



THE  
VIEWING  
ROOM  
ART GALLERY



Mashir Kresenshun



Frans Thoka

## The Inbetween: *Batho le naga* (people and land)

3 July – 21 August 2021

Opening at 11:00

Exhibition curated and will be opened by *Gordon Froud*.



St. Lorient  
Art Gallery

📍 492 Fehrsen Street, Brooklyn Circle, Pretoria ☎ 012 460 0284 / 066 274 2094  
✉ art@stlorient.co.za 🌐 www.stlorient.co.za/the-viewing-room/ 📺 StLorientFashionAndArtGallery

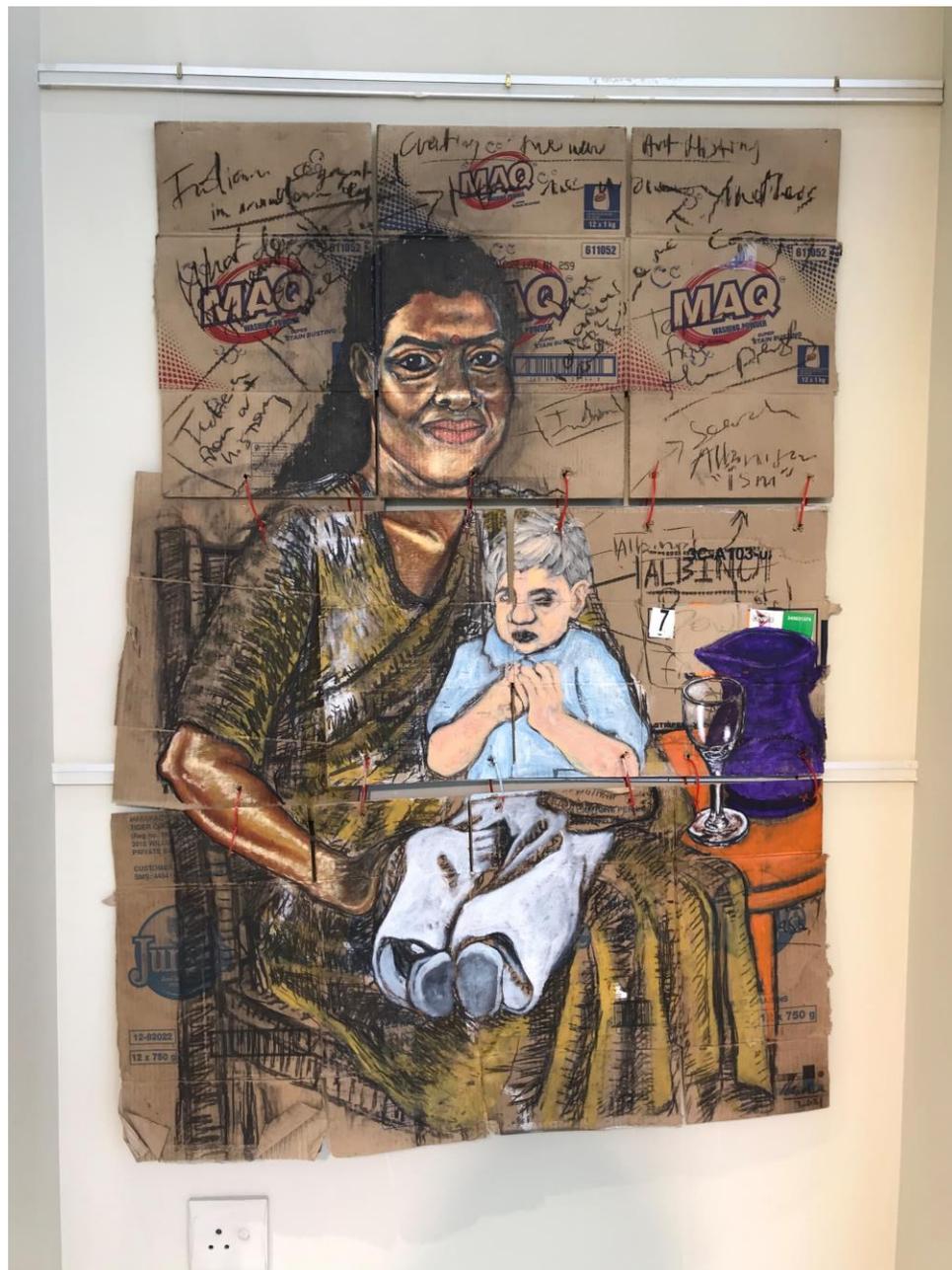
### Artist Statement:

"My works converse about the ideologies of what makes us human." - Mashir Kresenshun

