

the gallery

# Connections

July - August 2023

# Connections

*Noun – a relationship in which a person or thing is linked or associated with something else.*

From painting to printmaking, collage and drawing, the variety of work reflects the diverse perspectives of the featured artists. A celebration of the connections between seemingly disparate works that resonate with one another in various ways.

“Part of the mystery of art lies in what, as viewers, we connect with, and part is in the artist’s domain to have made that mysterious spark possible.”

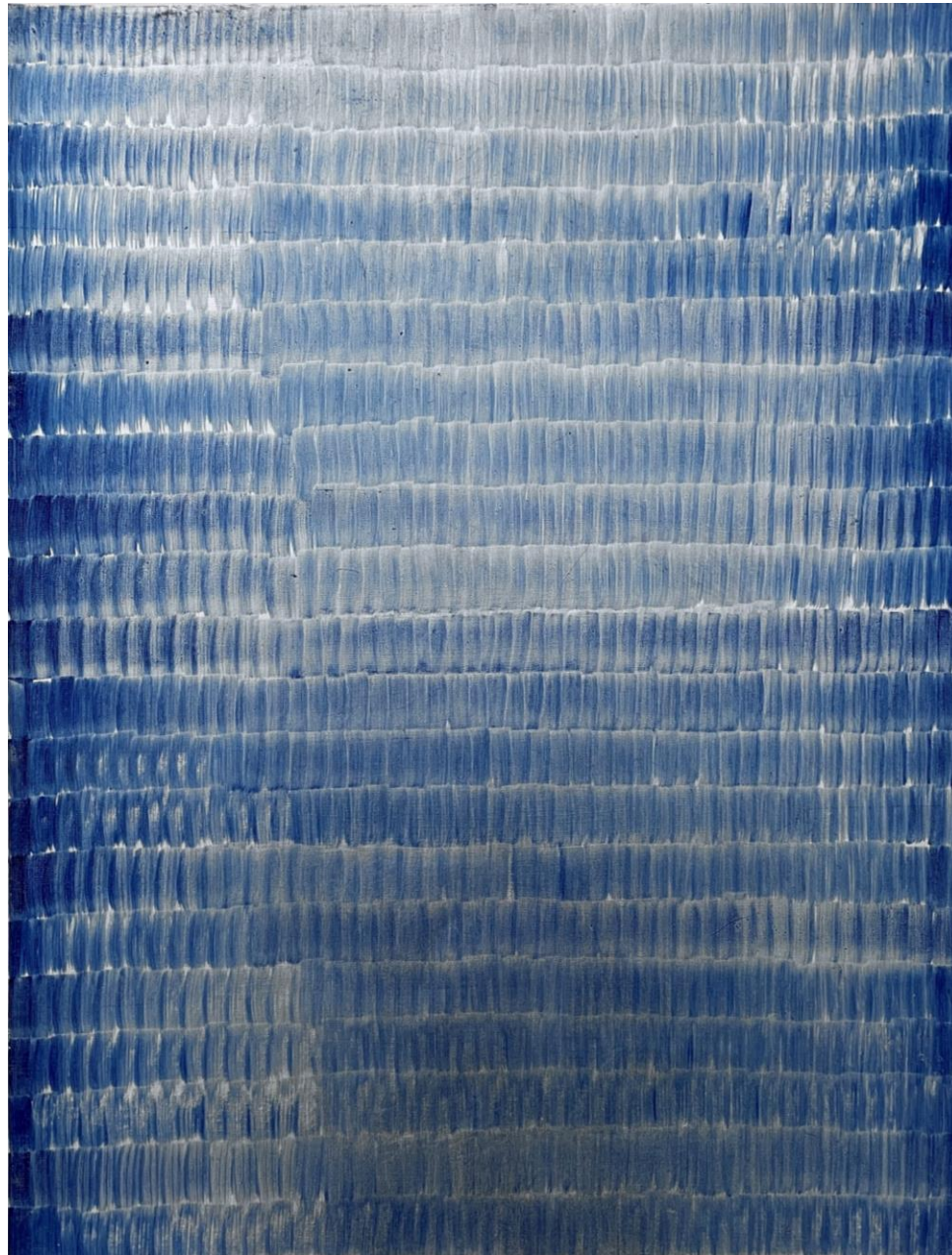
David Remfry, RA

Participating artists and studios:

Cathy Abraham | Stephen Allwright | Fanie Buys | Vanessa Cowling | Nathan Gates  
Sam Kentridge | Nano Le Face | Lebogang Mabusela | John Phalane | Fiona Pole  
Pule Ratsoma | Chloë Reid | John Roome | Sitaara Stodel  
with prints from 50ty 50ty and The Artists’ Press

## Cathy Abraham

Cathy Abraham (b.1968) is a South African artist based in Cape Town. Abraham completed her MFA, with distinction, at the University of Cape Town's Michaelis School of Fine Art in 2018. She works systematically to unlock surface meaning in the search for a deeper understanding of the purpose of the everyday. Abraham constantly questions the boundaries between reality, fantasy and illusion in comparison with existence and death. She uses materials in quirky playful ways. Her practice is grounded in the belief in links between art and science; spiritual practice and reincarnation; and the search for ways of shifting perspectives. Her work challenges notions of time and space; as well as expectation versus reality – collapsing past, present and future.



