## **OBLIVION OF THE WAVES**



ANTON SMIT sculptor

EXCLUSIVE EXHIBITION

Bengnela Coue LAGOON WINE ESTATE

## **ANTON SMIT** The Life and Times of a South African Sculptor

Widely revered for his overwhelming heads and monumental sculptures, evoking themes of suffering, reconciliation, glory and sublimation, his works grace public and private collections countrywide and internationally.

"Spoken verse, the echoes of emotive lyrics and the rasping of sculptures in progress are customary sounds emitted from his studio.Larger than life, Anton Smit is the embodiment of poetry, an apt term for this sculptor, derived from the term "making". Anton forms his own language through sculpture, the manifestation of his passion for expression and his profound faith."

-Kathleen Thomas, Art Curator

"What distinguishes the creative person is his persistence and determination to excel." -Rhoma Ochse

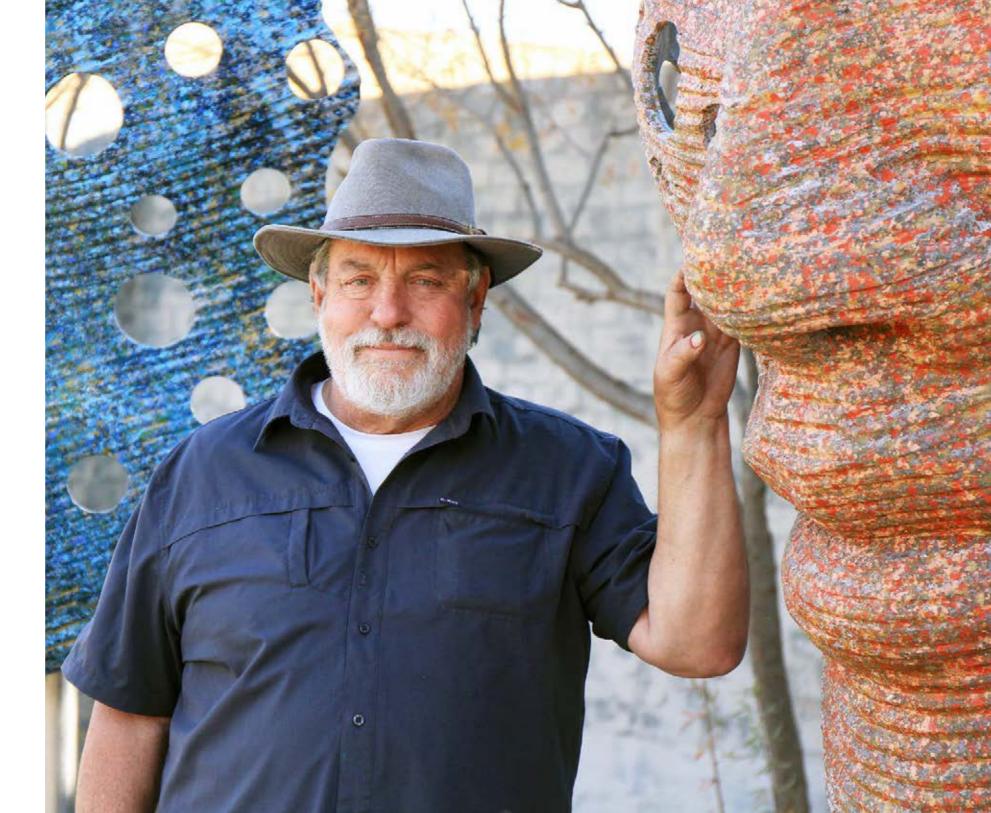
Anton collects sayings about the relationship between art and the individual artist's experience of reality. "Art is not to render the visible but to render visible," he asserts, and his art achieves this in many ways. An inspiring raconteur, Anton enjoys relating tales of his struggles as a young artist. The secret to his success could be attributed to his courage and determination to forge ahead in the face of great difficulty.

"Take big risks. Don't fret about what others think. Do the most difficult thing on earth for you – do it for yourself – this approach paid off in spades." -**Anton Smit** 

" A human being consists of the choices he makes." -Anton Smit

" You must care about a world you can't see."