Furthermore, I narrate and depict images of the great and the awful of life as a human being, regardless of race, culture, or religious constructs, through various topics and sub-categories. However, as an Indian individual living in South Africa, I find it challenging to understand where I stand in society in contemporary South Africa and the world at large. I am not saying I want to be known as Indian but instead as a human being. We as human beings should all strive for this unity and not be separated by socio-political issues. The utilisation of cardboard as a metaphor symbolises humanity. I attach cardboards with cable ties to construct sizable works. The cable ties symbolise the piecing together of humanity. In essence, I'm a figurative artist, creating figures of emotion. I accomplish this through expressive mark-making and layers of media. I produce works of varying sizes, using an assorted range of media from drawing and painting with charcoal, acrylic and oil paint, watercolour, ink, collage to printmaking in techniques of monotypes, etchings, linocuts, woodcuts. My works are mostly depicted on cardboard, canvas, and paper. Furthermore, through the use of varied media and research, I attempt to challenge the system of practiced thought in today's society regarding various issues surrounding humanity.

### Artist Biography:

Mashir Kresenshun is an artist based in Johannesburg. He was born in 1999, a town called Greytown in Kwa-Zulu Natal, South Africa. Kresenshun decided once he matriculated from high school. He would pursue a career of creativity and passion. He decided to become an artist. Mashir Kresenshun practices in all disciplines in which are depicted with or on cardboard. The utilisation of cardboard as a metaphor questions the ideology of "what makes us human?" Furthermore, he opts to practice in the mediums of drawing, painting, and printmaking, adding sculptural elements. The sculptural surface adds different dimensional plains. Kresenshun uses printmaking on cardboard as a unique mannerism, which sets him apart as an artist. In 2019, Kresenshun received Top 20 in Thami Mnyele and Top 100 in Sasol New Signatures. He is currently creating works to exhibit in London later this year. Kresenshun studied at the University of Johannesburg and is currently studying at Artist Proof Studios whilst working from his studio based at August House in the heart of Johannesburg.



Mashir Kresenshun  
*Mother and Child*  
Cardboard and Mixed Media  
180 x 150 x 2 cm  
R17 670 (including VAT)



Mashir Kresenshun  
*Mother and Child I*  
Cardboard and Mixed Media  
180 x 150 x 2 cm  
R17 670 (including VAT)



Mashir Kresenshun  
*Mother and Child II*  
Cardboard and Mixed Media  
180 x 150 x 2 cm  
R17 670 (including VAT)



Mashir Kresenshun  
*Under the dim room light*  
Cardboard and Mixed Media  
180 x 150 x 2 cm  
R17 670 (including VAT)



Mashir Kresenshun  
*Woman with hand under chin*  
Cardboard and Mixed Media  
150 x 150 x 2 cm  
R17 670 (including VAT)



Mashir Kresenshun

*Behind the door*

Cardboard and Mixed Media

180 x 150 x 2 cm

R17 670 (including VAT)



Mashir Kresenshun  
*Standing beside the mirror*  
Cardboard and Mixed Media  
180 x 150 x 2 cm  
R17 670 (including VAT)

### Artist statement:

"Frans Moshimanyana Thoka (know as Frans Thoka), an emerging contemporary talent, was born in Polokwane, Limpopo Province, South Africa. He graduated from art school (the University of Johannesburg). However, he regards himself as a self-taught artist. His body of work reflects on colonialism, his own experiences, and his memory.

The artworks do not serve as a solution, however a surface where conversations about colonial injustices and other forms of imprisonment come into existence, possibly challenge how people perceive current life crisis specifically in black communities. He uses Prison blankets as his medium, which emphasises any form of imprisonment to the marginalized in society, and reminds the onlooker of the reality of the marginalized."

### Artist Biography:

Frans Moshimanyana Thoka (known as Frans Thoka), an emerging contemporary talent, was born in 1997 in Polokwane, Limpopo Province, South Africa. He obtained his BA in Visual Art from the University of Johannesburg. However, he regards himself as a self-taught artist. His work revolves around the concept of what is humane; "his belief in the shared and universal nature of our common humanity". Through his work, he subverts inequality in 'human' interaction and reinforces the need for dignity and kindness. His artistic approach is, in some way, trials and hardships of his upbringing. He uses Prison blankets as his medium, which emphasizes the bare necessities available to the marginalized in society, and reminds the onlooker of the reality of the marginalized. "The medium is central, not only to Thoka's iconography but to the social impact of his work."