Cathy Abraham

Indigo Silverness I  
Oil and Silverleaf on Fabriano Tela  
65 x 50 cm

R 17 350 framed

## Stephen Allwright

Stephen John Allwright was born in Prince Albert in the Great Karoo in 1969. He received a Bachelor of Social Science (economics and politics) degree from the University of Cape Town with honours in Economics. Stephen is a self-taught artist and has been practising since 1998. He currently lives and works in Barrydale. Allwright has refined an uncompromisingly honest and unmistakable style that is at times erotic and even violent but more often heart-wrenchingly tender. The work is a form of self-portraiture, although inverted: with the unfolding image as his guide, Allwright attempts to distil and decipher his impulsive responses to the manifest world by creating what he calls "an emblematic shorthand".



Stephen Allwright

Portrait with fruit, 2023  
Ink, watercolour and graphite  
64 x 95,5 cm

R 32 100 framed



Stephen Allwright

Angel, 2022  
Ink, watercolour and graphite  
79,7 x 101,3 cm

R 35 200 framed

## Fanie Buys

Fanie Buys (b.1993) is a South African artist currently based in London. After being shuffled through a fair range of the Garden Route socio-economic spectrum he attended the Michaelis School of Fine Art, graduating with a distinction in studio work in 2016. Buys was a co-recipient of the Judy Steinberg Award for Painting and the Simon Gerson Award for an exceptional body of work. Buys has held several solo shows and been included in numerous group shows. Buys works in a figurative style considering the role of traditional portraiture in contemporary society.



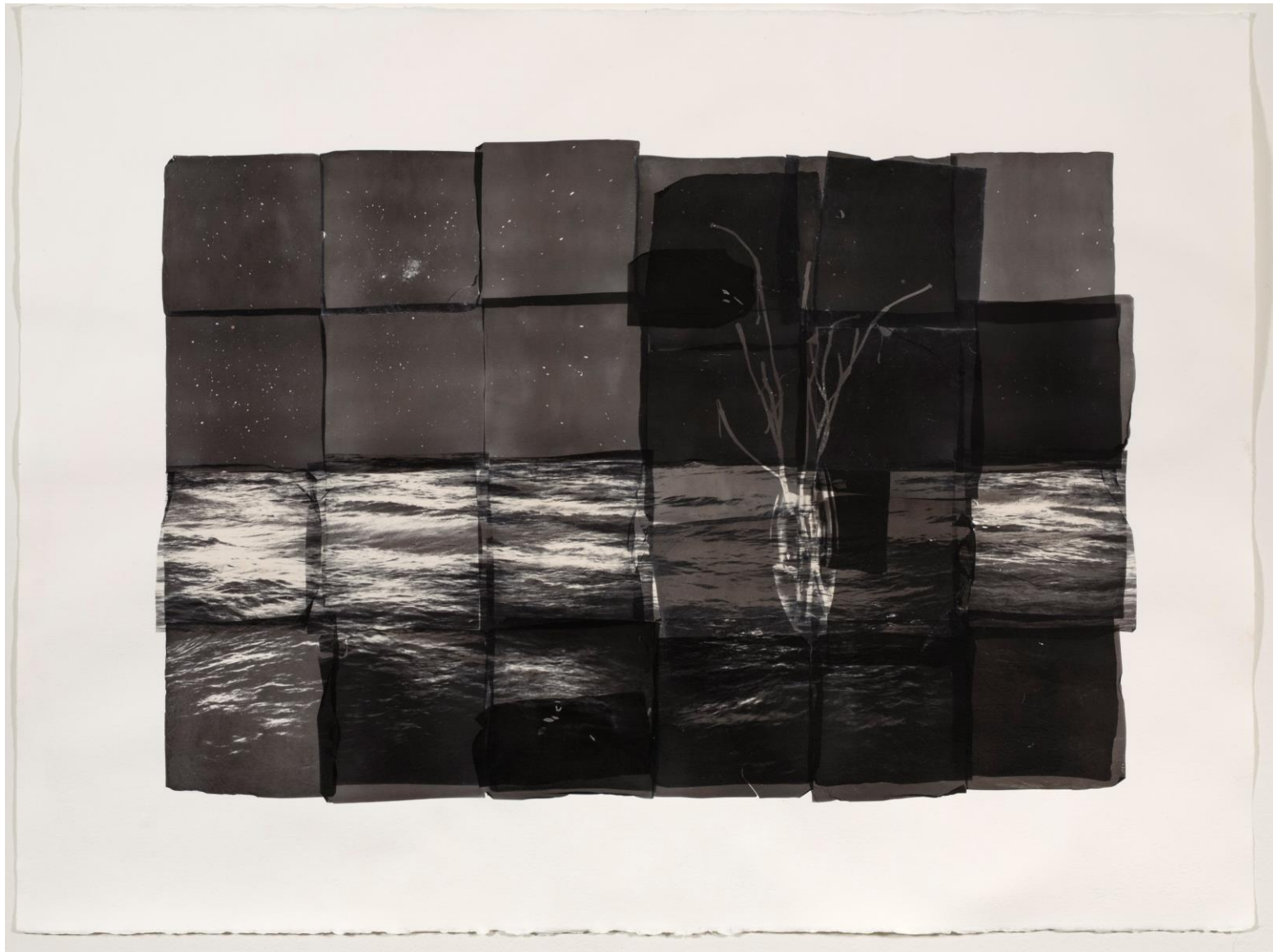
Fanie Buys

Secret ceremony  
Oil on Fabriano Tela  
23,9 x 32 cm

R 6 800 framed

## Vanessa Cowling

Vanessa Cowling graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art (UCT) with a BA Honours in 1998. She spent number of years in New York, London and Edinburgh before returning home. Her first solo exhibition, Strings and Flight was held in 2005 during the Cape Town Month of Photography. She has also exhibited in numerous group shows. Struik publishers published her first book of travel photographs, West Coast Cederberg to sea. (2006). Shoreline, is the artists second solo show, running at Barnard Gallery, concurrently with Stephen Inggs. Currently, Vanessa lectures part time at the Michaelis School of Fine Art (UCT) and the Cape Town School of Photography, and freelances specializing in Fine Art, Art Reproduction and Portrait Photography.



