

Lie Back

and let me hold you



CATALOGUE

The exhibition features works by Retshidisitwe Ngqekeza,
Tivani Mabulele, Vusi Mbulali.

Curated by Sara Hallatt

Curatorial statement

"Lie back and let me hold you" stands as a poignant invitation to explore the intricate realms of intimacy, trust, and vulnerability. This evocative line, drawn from the rich tapestry of human expression, serves as the cornerstone of our exhibition, inviting visitors to contemplate the profound emotions it elicits.

"Lie Back and Let Me Hold You" transcends the boundaries of language, encompassing a wide spectrum of meanings and experiences. This phrase, often spoken in moments of tenderness and compassion, encapsulates the essence of human connection. It offers a moment of refuge and emotional sanctuary, a gesture of solace and reassurance amidst the complexity of life's trials and tribulations.

This exhibition aspires to illuminate the multifaceted nature of intimacy, revealing how it is experienced and expressed across diverse cultures, genders, and relationships. This collection of works delves into the depths of human connection, exposing the raw vulnerability that accompanies the act of "letting someone hold you."

Ultimately, "Lie Back and Let Me Hold You" invites us to celebrate the beauty of vulnerability and the strength it requires. It urges us to explore the nuances of intimacy in its many forms and to recognize the profound significance of trust in forging connections that transcend the boundaries of time and space.

We invite you to immerse yourself in this exhibition, to be moved by the expressions of vulnerability, and to reflect upon the beauty and complexity of human intimacy. As you navigate the artistic landscapes before you, consider how this simple phrase has the power to evoke a world of emotions, and how, in its simplicity, it encapsulates the essence of what it means to truly connect with another human being.

The exhibition runs from 1 October – 20 October 2023 and is located at the META foundation offices, 4th Floor, Studio 401, August House – 76 End Street, Doornfontein.



Born in a small rural town of Mophale's Hoek in Lesotho, **Retshidisitwe Ngqekeza** is a visual artist based at August House. Retshidisitwe's passion and love for visual art was inspired by his father who was a clay maker. In 2021, he moved to Johannesburg and into August House, working as an artist assistant to renowned artist, Teboho Makoatsa. Over a period of two years Teboho mentored and guided him. Ngqekeza creates art using acrylic paint and charcoal which allow him to explore texture and bold colors. Ngqekeza attempts to capture Sotho heritage within his work and is inspired by the stories and traditions of the Sotho people. By doing this, Ngqekeza wishes to share his heritage with the world and hopefully create a positive and profound outlook around it.



Retshidistwe Ngqokeza
Mohakajane

Charcoal and acrylic on canvas
2023
109 x 74cm
R11 200



Retshidistwe Ngqokeza
When we grow up II (series)

2023
Mixed media
79 x 91cm
R14 100



Retshidistwe Ngqokeza
When we grow up I (series)

2023
Mixed media
100 x 110 cm
R17 300



Retshidistwe Ngqokeza
When we grow up II (series)

Mixed media
110 x 120cm
R22 000



Tivani Mabulele is a visual artist who makes mainly in acrylic painting and a mixture of charcoal. He is currently based at August House. Tivani explores the intersection between African and Western culture, exploring the idea of fulfillment. Using the very physicality of the human body, combined with relational ideas of community and movement, his work looks to explore where Africa might locate itself within this current moment.