Frans Thoka

*Lešaka Lešokeng*

Paint, flour and segments from female shirt on stretched prison blanket

150 x 150 cm

R19 610 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Lešaka*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

37 x 37 cm

R5300 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Gore ke mollo o bona ka...*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

37 x 37 cm

R5300 (including VAT)



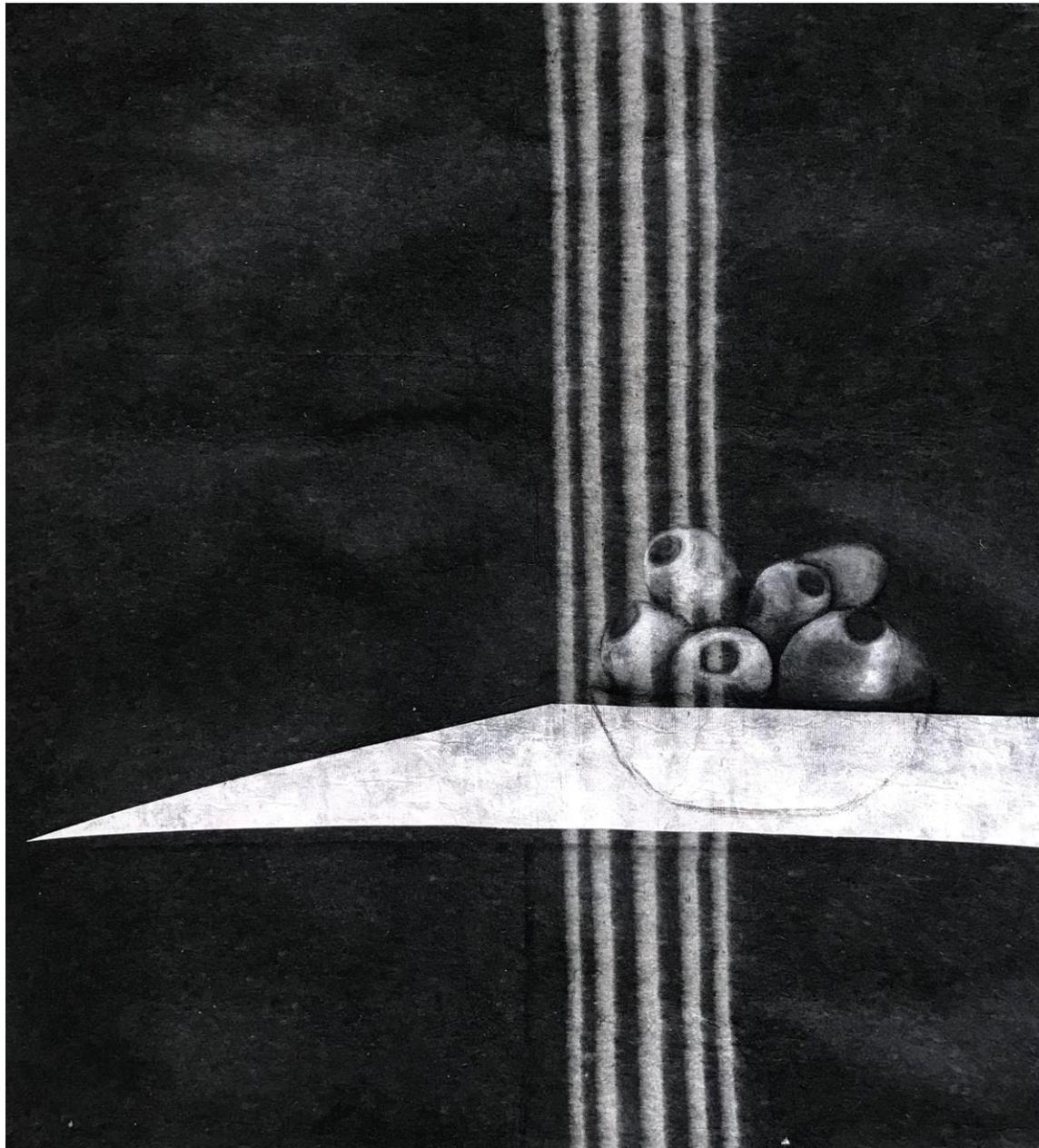
Frans Thoka

*Pula*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

21 x 37 cm

R4240 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Mohlare I*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

100 x 107cm

R7420 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Mohlare II*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

106 x 92cm

R7420 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Shatadi II*

Paint and segments from female shirt on prison blanket

137 x 131 cm

R10 070 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Hlaga*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

80 x 80cm

R7950 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Ba ile le megopolo*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

80 x 53cm

R6360 (including VAT)



Frans Thoka

*Se sesa feleng se a hlola*

Paint and flour on stretched prison blanket

50 x 50cm

R6890 (including VAT)