-Bertrand Russel



"Creation continues incessantly through the medium of man," Anton believes. "Man himself then is mouthpiece, medium and meaning all in one, and his challenge as an artist is to create himself over and over again, finding new connotations and new concepts in given shapes, figures and faces. Man emulates and assimilates nature, producing poetry in word and form."

Some observers have noted that this is why so many of his pieces, even the most abstract ones, manage to communicate powerfully and emotionally and why his work is possessed of a raw, earthy power that feels innately African. His body of work comprises towering human figures, nudes, impressive heads, masks, hands, angels, floating and stretching figures, warriors as well as abstract works, using mostly steel, metal, fiberglass and bronze.

Anton likes to imbue his work with an illusion of movement or gesture, bodies curling up or limbs reaching out to the onlooker, inspirational "action figures" projecting tremendous emotion, a call to movement. He works with metals and stones, also creating a unique iron and polymer cast mixture, which combines metal with several other mediums.

Anton spends and works the first three months of the year in his Cape studio in Strand and for the rest of the year in his studio at Bronkhorstspruit Dam, where he oversees a dedicated work force of 14 people. "They are like family."

Anton Smit in his creative prime is a force to be reckoned with.



## **BENGUELA COVE LAGOON WINE ESTATE ...**

... is a celebration of nature, tranquil living, hospitality, art and culture. Gifted with a special terroir in the Walker Bay Region it is a leading wine tourism destination and home to stellar, cool climate wines.

The 220-hectare wine and residential estate is also the centrepiece of a Renosterveld Nature Reserve, nestled amongst vineyards, olive groves and fynbos that is frequented by birds and wildlife. Closely located to the town of Hermanus, it is framed by mountains, panoramic views of the Bot River Lagoon and vistas of the Atlantic Ocean, admired for its unique location.

Benquela Cove caters to all visitors in search of a creative and inviting space to enjoy excellent food and wine delivered with exceptional service. The estate is tailored to meet the needs of both the adventurer and those who seek a serene space to enjoy quality time with friends and family.

All the wines tell a story of place and is made with focus and intent to deliver on the expectation of elegance, personality and longevity. The range of extra virgin olive oils follow suit with a distinctive character, quality and taste.

Owner of Benguela Cove, Penny Streeter OBE, set out to merge food, wine and art on a collective platform to celebrate its importance in the South African hospitality industry.

"These artforms embrace the rich heritage, natural produce and talent in South Africa. The terroir is celebrated through exceptional wine, local produce is honoured with delicious food and now the art of a master South African sculptor will also grace our premises."













BATSHEBA COMBINED UNIT: (H) 920 x (W) 220 x (D) 400 MATERIAL: STONE CAST EDITION: OUT OF 24



FRACTURE IV COMBINED UNIT: (H) 1,160 x (W) 425 x (D) 250 MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: OUT OF 24



SOMETHING RICH & STRANGE COMBINED UNIT: (H) 910 x (W) 350 x (D) 300 MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: OUT OF 24



BUT I FLY - MULTI COLOUR COMBINED UNIT: (H) 1,730 x (W) 350 x (D) 300 MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: UNIQUE **REFLECT TRIPTICH COMBINED UNIT**: (H) 545 x (W) 145 x (D) 145 **MATERIAL**: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER **EDITION**: OUT OF 24



REFLECT COMBINED UNIT: (H) 1, 700 x (W) 350 x (D) 350 (EACH) MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: OUT OF 24







WINGED SPEED COMBINED UNIT: (H) 710 x (W) 730 x (D) 500 MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: OUT OF 24













SHATTERED REMAINS 25, 24, 23 COMBINED UNIT: (H) 1,020 x (W) 615 x (D) 420 MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER / STEEL EDITION: UNIQUE



MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: OUT OF 24



FAITH MASK - LARGE - FREE STANDINGCOMBINED UNIT: (H) 1,400 x (W) 820 x (D) 310 (ADJUSTABLE STAND)MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMEREDITION: UNIQUE(VARIOUS COLOUR OPTIONS AVAILABLE)



