

## **Artist statement: Memory of porcelain**

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The rich treasure that comprises the Karoo is humble and therefore easily ignored and dismissed. With this in mind, I have documented the shards of old Victorian crockery found in the veld on the farm Rietfontein, near De Aar in the Great Karoo, by using one of the first experiments of photographic techniques and processes, called cyanotype.

The weathered and discarded fragments of glass and porcelain are metaphors for the easily overlooked treasures in the Karoo that exist right in front of our eyes. The cyanotype process records not the actual objects but the negative spaces around the objects, the nothingness that shares a reciprocal edge with the object. Consequently, although intended as a process to document presence, the resulting images define the loss of a presence and trace the evidence of a previous existence.

*Memory of porcelain* predict the inevitable destruction of these remains through decay, much in the same way that the fragile treasures of the Karoo could be destroyed through fracking.

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May 2012