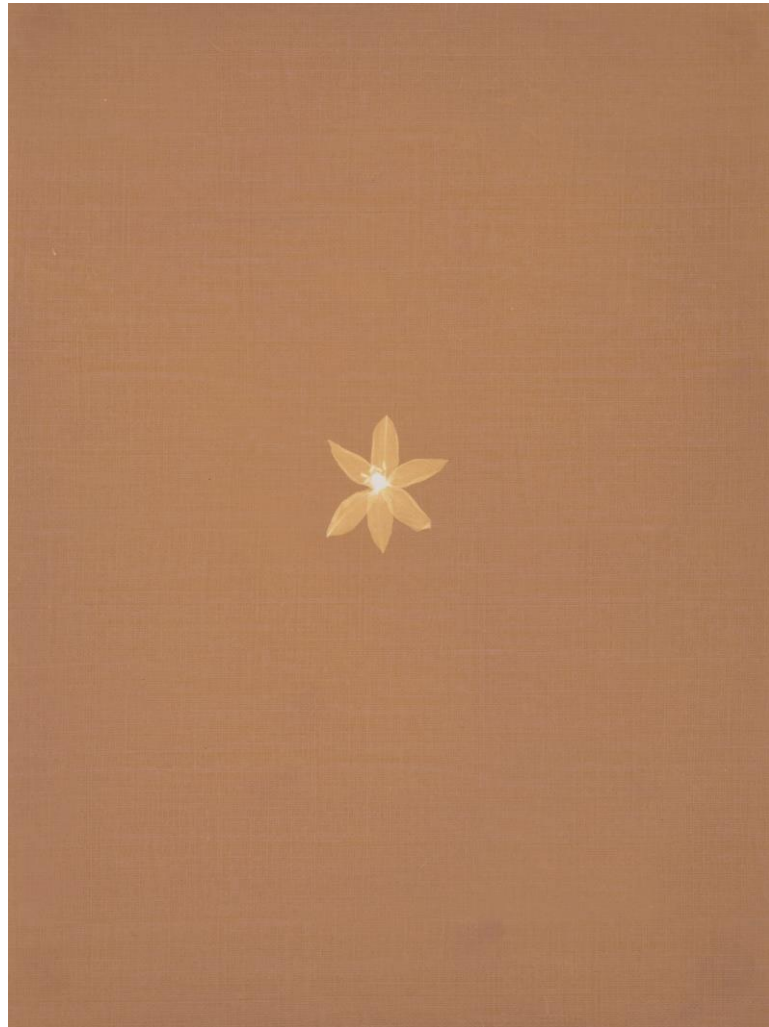
Vanessa Cowling

Return

Polaroid emulsion lift onto cotton paper  
75,7 x 56,5 cm

R 32 200 framed





Vanessa Cowling

Untitled, "Star flower"  
Unique lumen. Vintage, fiber based,  
silver gelatin paper  
18 x 24 cm

R 4 600 framed



Vanessa Cowling

Untitled, "Flowers in a vase" A  
Polaroid emulsion lift onto cotton paper  
16,2 x 16,2 cm

R 2 920 framed

## Nathan Gates

Nathan Gates is a Johannesburg based artist with an interest in everyday systems of meaning and the physical structures they produce. He is curious about what agency and desire look like when they are separated from the interests inherent in the methods, tools and materials we use to make them visible to ourselves and others. To this end, his practice is an experiment.



Nathan Gates

Joystick: an emotional prosthetic  
Polyurethane cast  
27,8 x 16 cm

R 2 000 framed

## Sam Kentridge

Sam Kentridge (b. 1992) is a Johannesburg based artist who is obsessed with words - some of his current favourites being "and", "although", and "pebble". He is interested in the seductive phrase, the liberatory phrase, the quietly defiant phrase. Working with text and images discovered in second hand book stores, Kentridge is fascinated by the authoritative tone in out-of-date pedagogical texts, and the creative possibilities to be found in subverting this tone by cutting and reshaping that pedagogy into poetry - searching for the messy emotional core hidden just beneath the surface of what pretends to be dry, objective prose. Themes include loneliness, hope, middle class ennui, and the pain of biting the inside of your cheek so that the inside of your cheek becomes slightly swollen and then you bite that same spot only moments later and now your ham and cheese sandwich tastes of blood.