Tivani Mabulele
Bend with the wind

2023
Acrylic paint and charcoal
160 x 110cm
R20 000



Tivani Mabulele
Burning Sensation

2023
Acrylic on charcoal
154 x 164cm
R88 000



Tivani Mabulele
Back to life

2023
Acrylic paint on canvas
120 x 148cm
R100 000



Tivani Mabulele
The sky is the limit

2023
Acrylic on charcoal
160 x 110cm
R20 000



Tivani Mabulele
Becoming

2023
Acrylic and charcoal
120 x 160cm
R100 000

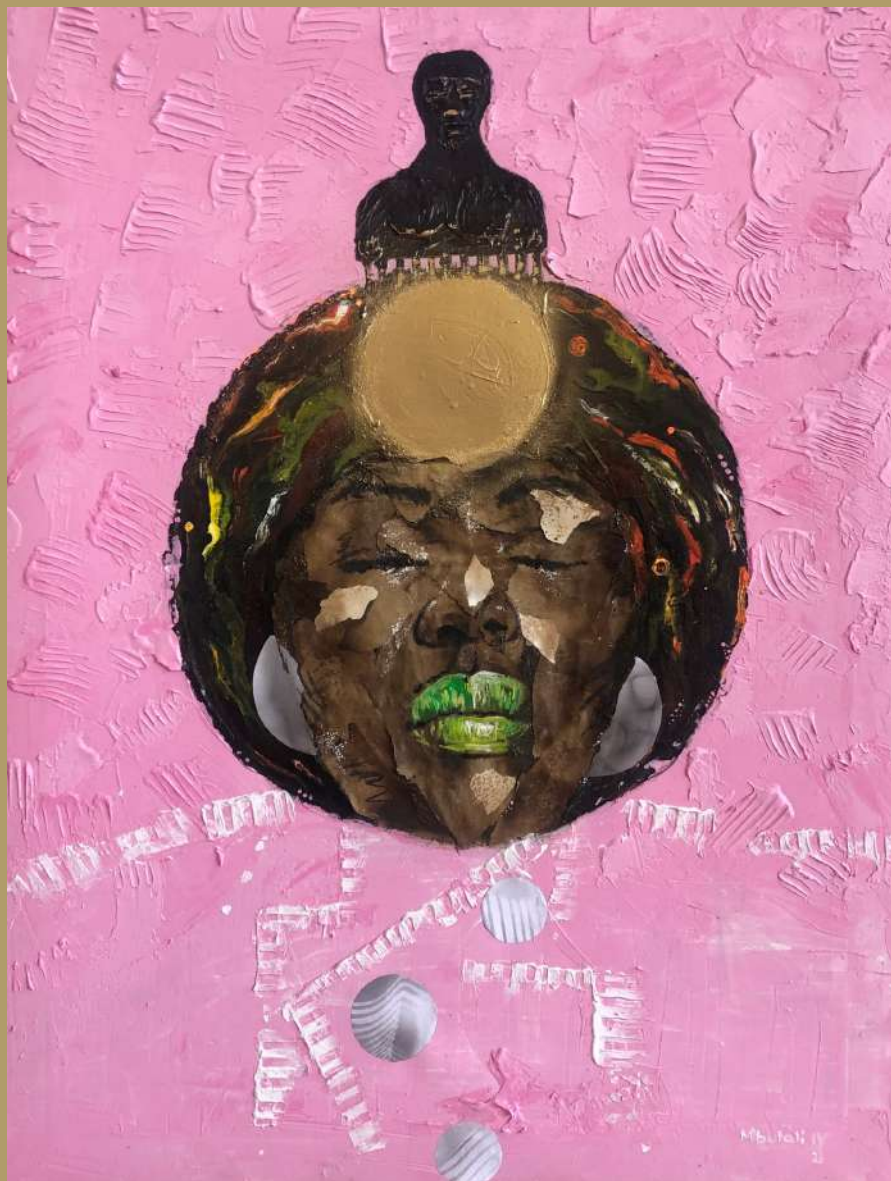


Tivani Mabulele
Unity

2023
Acrylic on charcoal
140 x 194cm
R120 000



Vusi Mbulali IV is a visual artist born in the east of Johannesburg. His work has evolved from drawing school charts, posters and book illustrations to painting of South African heroes such as Nelson Mandela, Oliver Tambo and Steve Biko. Mbulali draws his inspiration from his experiences and ideologies. The use of an afro comb shape in his work symbolizes struggle, responsibility and victory within human. Vusi explores working with charcoal on brown smoked paper to display his authenticity however he majors in mixed medium. Overall, Vusi aims to encourage the future foundation through ideas, confidence and possibilities.



