

Gallery I, Lower Level
Clockwise from entrance



Killing you softly, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 201.3 x 147.3 cm
 79 1/4 x 58 in



If we live through it, She'll carry us back, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 182.9 x 152.4 cm
 72 x 60 in



Even, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 184.8 x 154.9 cm
 72 3/4 x 61 in



Beneath lies the Power, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 212.1 x 156.2 cm
 83 1/2 x 61 1/2 in



History Trolling, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 92.1 x 154.9 cm
 36 1/4 x 61 in



The screamer island dreamer, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 184.8 x 154.9 cm
 72 3/4 x 61 in



My mothership, 2014
 Collage painting on linoleum
 63.5 x 100.3 cm
 25 x 39 1/2 in

Reception



Mountain of prayer, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 77.5 x 90.2 cm, 30 1/2 x 35 1/2 in
 Private collection

Gallery I, Upper Level



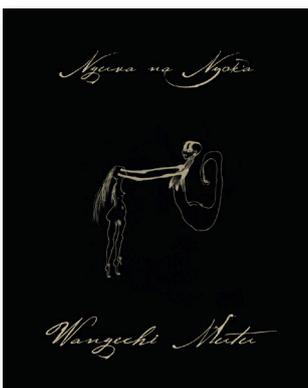
Long John flapper, 2014
 Collage painting on vinyl
 184.2 x 154.9 cm
 72 1/2 x 61 in



Nguva, 2013
 Video (color, sound)
 17 minutes, 52 seconds
 Edition of 6



Sleeping Serpent, 2014
 Mixed media fabric and ceramic
 91 x 91 x 94.5 cm
 35 7/8 x 35 7/8 x 37 1/8 in



The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue
 Texts by Adrienne Edwards and Binyavanga Wainaina

Wangechi Mutu Nguva na Nyoka

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Wangechi Mutu *Nguva na Nyoka*

Victoria Miro is delighted to present the gallery's second exhibition by Wangechi Mutu, widely known for her elaborate collages that explore and subvert cultural preconceptions of the female body and the feminine.

Mutu's practice has been described as engaging in her own unique form of myth-making. This exhibition, *Nguva na Nyoka* (meaning "Sirens and Serpents" in Kiswahili) presents Mutu's latest body of collage, video and sculptural works. Drawing on such diverse references as East African coastal mythologies (particularly of *nguvu*s, or water women), gender and racial politics, Western popular culture, Eastern and ancient beliefs and autobiography, in her works Mutu proposes worlds within worlds, populated by powerful hybridised female figures.

Mutu's latest collage-paintings are defined by a shift away from her much-documented use of Mylar as a substrate to a use of vinyl and linoleum as the basis for the works, allowing for a more densely textured and sculptural ground. Painterly techniques are employed alongside Mutu's signature construction of images comprised of deftly cut-out and collaged forms. In addition, Mutu's visual language is further enriched in these works by her use of unexpected materials such as tea, batik fabrics, synthetic hair, Kenyan soil, feathers, and sand, amongst other media – many of which are imbued with their own cultural significations. The interweaving of fact with fiction and an extension of the possibilities for yet another group of symbolic female characterisations that co-

exist in various cultures as another understanding (or constructing) of femaleness underpins this new body of work. The exhibition will also feature a video, entitled *Nguva*, a multi-tiered performance featuring the mesmeric eponymous role: a mysterious aquatic character who emerges from the sea onto land and wanders, restless, vicious and curious.

Born in Nairobi, Kenya, Wangechi Mutu currently lives and works in New York. Her work has been presented in solo exhibitions at the Deutsche Guggenheim, Berlin; the Wiels Contemporary art centre, Brussels; the Art Gallery of Ontario; the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sydney amongst others. Most recently, Mutu's survey exhibition *A Fantastic Journey* opened at the Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL. This exhibition originated at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University in Durham, NC (March 2013), and has traveled to the Brooklyn Museum of Art and the Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami. Her work has also been featured in group exhibitions at other major museums including the Palais de Tokyo, Paris; the New Museum, New York; the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, New York; Tate Liverpool; the Vancouver Art Gallery; the Studio Museum in Harlem; Museum Kunstpalast, Düsseldorf; Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris; the Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago; and Moderna Museet, Stockholm. Wangechi Mutu was named as the first Deutsche Bank "Artist of the Year" in 2010.