AGAPÉ EFFERVESCENT - LARGE - FREESTANDING - MULTI COLOUR COMBINED UNIT: (H) 1,400 x (W) 820 x (D) 310 (ADJUSTABLE STAND) MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: UNIQUE (VARIOUS COLOUR OPTIONS AVAILABLE)







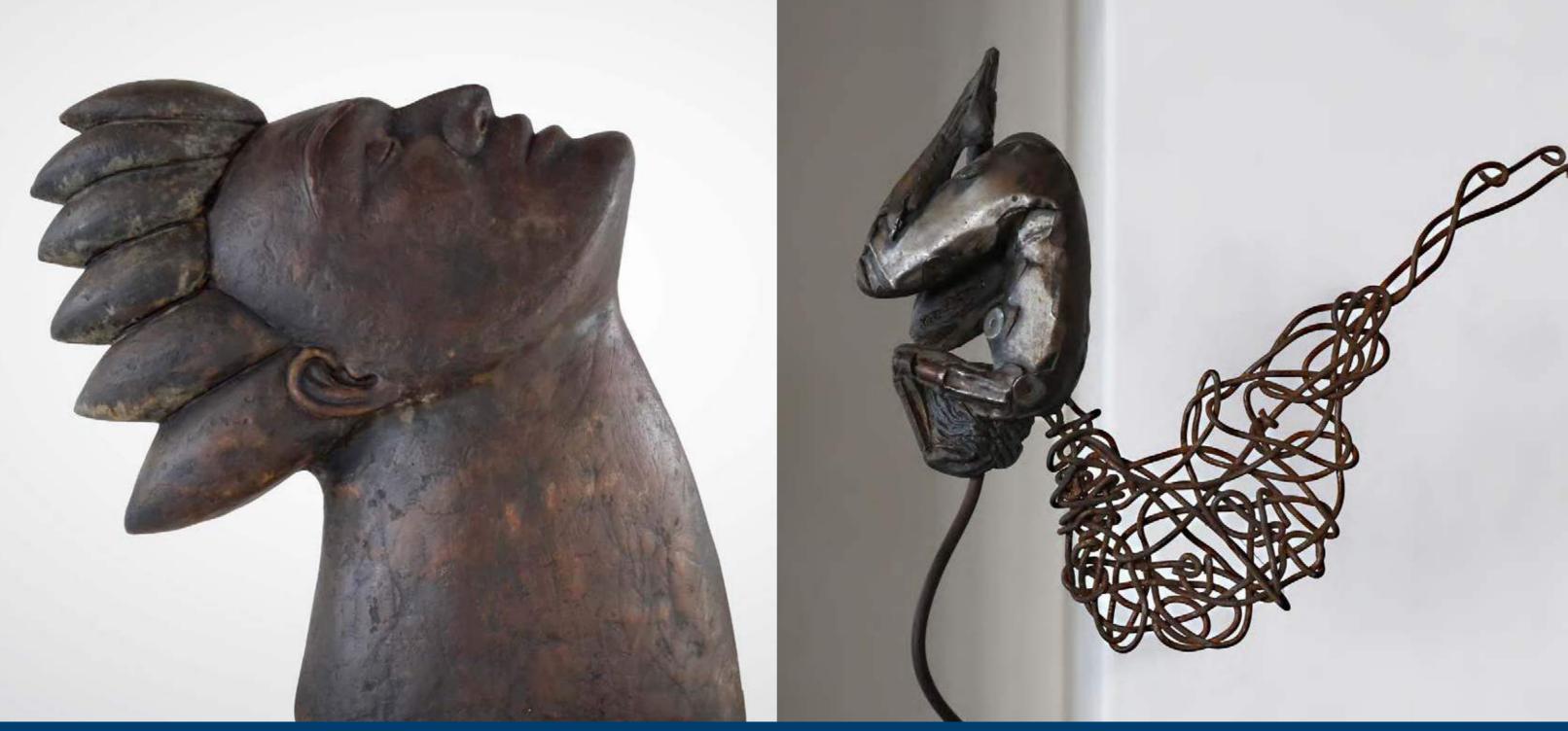




