

Matty Monethi | Visual Artist

PORTFOLIO

2022

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BIO

Matty Monethi (b. 1996) was born in Maseru, Lesotho and grew up in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Monethi completed her Diploma in Fine Art at the Ruth Prowse School of Art in Cape Town in 2016, and in 2017 embarked on a semester abroad at the University of Hertfordshire, in the United Kingdom, where she specialised in printmaking. In 2020 Monethi completed a BA Fine Arts (with distinction) at the Wits School of Arts, University of the Witwatersrand, in Johannesburg. Monethi uses painting, printmaking and text to explore the personal dimensions of migration and memory. Through the use of family and personal photographic archives she scrutinises her connections with her adopted countries, cultures and close relationships.

ARTIST STATEMENT

The Portrait. The Archive. Memory. Nostalgia. Connection. Amnesia. Severing. Death. Replacement. Displacement. Presence and Absence.

We aren't what we used to be. I wish we could go back to what we were. I wonder what could have been. What are we now?

These are the questions and complexities of selfhood and family in relation to international and transnational upbringing that I attempt to address in my work. Drawing from my family archives and memories from before and during my time I use writing, painting and printmaking to explore figure groupings and isolations to speak about my contemporary self portrait and family portrait and the histories that inform them. My representational works address evolving selfhood, the depiction of the past, and the relationship between personal archives and nostalgia.

CURRICULUM VITAE



Matty Monethi | Visual Artist

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Johannesburg, South Africa | Maseru, Lesotho

EDUCATION

2018 - 2020 University of the Witwatersrand, Bachelor of Art in Fine Arts (with distinction), Johannesburg, South Africa
2017 - 2017 University of Hertfordshire, CATS programme, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
2014 - 2016 Ruth Prowse School of Art, Diploma in Fine Art, Cape Town, South Africa
2006 - 2013 Sandford International School, IGCSE Certificate, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

EXHIBITIONS

2021 *Propelling Otherness*, Morija Museum & Archives + Morija Arts Centre, Morija, Lesotho
2021 *Turbine Art Fair*, FORMS Gallery, Illovo, Johannesburg
2021 *En(In)vision*, Latitudes Online [Online], Johannesburg
2021 *Locus/Location*, Latitudes Online [Online], Johannesburg
2021 *Emergence*, FORMS Gallery [Online], Johannesburg
2021 *OSAWAAE (Oakland's South And West African Artists Exchange)*, Joyce Gordon Gallery, California, USA
2020 *NEWWORK20,* University of the Witwatersrand [Online], Johannesburg
2020 *SPHERE*, BLVCK BLOCK, The Artivist, Johannesburg
2019 *Bridging The Gap*, Gallery MOMO, Johannesburg
2019 *Bibliotheca 700,* Bag Factory Artist, Johannesburg
2019 *Africa Art Collective – Autumn 2019,* Julie Miller Art Institute, Mall of Africa, Midrand
2018 *Queer Art Exhibition*, Activate Wits, Johannesburg
2017 *The Spring Show*, Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town
2017 *Virtual Art Herts*, University of Hertfordshire, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
2016 *Ruth Prowse Grad Show 2016*, Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town
2015 *The Creative Woodstock Experience Documentaries,* The Belle Studio, Cape Town
2015 *Ruth Prowse Mid Year Exhibition*, Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town
2014 *The Name of the Rose,* Rust-en-Vrede Gallery, Cape Town
2014 *Ruth Prowse Mid Year Exhibition,* Ruth Prowse School of Art, Cape Town

PROJECTS/RESIDENCIES

BMW Midrand Campus Art Project (2019 – 2020)
BMW Group & The University of the Witwatersrand
BMW Midrand, Midrand & Wits School of Arts, Johannesburg, South Africa

BLVCK BLOCK Residency (1 – 31 July 2020)
BLVCK BLOCK & The Thabo Mbeki Foundation
Online

WORKSHOPS & AWARDS

Anya Millman Scholarship 2020 (For outstanding practical work in Fine Arts)
Wits School of Art

Artist Career Boot Camp (25 February – 12 April 2019)
Art Source South Africa & The National Arts Council
Bag Factory Artist Studios, Johannesburg, South Africa

WORK EXPERIENCE

Studio/Personal Assistant (February - December 2021)
Dineo Seshee Bopape
Johannesburg, South Africa

Artist Assistant (December 2020 – November 2021)
Zandile Tshabalala
Johannesburg, South Africa

RMB Turbine Art Fair Internship (8 – 13 July 2019)
The Forum Company
Illovo, South Africa

RMB Turbine Art Fair Internship (9 – 15 July 2018)
The Forum Company
Turbine Hall, Johannesburg, South Africa

PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

"Painting, Permanence and Presence: Quick Five with Artist Matty Monethi". Latitudes Online. July 2021
"Bridging the Gap with KOP Collective". Bubblegum Club. July 2019
"Bibliotheca 700 – A Future Library". Bubblegum Club. July 2019
"Bibliotheca, A Group Show by Artist Career Boot Camp Artists". Bag Factory Art. May 2019
"The 2016 Art Graduate Showcase". SA ART TIMES. December 2016
"RPSA Grad Show 2016". The Ruth Prowse School of Art. November 2016