Sam Kentridge

Jogging, 2023  
Digital print  
Edition of 25  
70 x 70 cm

R 12 620 framed



Sam Kentridge

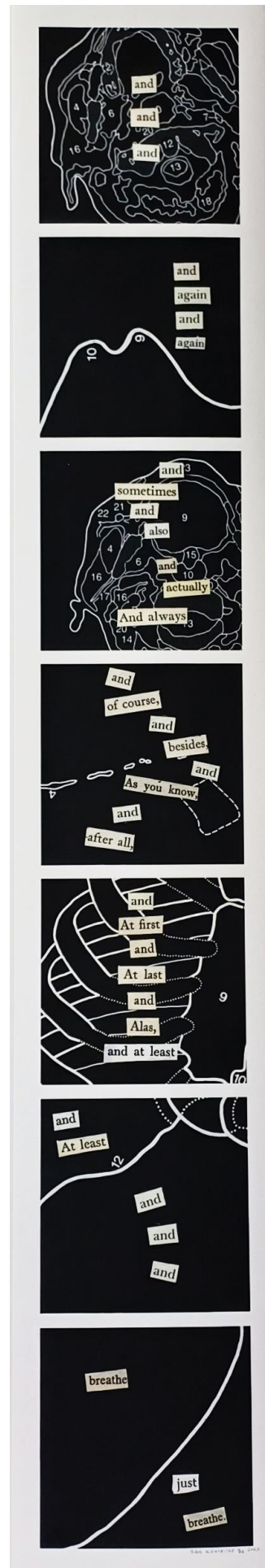
And as she watched, 2021

Digital print

Edition of 25

38,2 x 29 cm

R 4 640 framed



Sam Kentridge

And breathe, 2023

Digital print

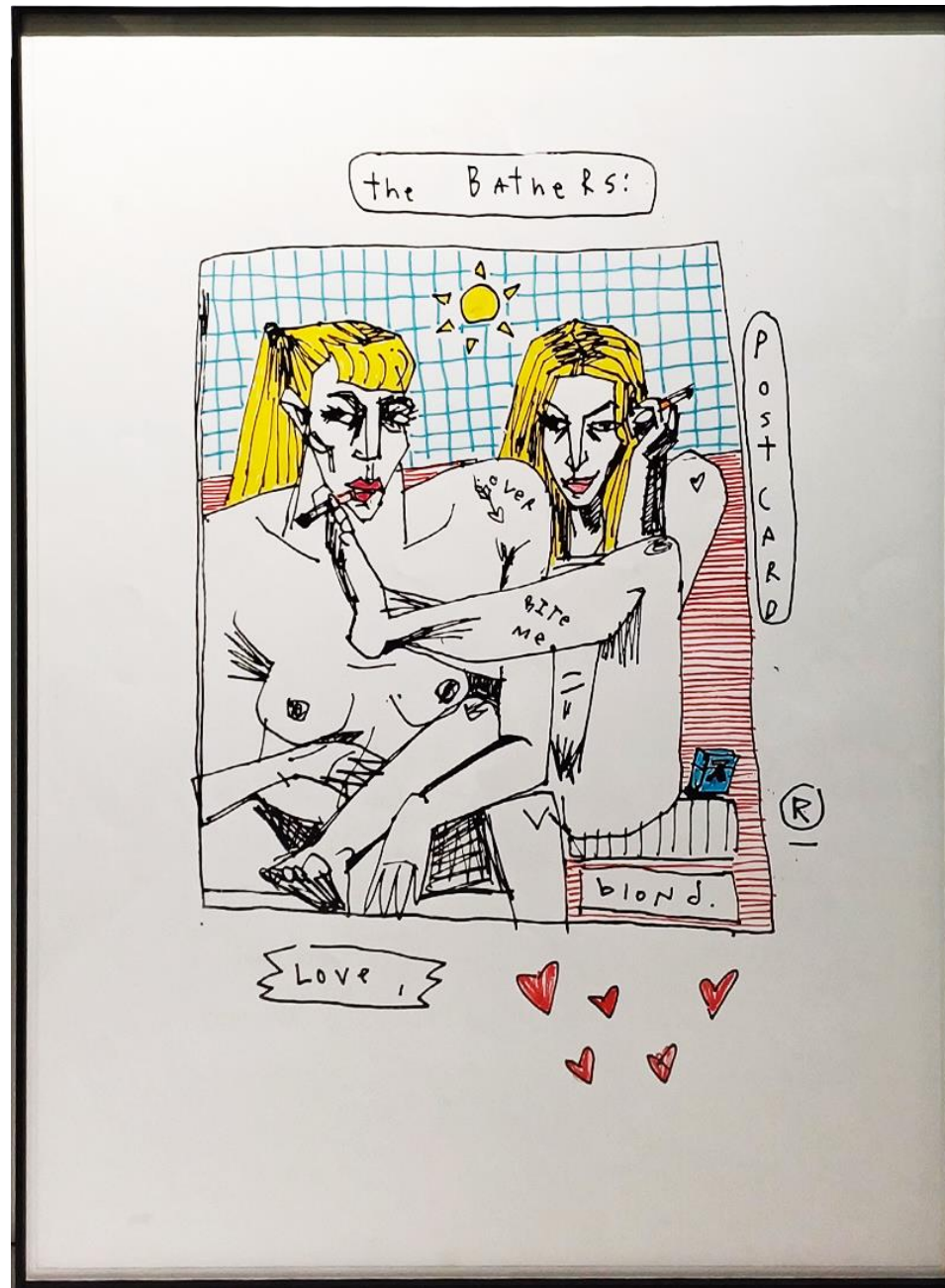
Edition of 25

19 x 115 cm

R 8 400 framed

## Nano Le Face

Ntwanano Shilubana (b. 1999) better known as Nano or simply Le Face, is a self taught visual artist based in Pretoria. Nano studied Film Arts at the Open Window Institute in Pretoria and at AFDA, Johannesburg. Nano describes how he's "been drawing for as long as he can remember." In 2017 he was on a break from studying film and "found all my art supplies from high school. I made a few paintings, and really haven't stopped since."