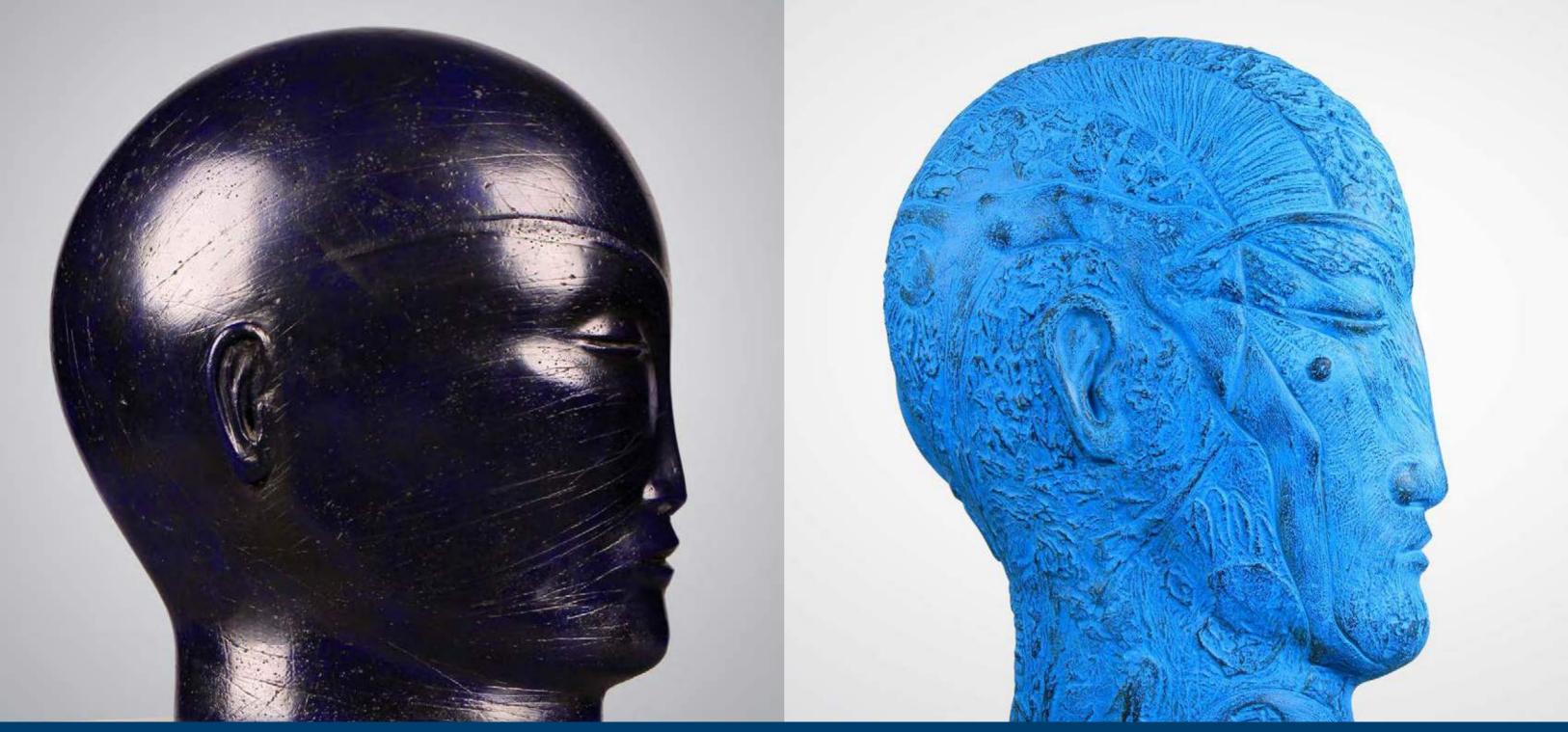




SPEED HEAD - ORIGINAL COMBINED UNIT: (H) 500 x (W) 120 x (D) 275 MATERIAL: BRONZE EDITION: OUT OF 12



CROUCHING GIRL WITH WING - TEXTURED COMBINED UNIT: (H) 644 x (W) 220 x (D) 110 MATERIAL: GLASS REINFORCED POLYMER EDITION: UNIQUE