REFERENCES

FORMS GALLERY
Anthea Buys
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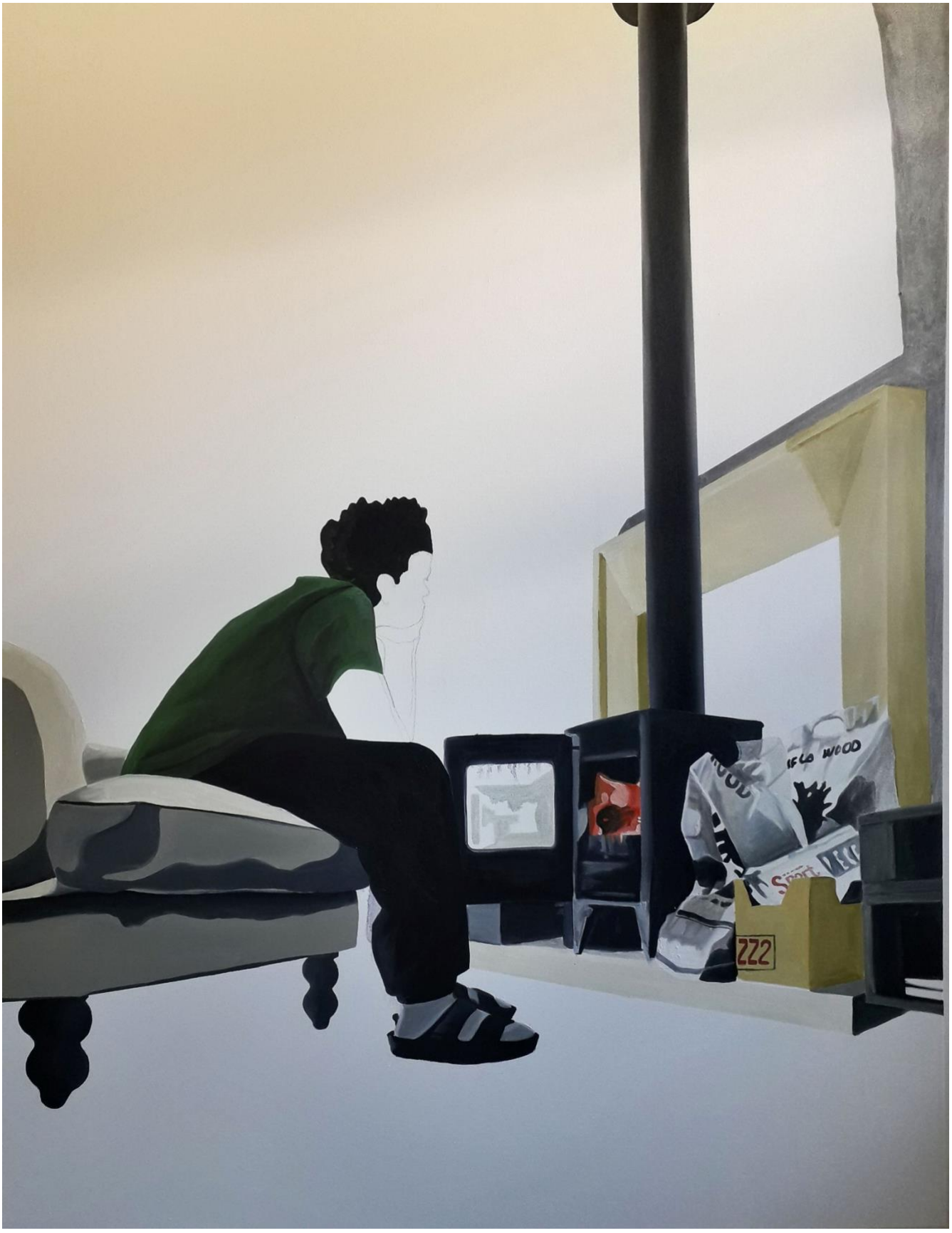
WITS SCHOOL OF ARTS
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THE FORUM COMPANY
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AVAILABLE ARTWORKS



Sunday Afternoons. Oil and pencil on canvas. 90x120cm. 2021. **R12,900.00**



Please make the fire. Oil and pencil on canvas. 90x120cm. 2021. **R12,900.00**



With a cousin I used to adore. Oil and pencil on canvas. 90x120cm. 2021. **R12,900.00**



Homecoming. Acrylic, pencil and oil on masonite. 14.5x19.5cm. 2021 **R1,690.00**



Lejone and I. Acrylic, pencil and oil on masonite. 14.5x19.5cm. 2021 **R1,690.00**



Setupung: Ha Mabote. Acrylic, pencil and oil on masonite. 14.5x19.5cm. 2021 **R1,690.00**