Nano Le Face

"The bathers", Postcard  
Silkscreen and permanent marker  
61 x 86 cm

R 14 100 framed

## Lebogang Mabusela

Lebogang Mogul Mabusela is a multidisciplinary artist and a self-proclaimed monotypebabe and zinequeen based in Johannesburg. In 2019 she graduated with a BA in Fine Arts from the Wits School of Arts where she was also awarded the Standard Bank Fine Arts Prize. Mabusela prides herself on being the founder of Makoti Technologies™ (est 2017) a Bridal gifts shop offering a dynamic range of gunz, tools and technologies that enhance women's desires and roast patriarchy, keeps them safe while maintaining their attitudes. Her work considers the gender norms perpetuated by Sepedi-setswana proverbs and realised in stories collected from childhood memory and experiences.



Lebogang Mabusela

Oryt Shambula? (are you alright beautiful)

Monotype

24,2 x 17 cm

R 3 970 framed



Lebogang Mabusela

Oryt Lepotjotjo? (are you alright beautiful)

Monotype

24,2 x 17 cm

R 3 970 framed



Lebogang Mabusela

Ao Black Beauty  
Monotype  
24,2 x 17 cm

R3 970 framed



Lebogang Mabusela

Umuhle Yezwa (you are so pretty, hear that?)  
Monotype  
24,2 x 17 cm

R3 970 framed





Lebogang Mabusela

My size...uketha bani (my size... which one of us are you picking)

Monotype

24,2 x 17 cm

R3 970 framed

## John Phalane

John Phalane uses colour pencils and ballpoint pen to create vivid geographical drawings and architectural impressions that bend conventional perspective. He started making art in 2004, having spent 16 years as a driver for the Inanda Polo Club and several years after that as a taxi driver between Polokwane and Musina. Phalane now lives in Mamabolo, Limpopo.



John Phalane

Consolidated Main Reef Gold Mine  
Colour pencil on paper  
86 x 60 cm

R14 780 framed



John Phalane

Pretoria South West  
Colour pencil on paper  
86 x 60 cm

R14 890 framed

## Fiona Pole

Fiona Pole (b.1974) is a South African who grew up in Benoni. Her formal education includes a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Honours) from Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa in 1996 and a Diplome des métiers d'arts (mention of excellence) from L'Ecole Supérieure Estienne, Paris, France. From 2003 – 2005 she was the recipient of a bursary awarded by the City of Paris to work in 2 historic printing studios. In 2012 she returned to South Africa after living in Paris for over ten years. She specialises in printmaking and has had numerous exhibitions in South Africa and abroad. She lives and works in Johannesburg.



Fiona Pole

Silver  
Multi-plate carborundum etching  
Edition of 10  
45,5 x 56,5 cm

R 9 750 framed



Fiona Pole

Gold  
Multi-plate carborundum etching  
Edition of 10  
56,5 x 48,5 cm

R 9 750 framed



Fiona Pole

Journey: Destination  
Multi-plate carborundum etching  
Edition 2/15  
24,5 x 58 cm

R6 900 framed

## Pule Ratsoma

Pule Ratsoma (b.1990) is a printmaker and artist who was born in Tembisa, Gauteng. Ratsoma splits his time between Johannesburg, where he trained and worked as a printmaker at Artist Proof Studio, and Limpopo. Ratsoma's paintings and drawings are defined by gestural and expressive marks that read as code or entangled language. He has exhibited widely in South Africa and is committed to transferring art skills to younger artists in rural areas, townships and communities.