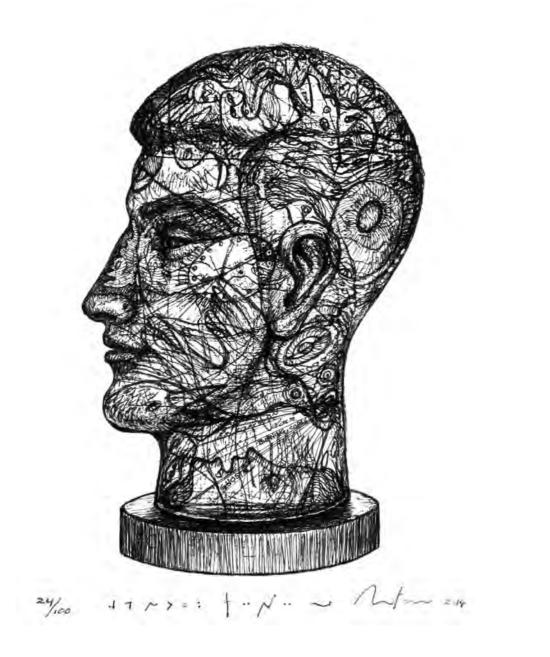


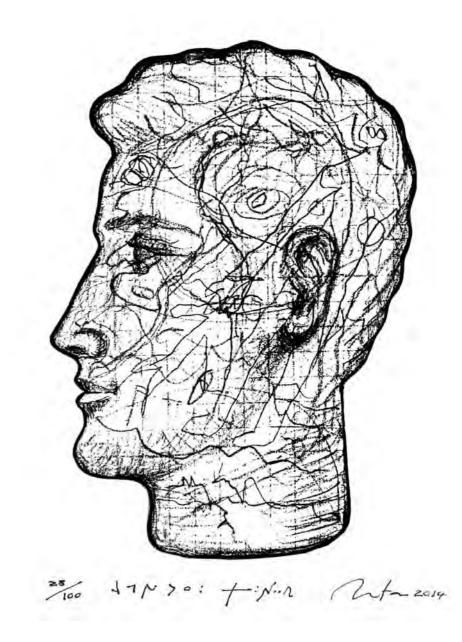






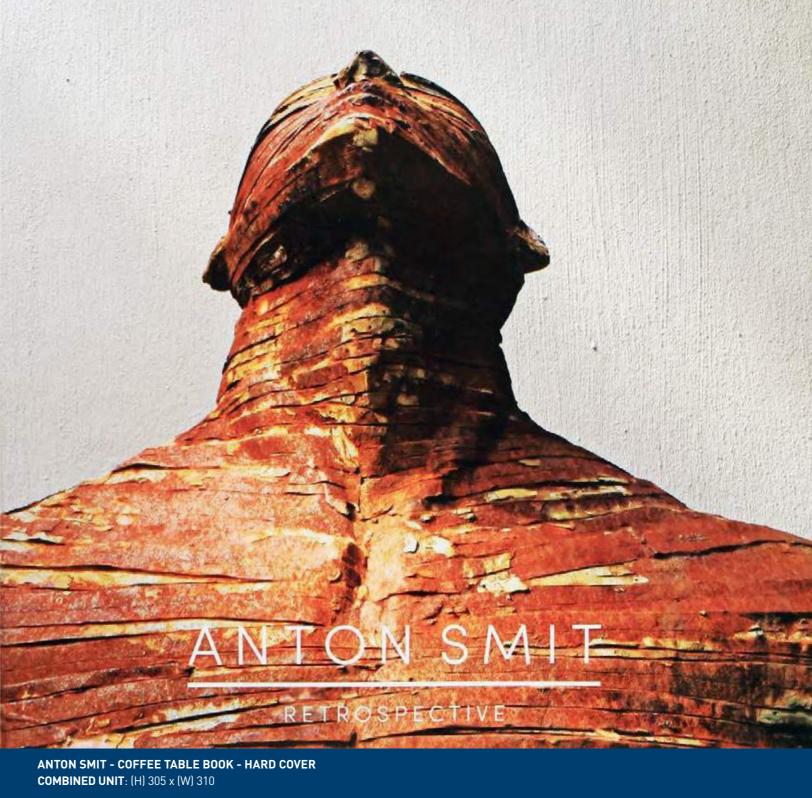






### ANTON SMIT - PRINT 1 COMBINED UNIT: (H) 860 x (W) 740 PAPER: HAHNEMUHLE PHOTO RAG - 308GSM





ANTON SMIT - PRINT 3 COMBINED UNIT: (H) 860 x (W) 740 PAPER: HAHNEMUHLE PHOTO RAG - 308GSM

### **ANTON SMIT - CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- 1991: Exhibitions in Rome and Milan Italy International exhibition of Two Worlds in Spoletto, Italy
- **1992:** Large sculptures commissioned by BMW Head Office Johannesburg
- **1993:** One-man exhibition at Sweeguan Art Gallery, Singapore
- **1994:** One-man exhibition at Omni Gallery, New York Exhibition at the inauguration of President Nelson Mandela at the Presidency Exhibition in Germany, Bonn, Wolfsburg
- 1998: Exhibition at the South African Embassy, Bonn One-man exhibition Artfolio Gallery, Singapore
- **1999:** Exhibition at the Inter Art Galerie Reich, Koln
- 2001: Exhibition Hamburg, Germany Works purchased by Anton Rupert for the Rembrandt Foundation
- 2004: Exhibition Amsterdam
- 2007: Public Commission: National Library of Tswane, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2008: Revelations Wall Exhibition / Sculpture Park Relate Platform on 18th, Pretoria
- 2009: No second death Exhibition, Wine Estate Grande Provence, Franschoek
  Delaire Wine Estate Stellenbosch Main Artist Public Exhibition Idiom Wine Estate
- **2010:** Facet Exhibition Anton Smit Sculpture Park & Gallery Angels Exhibition Grande Provence Franschoek Poetry Exhibition Charity St Lorient, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2011: Transitions Exhibition Anton Smit Sculpture Park
