



Never the Same Fire Twice (single or diptych)

Acrylic, Charcoal on Canvas
155cm x 130cm

In direct response to the raging fires happening in South Africa right now, and the devastating effect they have on the wildlife; This diptych channels Heraclitus explicitly: you cannot step into the same fire twice. Each panel feels like a different mood of flame — one luminous and eruptive, the other somber and smoldering — mirroring the duality within all living beings.

For a Namibian artist, fire carries ancestral weight: hearth, ritual, storytelling, warning. Yet here it becomes metaphor for identity's perpetual mutation. The self that meets the world today is not the self that met it yesterday.

The work critiques the expectation of static identity in a society obsessed with definition. It argues that to be alive — spiritually, politically, creatively — is to be in constant combustion. Through this lens, fire becomes not destruction but transformation, urging us to embrace flux as a form of empowerment.

Livia Dualis