Pule Ratsoma

The lasting effect of a single word

Silkscreen

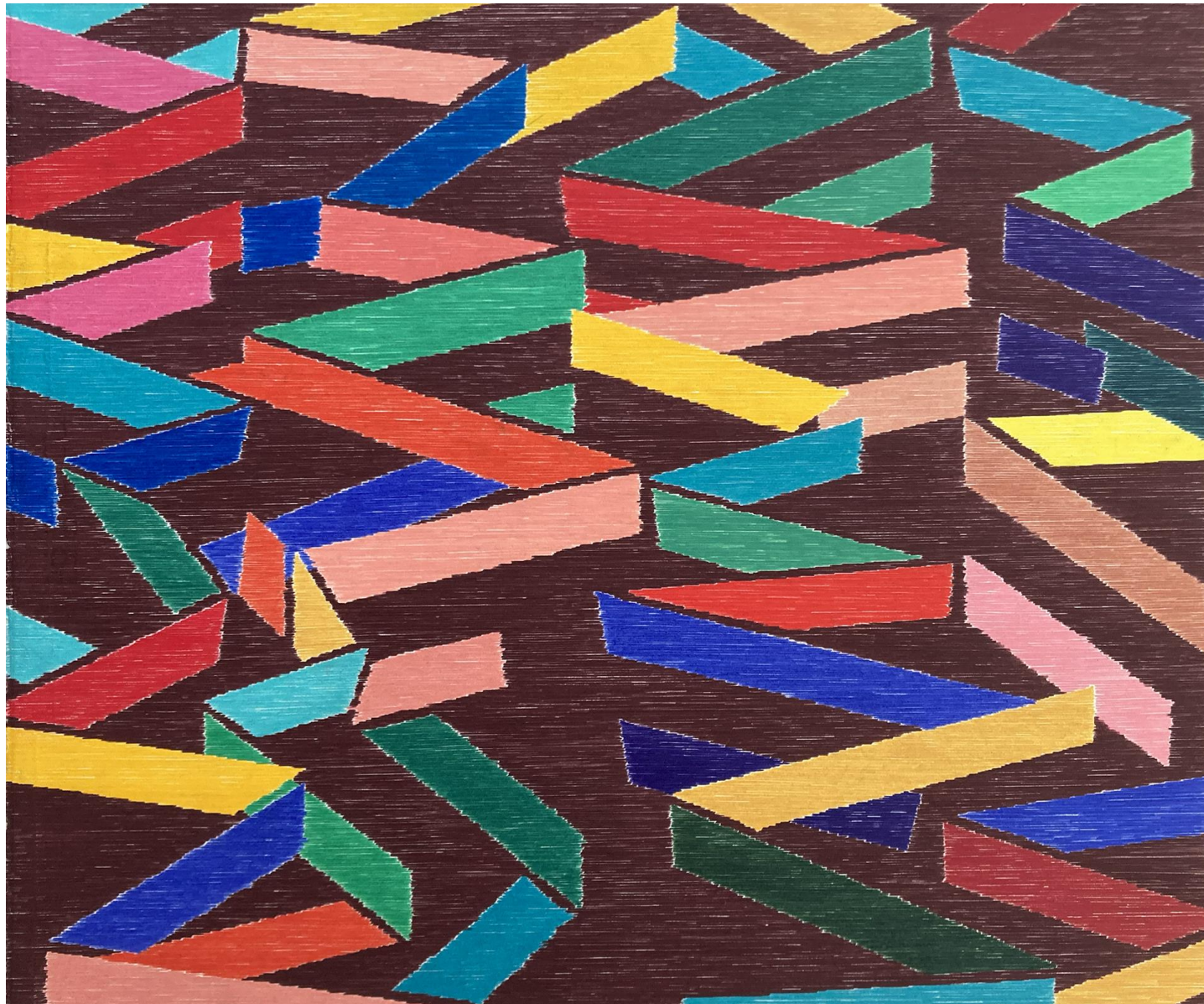
Edition 4/4

68,8 x 94,7 cm

R 9 400 framed

## Chloë Reid

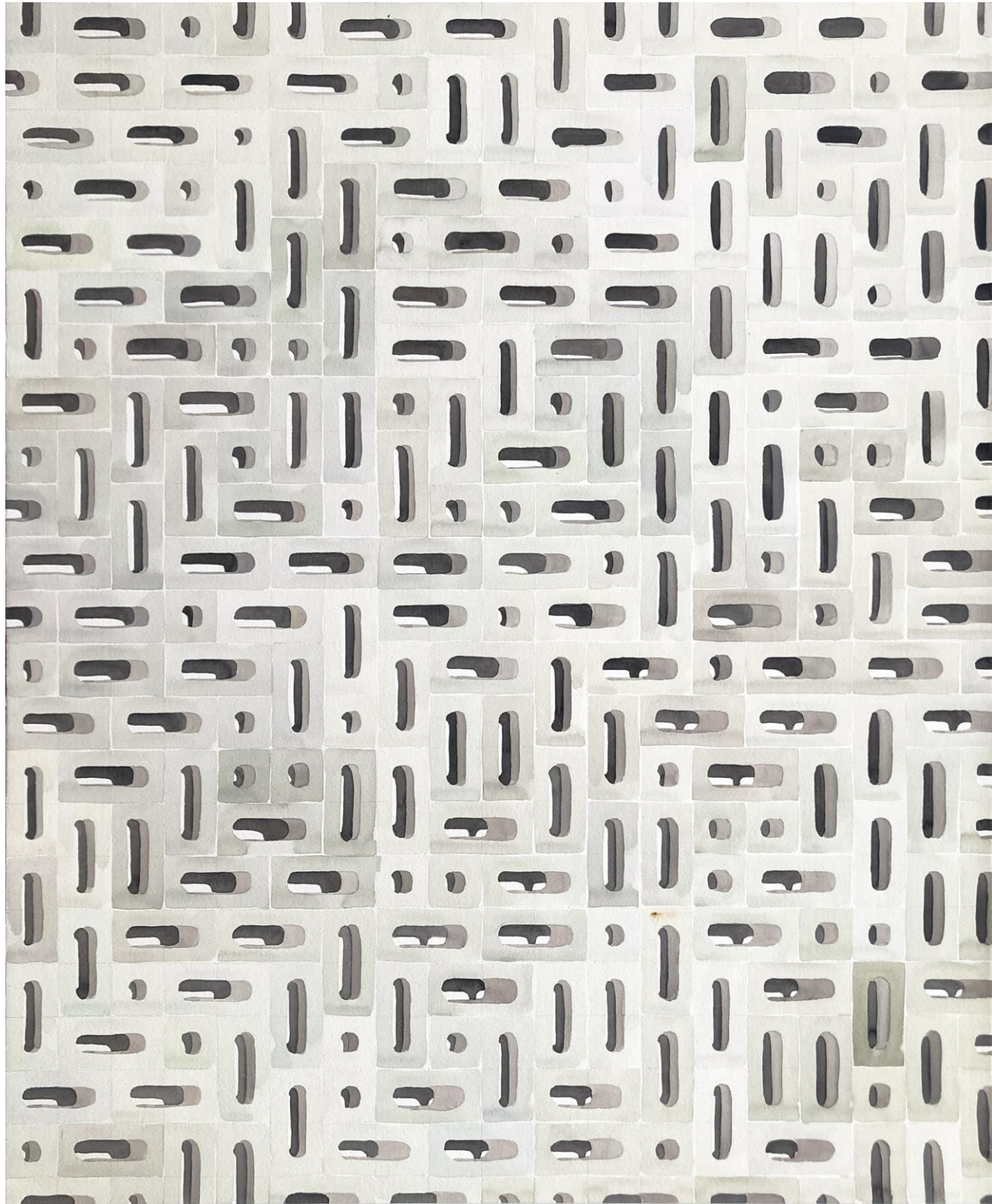
Chloë Reid is an artist, writer and curator based in Johannesburg. Her artistic practice extends from painting and drawing into narrative-based video and audio work. She holds an MA in Creative Writing from WITS (2022), an MFA from The Glasgow School of Art (2017) and was awarded a postgraduate fellowship by the Glasgow Sculpture Studios in 2018. She is a co-founder of wherewithall, along with Kundai Moyo and Amy Watson, which supports independent curatorial practices in Johannesburg through an equipment store, research library and project commissions.



