



A field companion

R 36,800.00



A Field Companion (2026) is a contemporary acrylic painting by South African artist Shana Ellappa, rendered on 100% cotton canvas. The work forms part of her ongoing exploration into memory, ancestry, and the lived realities of South African Indian histories, offering a deeply humanised perspective on narratives that are often reduced to statistics or archival fragments.

Through a sensitive and expressive visual language, Ellappa reclaims the emotional interiority of those who came before us, foregrounding the fact that these histories are not abstract, but rooted in real lives, relationships, and longing. The title suggests both presence and intimacy: a companion in the

field, a witness to labour, land, and survival.

Positioned within the broader context of postcolonial and diasporic discourse, the painting reflects on the conditions of indenture and migration while resisting a purely historical reading. Instead, it centres love, connection, and emotional endurance, reminding viewers that even within systems of oppression, there existed a persistent yearning for belonging, tenderness, and human connection.

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| Frame | Oak frame |
| Medium | Acrylic on 390 gsm 100% Cotton Canvas |
| Location | Cape Town, South Africa |
| Height | 119.00 cm |
| Width | 83.00 cm |
| Artist | Shana Ellappa |
| Year | 2026 |

