



ASANDA KUPA

Like the birds on our heads, we are scared

2018

Acrylic on canvas

172 x 136 x 2 cm (67.7 x 53.5 x 0.8 inches)

R40,000.00

Asanda Kupa's (b.1981) work is grounded in the lives of those forced to the periphery of 'the New South Africa', based on his experiences of growing up, living and working in Molteno, Eastern Cape. Since 2012, regime failure, economic struggle and grassroots protest among the black working classes have been central themes of the artist's work, which was initially catalysed by the Marikana massacre.

Uniforms are constant reminders of the social order, making the labouring classes immediately identifiable as well as substantially anonymous. In their standard-issue overalls and set against foreboding skies, Kupa's crowds are faceless but decked in the orange and blue that we associate with 'emergency lights'. Kupa presses us to ask who comprises the crowd, and whose individual lives and emotions make up the crucible in which civic action, social movements and mass protest emerge.

Raw, incisive and urgent, Kupa's work captures an important period in South Africa's political history, as he reflects on the breadth and depth of economies of hope, hopelessness and popular protest.

Kupa lives in Johannesburg, works at the Bag Factory, and frequently returns to his childhood home. He holds an NDip in Fine Art from Walter Sisulu University and a BTech degree from Tshwane University of Technology. Between 2009 and 2011, he resurrected the Molteno Museum. He was the recipient of both the Ann Bryant Young Artist of the Year award (2010), and the Reinhold Cassirer Award (2013). In 2018 Kupa has participated in a residency in Iran, taken part in group exhibitions in both the US and UK, and had a solo exhibition at Guns & Rain in Johannesburg. Kupa has exhibited at multiple fairs and his work sits in a number of important collections, including the Southern African Foundation For Contemporary Art and Nando's.



ASANDA KUPA

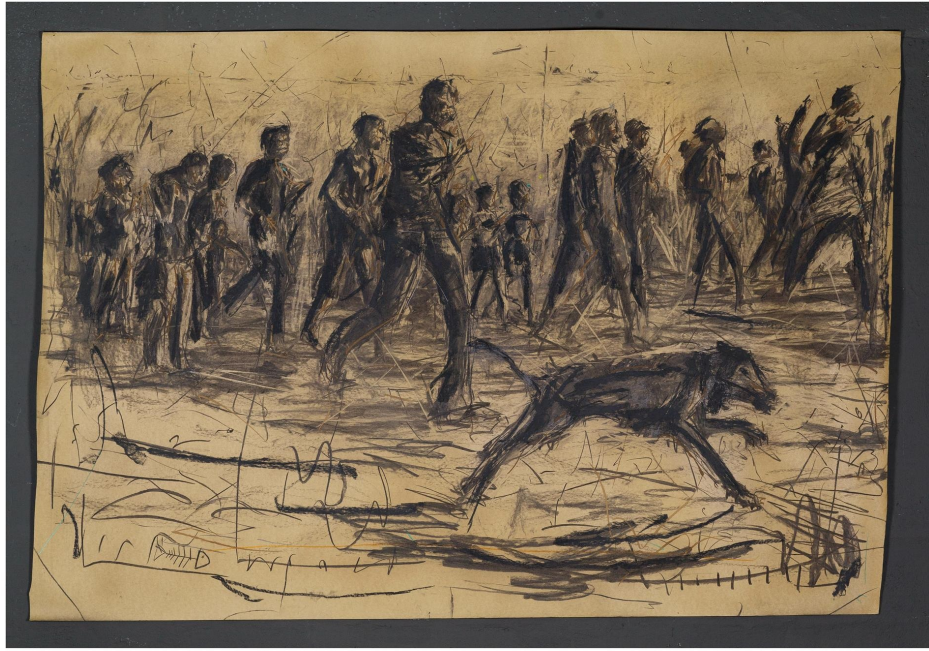
The Meetings

2018

Acrylic on canvas

140 x 250 cm (55.1 x 98.4 inches)

R60,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Inja ngobunja bayo (trans. 'A dog remains what it is, a dog')

2018

Charcoal on paper

159 x 232 cm (62.6 x 91.3 inches)

R29,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Dogs can't eat fish

2018

Charcoal and pastel on paper

134 x 172 cm (52.8 x 67.7 inches)

R25,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Isilumkiso

2018

Acrylic on canvas

235 x 142 cm (92.5 x 55.9 inches)

R60,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

River of denial

2018

Acrylic on canvas

143 x 188 cm (56.3 x 74.0 inches)

R40,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Soil

2018

Acrylic on canvas

146 x 87 cm (57.5 x 34.3 inches)

R35,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Theories of the Crowd I

2018

Acrylic on canvas

60 x 60 x 5 cm (23.6 x 23.6 x 2.0 inches)

R16,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Safety Precautions

2018

Acrylic on canvas

147 x 140 x 2 cm (57.9 x 55.1 x 0.8 inches)

R40,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Stray people

2018

Charcoal on paper

142 x 168 cm (55.9 x 66.1 inches)

R25,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Shay'iround

2018

Acrylic on canvas

180 x 145 cm (70.9 x 57.1 inches)

R40,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Just Like Mondays

2018

Acrylic on canvas

128 x 147 cm (50.4 x 57.9 inches)

R40,000.00



ASANDA KUPA

Masibangene

2018

Acrylic on canvas

137 x 188 cm (53.9 x 74.0 inches)

R40,000.00