Vusi Mbulali IV
SiyavanaK14

2023
Mixed media on canvas
75 x 57cm
R25 000



Vusi Mbulali IV
SiyavanaK18

2023
Mixed media on brown paper
43x29cm
R20 000



Vusi Mbulali IV
SiyavanaK12

2023
Mixed media on brown paper
41x61cm
R14 000



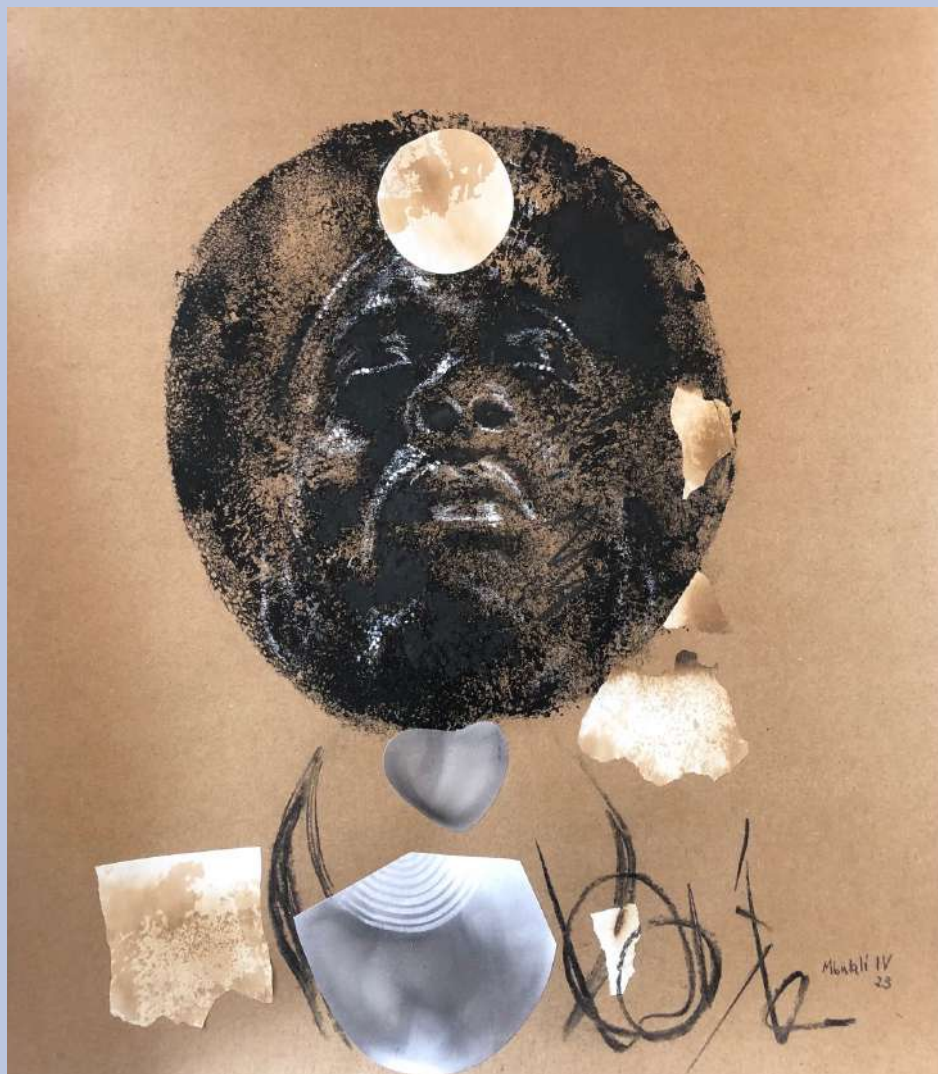
Vusi Mbulali IV
SiyavanaK13

2023
Mixed media on canvas
91 x 61cm
R22 000



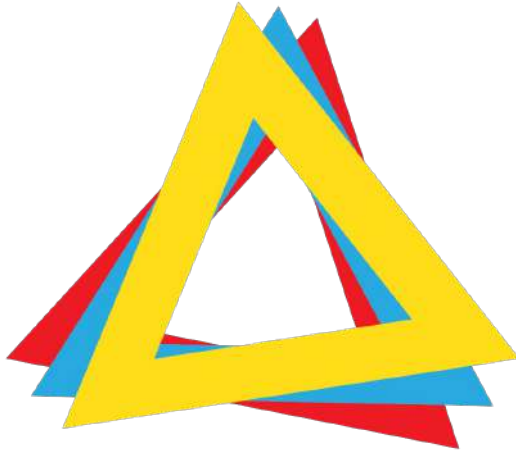
Vusi Mbulali IV
Siyavan K18

2023
Mixed media on brown paper
43 x 29 cm
R20 000



Vusi Mbulali IV
Siyavana K12

2023
Mixed media on brown paper
41 x 61cm
R14 000



META foundation

For more information on the exhibition,
the artists or the artwork, please contact us.

Email: info@meta-foundation.co.za

Cell: 084 411 2871

Follow us on -

Facebook: [@metafoundationza](#)

Instagram: [@meta.foundation](#)

Website: www.meta-foundation.co.za