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**PRESS RELEASE
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Ngala Trading introduces MUD Studio, a collection of artistic handcrafted ceramic lighting.
Made in South Africa from small-scale clay forms, its recycled origins are symbolic of conscious living.

February 4, 2025; New York, NY—Ngala Trading introduces a new line of ceramic lighting, MUD Studio, bringing sustainable, innovative lighting, handmade by South African artisans, to the North American marketplace.

MUD Studio chandeliers are a symbol of artistic innovation and a testament to the transformative power of creativity and community collaboration. MUD Studio is fueled by creative artisans who conceptualize grand designs by stringing together small-scale ceramic pieces on steel frames to create layered, textural lighting that glows. The studio aims to bridge cultural divides and celebrate the artistic heritage of the continent. Its recycled origins make it not just a fixture but a symbol of conscious living.

“We are honored to partner with MUD Studio to introduce their visionary masterpieces to a broader audience of wildly talented American designers,” says Lawson Ricketts, Creative Director of Ngala Trading. “The layers of handmade ceramic pieces that grace these lighting forms have caught my eye for years. It feels fresh, authentically creative, and innovative. Designers come to Ngala Trading namely for our unique lighting designs; this introduction further cements our reputation as a resource for beautiful lighting. Our team looks forward to seeing these designs further transcend cultures and captivate beautiful homes across North America.”

MUD comes to Ngala Trading with a well-respected fan base of design visionaries, seen in installations throughout the world by Kit Kemp, Ralph Lauren, and MOMA.

The initial introduction starts with the following six design styles in varying sizes and earth-toned colors:

The Original MUD Chandelier: Originally first displayed in MOMA NY from 2006 to 2007 as part of the Africa exhibition, the Original MUD Chandelier was conceived as a response to the surplus of waste material generated within the studio, reflecting MUD’s commitment to sustainability and innovation. The creative collaboration that resulted in the original chandelier style was an instant success, catalyzing economic empowerment within the community as it bridges African design and European influence.

The Leaf Pod Chandelier: Inspired by the architecture of the bagworm cocoon, indigenous to the arid regions of Southern Africa, the Leaf Pod Chandelier is crafted with delicate ceramic leaves delicately draped over a sturdy steel frame. The pod provides a beautiful sculptural piece by day, and the soft glow like a tame bush fire by night.



The Spiky Chandelier: The long, handmade ceramic twig-like beads suspended from two, three or four tiers. Providing a unique textural appearance as the light filters through, its glow showcasing a soft luminosity drenched in the room it adorns.

The Thatch Dome: Made with long ceramic leaves, the Thatch Dome pendant is reminiscent of thatch beach umbrellas seen on holidays in tropical island getaways. Seamlessly blending sustainability with elegance, the handcrafted dome comes together through skilled artisans' use of recycled clay sourced directly within the studio, crafted through a stoneware firing process that increases durability and ease of cleaning.

The CoupeD'Or: A symphony of craftsmanship and eco-conscious design, the CoupeD'Or features a mesmerizing arrangement of thousands of recycled ceramic leaves delicately spiraling around a robust steel frame. Each leaf, warm and unglazed, exudes a natural allure while also emitting a soft chime with the gentlest touch, heightening the sensory experience and adding a whimsical charm to its interiors. By day, the Coupe d'or casts intricate shadows and commands attention as a sculptural centerpiece. As night descends, it transforms, emanating a warm and inviting glow reminiscent of a flickering campfire.

MUD lighting will debut at High Point Market in April 2025 and is available to order online now. Following its market debuts, select pieces will be on display in the Ngala Trading flagship showroom at the New York Design Center. Design professionals are encouraged to open a trade account for sampling and ordering. For more information, please visit NgalaTrading.com.

About Ngala Trading: Ngala Trading is a leading resource to North America's premier boutique home furnishing stores and interior design firms for their lighting, furniture, décor, and accessories requirements. Founded in 2016 by Nick Geimer and Lawson Ricketts, Ngala Trading is now the largest importer and distributor of sustainably and ethically sourced handmade, luxury lighting, furniture, and home decor curated from across the African continent. Design headquarters for Ngala Trading is based in New York, New York. To learn more, visit www.ngalatrading.com.

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