show, MOVART Booth, Online edition.

"UNTITLED – Virtual Show", (Keyezua, Ihosvanny, Mário Macilau, Muamby Wassaky), Online exclusive.

ARCO MADRID, (António Ole, Keyezua), MOVART Booth, Madrid

2019

FRIDAY 13TH, NOT A MUSEUM, Group Show, (Ihosvanny, Thó Simões, Keyezua, Toy Boy), Lisbon.

"PRIVATE SELECTION", (Ihosvanny, Mário Macilau, Toy Boy, Thó Simões, Mumpasi Meso, Lucano, Muamby Wassaky), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.



EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS | SELECTION

MOVART

2019

AKAA FAIR, (Keyezua, Mário Macilau, René Tavares), Booth C12, MOVART Gallery, Paris.

“HARMONIA E CONTRASTE”, (Mumpasi Meso), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

“ÁFRICA DIVERSIDADE COMUM”, NOT A MUSEUM, (exp. Coletiva), Lisboa.

ARCO LISBOA, (Keyezua, Mário Macilau, René Tavares), MOVART Gallery, Stand IO2, Lisboa.

CAPE TOWN ART FAIR, FRAGMENTED, SOLO SHOW, (Ihosvanny), MOVART Gallery, Booth TT3, Cape Town.

2018

“ESCOLA AO LADO, Lição Nº2 – Só Bumba na Chicala”,(Rlita GT), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

1:54 CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN ART FAIR,(Ihosvanny, Keyezua, Binelde Hyrcan), MOVART Gallery Booth W14,London.

“ENTRE A RECICLAGEM”, (Lucano), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

FNB JOBURG ART FAIR, (Toy Boy, Mário Macilau, René Tavares), MOVART Gallery Booth O9, Johannesburg.

“PAISAGEM QUEIMADA”, (Ihosvanny), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

“GUERRAS GLOBAIS”, (Toy Boy), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

“A LUTA CONTINUA”, (Ngoi Salucombo), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

“MARÇO MULHER”, (Various) MOV’ART Gallery, Luanda.

CAPE TOWN ART FAIR, SOLO SHOW (Keyezua), MOV’ART Gallery Booth, Cape Town.

LONDON ART FAIR, (Keyezua, Rita GT), MOVART Gallery Booth, London.

2017

SCOPE ART SHOW, (Binelde Hyrcan, Ihosvanny, Keyezua), MOVART Gallery Booth, Miami Beach.

2017

FNB JOBURG ART FAIR, (Keyezua, Mário Macilau, Thó Simões), MOVART Gallery Booth, Johannesburg.

“O MUNDO COLORIDO DA TAYA”, (Joana Taya), MOV’ART Gallery, Luanda.

“ARTEOLOGIA”, (Muamby Wassaky), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

1:54 CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN ART FAIR, “INSOMNIA CITY”, SOLO SHOW (Ihosvanny),

MOV’ART Gallery Booth, New York.

“ÚNICO SENTIDO” (Mário Macilau), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

“IXI City” (Albano Cardoso), MOVART Gallery, Luanda.

2016

“CONEXÕES FEMININAS” (Lola Keyezua, Rita GT, Ana Silva) Galeria do Banco Económico, Luanda.

“DESAFECTADOS” (Ihosvanny Cisneros) Maianga Construction Site, Luanda.

“CRI’ARTE: Charity Auction” (Various), Epic Sana, Luanda.

“KWIKA- Love or Hate” (Januário Jano), Galerie de Thorigny, Paris.

“CRI’ARTE: Women United in Angola’s Development” (Various), MAAN, Luanda.

“FRAGMENTAÇÃO 1.0” (Januário Jano), Galeria do Banco Económico, Luanda.

2015

“OPENING” (Various), JEMBAS (Dipanda loja4), Luanda.

“SER GLOBAL” (Daniela Ribeiro), Galeria do Banco Económico, Luanda.

“GUIADORES” (Cristiano Mangovo), MAAN, Luanda.

“VERSUS” (Mariana Dias Coutinho, Valentim Quaresma), Torre Dipanda (Novinvest), Luanda.

“Downtown NOW” (Ihosvanny Cisnesros), Instituto Camões, Luanda.

“KI MONA MESU” (José da Silva Pinto, Mário Tendinha), Instituto Camões, Luanda.

“VAMOS FAZER HISTORIA”(Various), Elinga Theater, Luanda.

“A MODERNIDADE IGNORADA.ARQUITECTURA MODERNA DE LUANDA” (Various), Instituto Camões, Luanda.

“AS NUVENS” (Daniela Ribeiro), Instituto Camões, Luanda



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**OBRIGADO.
THANK YOU.**

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