Chloë Reid

Folding  
Colour pencil on paper  
60 x 50 cm

R 38 780 framed



Chloë Reid

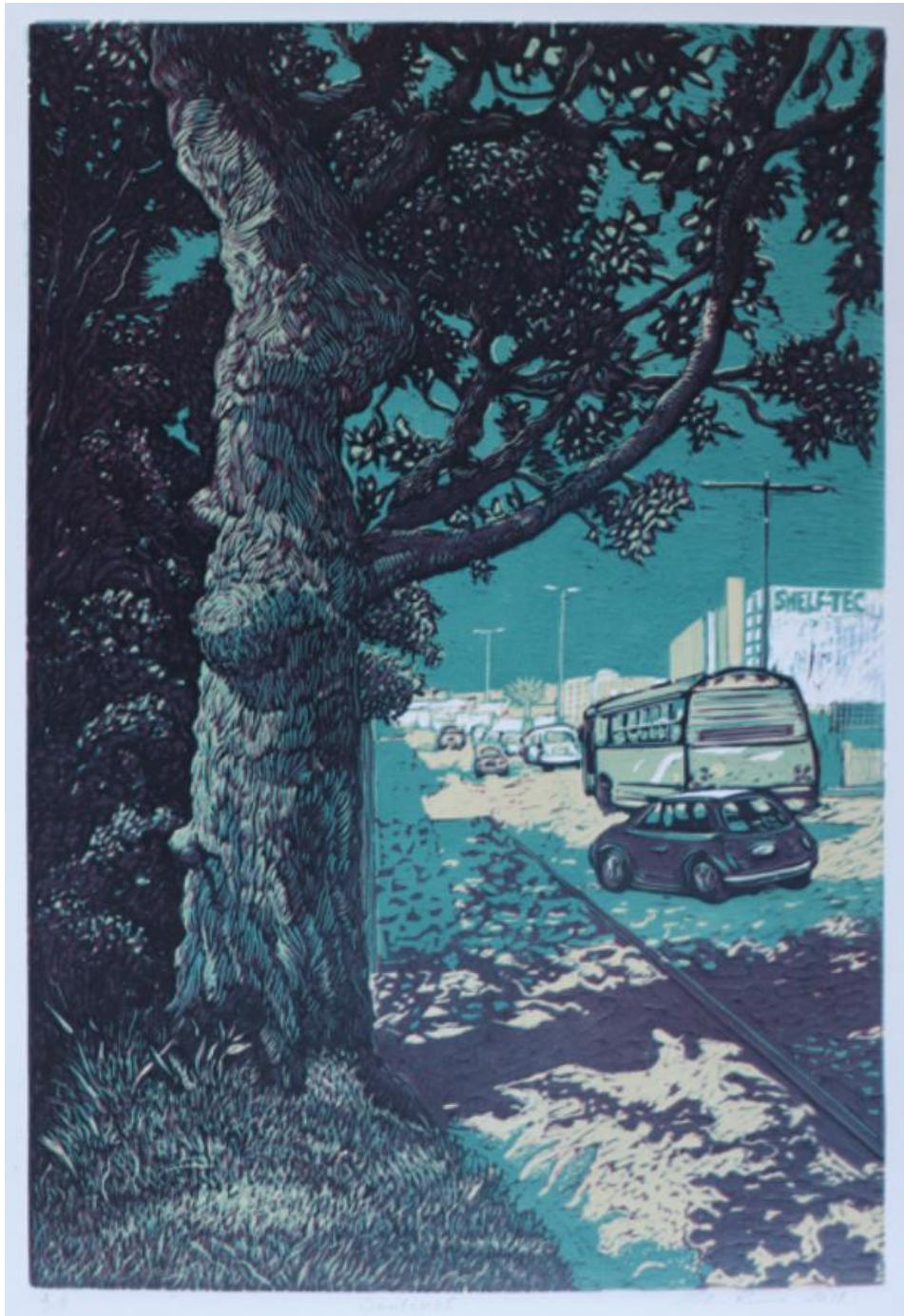
Untitled (Breeze blocks)  
Watercolour and pencil on paper  
74,8 x 90 cm

R 37 900 framed



## John Roome

Roome is a Durban based artist whose focus is on printmaking. He works from his studio "ArtprintstudioKZN" where he also runs printmaking workshops. His work consists mainly of relief prints (woodcut and linocut) and he has also recently been exploring the medium of monotype. His inspiration is taken from his immediate environment with a particular interest in urban trees.



John Roome

Sentinel  
Reduction linocut  
Edition 4/5  
70 x 50 cm

R11 080 framed

## Sitaara Stodel

Sitaara Stodel is a Cape Town based artist who graduated from the Michaelis School of Fine Art at the University of Cape Town. Her work usually involves an exploration of the concept of home and memory. She uses photography, collage, video and print to reflect on notions of both the physical home space and of the lived experience of home.



