Mncedi Madolo

portfolio

2026

About

Mncedi Madolo 1988. I am a South African artist whose journey through the world of art began with a national diploma in Fine Arts, majoring in painting.

In 2015, alongside my artistic endeavors, I pursued further development by completing a certification in business skills management with SEDA, all while engaging in graphic design, brand identity, and commissioned work for friends and family.

The year 2017 marked a significant transition for myself as I moved to Johannesburg to pursue a full-time career as a Fine Artist. Immersed in the vibrant urban environment of one of Africa's most dynamic cities, I found inspiration in the everyday struggles and triumphs of African people, particularly those navigating the complexities of lower-middle-class existence amidst political and personal challenges

BODY OF WORK

Heritage Project:

Ancestral SPIRITS



The Eastern Cape province of South Africa is rich in historical and cultural heritage, particularly as it relates to sites of conflict and war. The Frontier Wars (1779–1878), fought between the Xhosa kingdoms and colonial forces, left an indelible mark on the region, shaping its history, identity, and landscape. These sites hold stories of resilience, struggle, and cultural exchange, which are at risk of being lost due to neglect, urban development, and a lack of awareness.

This project seeks to address the need for preserving and promoting these culturally significant sites, while fostering a deeper understanding of their historical importance. By safeguarding this heritage, we can contribute to local identity, tourism, and education, while honoring the legacy of those who shaped the region's history.



UMANONO: INVOCATIONS OF A CHILD SPIRIT



IMI MOYA (SPIRIT OF THE LAND)

Temporary installation

The work interacts with the PRISTASY Building in downtown Joburg. One of many heritage buildings with a deep colonial legacy.

The intervention utilizes light, Sound and air pressure to try and connect with the invisible environment.



Inflatable installation room

Collage series

Issues of Colour



Wakrazulwa is a Xhosa word which roughly translates to, 'being torn or taking apart'. It can be used to interpret an emotional or mental state, or to describe a physical action.

I primarily use collage as a form of expression, and incorporate popular brands, flyers, and posters as a way of unveiling a tapestry of perceptions around contemporary life and spiritual practice that are currently prevalent in Africa and globally.

My work explores the impact of man-made systems of power on the lived experience and the separation of global versus local ideologies.

Incorporating both contexts and meanings – the themes I take apart and in the way that I work, wakrazulwa, can be viewed both as a frame of mind and an art technique.



WAKRAZULWA: COLOUR IS A BIG ISSUE



Black Milk (Mother God)

This collection of canvas works showcases the cacophony of texts which cover our urban cityscape. The texts which populate the worlds which Madolo's Afro-futuristic characters exist in reference many of the pop iconography.
All of these texts make reference to the many commands which unleash themselves on the city's inhabitants - all speaking simultaneously at u, requesting, commanding, pleading and begging us to hear and listen.



Title: uSiko the elder

Size: 164 x 131 cm

Year: 2026

Description: uSiko is one of the eldest of the mythological spirit figures. Said to have existed for about 150 000 years. Her name is translated as Culture, she gave birth to the earliest forms of human coexistence.



Title: iYelenqe (Conspiracy theorist)

Size: 164 x 131 cm

Year: 2025

Description: A pre-colonial Ngqwayi of 4500 BC. The name means conspiracy and through her we get to see the narratives that we are unable to comprehend in modern history and the motives behind them


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