- 2012: Transcendental Head Public Sculpture on the R25 Symbol of the New South Africa
- 2013: Metal Work Public Art in Stellenbosch II

**2014:** Art Affair - Saxon Hotel Jhb • Cool Capital participation Spirit of Tswane - Public sculpture for Menlyn Main precinct

- **2015:** Smit & Smit Imibala Gallery Cross section exhibition Jan Royce Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa In Retrospect Menlyn Boutique Hotel, Pretoria, South Africa
- 2016: Colossal Australian Bronze, Sydney, Australia Exhibition Puerto-Rico Exhibition Miami Public Sculpture Exhibition - Menlyn Maine, Pretoria, South Africa • Charity Auction MAD Foundation Sculpture (Spiritus Mundi) sold for R120 000 • Pendoring Awards
- 2017: 7m Faith Stream Conference Spier Wine Farm, Stellenbosch, South Africa Public Sculpture Exhibition - Capital Hotel, Menlyn Maine, Pretoria, South Africa Between the shadow and the soul - Exhibition - Imibala, Somerset-West, South Africa Brick Face - Imibala Charity - Community Upliftment Project • Charity Auction - MAD Foundation Sculptures (Head of a Young Boy & Head of a Young Girl) sold for R100 000 each Smit & Smit Collaboration - Cape Wine Auction - Sculpture sold for R1,200,000 Rite of Passage - Exhibition - Jan Royce, Cape Town, South Africa • Durban Essence -Expo Exhibition, Durban - South Africa • Public Sculpture Exhibition - Melrose Arch, Johannesburg, South Africa Walking Man - Exhibition - Grande Provence, Franchoek, South Africa
- 2018: Submerge Imibala Gallery
- **2019:** Colossal Exhibition Genk, Belgium Public Sculpture 7m Faith C-Mine, Genk, Belgium Exclusive Exhibition The Ivy Villa Hotel, Sandton, South Africa

# ANTON SMIT



BengnelaCove LAGOON / WINE ESTATE

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