Sitaara Stodel

Arriving home

Found photographs on Fabriano  
25,6 x 30,8 cm

R 5 150 framed

## Kylie Wetzel | 50ty 50ty

Kylie Wentzel (b. 1993) continually explores new mediums as a means of resisting the constrictions of formal art training, with her distinctive, bold, graphic style acrylic paintings largely informed by her love of linocut – both the medium itself and its idiosyncrasies within the South African art historical context. Her work bears what the artist calls “remnants” of this influence, which she explains are evident in the “distinctive borders and using them to contribute to the narrative, mark-making, combining picture and text, [and] bold graphics”. Her aesthetic is intentionally loose, intuitive and naïve, with a sense of raw immediacy that is also apparent in her subject matter: She is inspired by her surrounding environments – both natural or urban – and the creatures, objects, people, paraphernalia, smells and scribbles that inhabit and adorn these spaces.



Kylie Wetzel

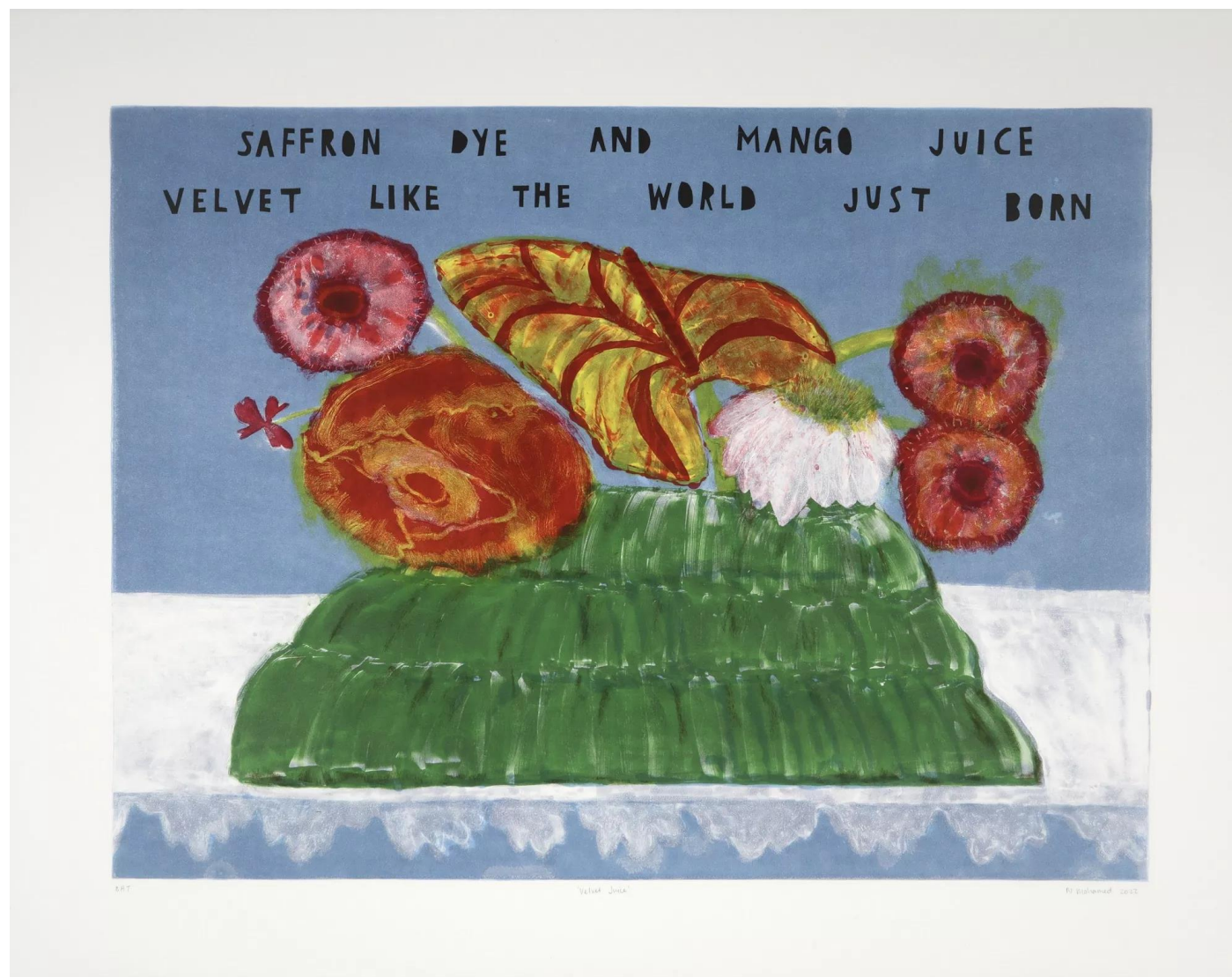
Cosmic lovers' oasis  
11-Colour screen print  
Edition 3/30  
76,5 x 57 cm

R8 680 framed

In association with 50ty 50ty prints

## Nabeeha Mohamed | The Artists' Press

Nabeeha Mohamed was born in Cape Town in 1988. She completed her fine arts degree at Michaelis School of Fine Art at the University of Cape Town. Her paintings and prints confront the contradictions of her position in post-Apartheid South African society. Her identity as a woman of colour, hushed during her childhood to assimilate into white society, is celebrated in her work where colour and strangeness shine. Her bright brush strokes and sharp words are at once playful and thoughtful. They create a moving and complex critique of class privilege and the capitalist economy she benefits from.



Nabeeha Mohamed

Velvet Juice  
Eight colour lithograph  
Edition 2/30  
71,1 x 56,1 cm

R11 010 framed

In association with The Artists' Press

**the gallery** is a platform for contemporary art.

Its programme includes exhibitions, exchanges, workshops and residencies.

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