SMITH

LOVE?

a solo show by Banel Khoza 2018

LOVE?

a solo show by Banele Khoza

SMITH is delighted to present the first solo exhibition from Pretoria-based artist Banele Khoza, coming after a hugely successful 2017 that included group shows, three art fairs and a prestigious award.

In 2017, Khoza represented SMITH at the Cape Town Art Fair, the FNB Joburg Art Fair and the AKAA Fair in Paris. LOVE? is the artist's third solo effort following 2017's Lonely Nights at Lizamore & Associates in Johannesburg and Temporary Feelings at the Pretoria Art Museum in 2016.

Khoza completed an annus mirabilis in September 2017 by securing the Gerard Sekoto Award at the ABSA Art Gallery for his series Note Making and with it a three-month residency at the Cité Internationale des Arts in Paris along with French lessons at the Alliance Française.

Khoza's concern with gender, masculinity and identity remain strong motivations in his new collection but with LOVE? he introduces a wistful and sardonic take on love in the technological age.

"We are immersed in a curated reality and only exposed to the best part of people's lives, yet we haven't learnt to objectively consume images. So, we create a reality of their lives in our minds based on what has been shared. When we are confronted with these images, they prey on what is lacking in our own lives. If our careers are stagnant we are likely to notice someone who is traveling the world with their business or job. If you have a non-existent love life, you will not miss all the "baecations" or engagements and weddings from your following. It is worse for someone who is in a functioning relationship and starts to compare notes based on this "reality". People are expecting the

world from others and actually we are responsible for our own happiness," says Khoza.

Using wry humour and frank confessions in the form of text interventions in his paintings, Khoza takes aim at the irony of disengagement in our uber-connected contemporary society. Khoza's recent works combine image and text in informal arrangement. Much like journal entries, they have a stream of consciousness presence to them, which extends from the artist's habit of constant note making on his chosen device, a Samsung Galaxy tablet.

"Note Making was a series that was developed in a period of a year and tackled a certain issue that I was struggling with, namely masculinity. The new series is light-hearted, a reflection of where I am and have been mentally of late. It is also developed the same way, just on a smaller device and documents the moments of pause during my travels, waiting for someone, at dinner dates by myself, and so on. The series is more colorful and intense."

Born in Swaziland in 1994, Khoza's first creative foray was as a student at the London International School of Fashion in 2011. Abandoning that discipline for art in 2012, Khoza completed his degree in Fine Art at Tshwane University of Technology, where he now lectures drawing and Art Theory.

LOVE? will run from 25 January until 24 February 2018.

For press enquiries, an Q&A with the artist or to set up an exclusive interview with Banele, contact jana@smithstudio.co.za.

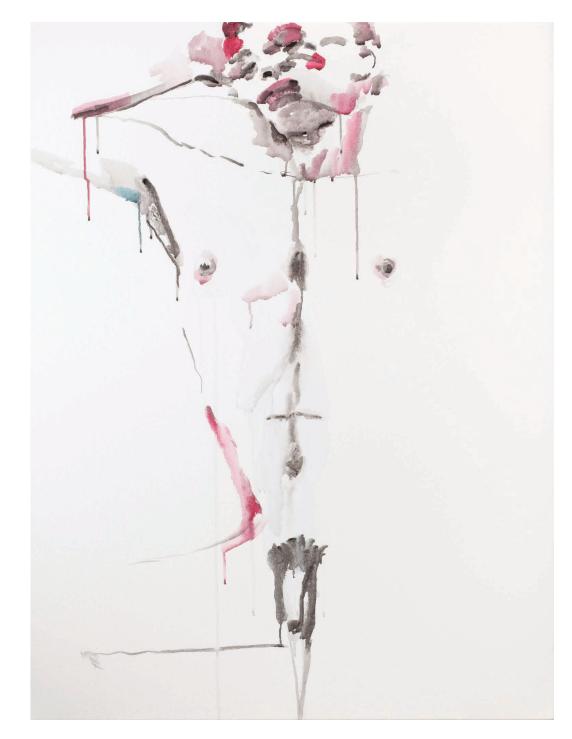
Written by Matthew Freemantle



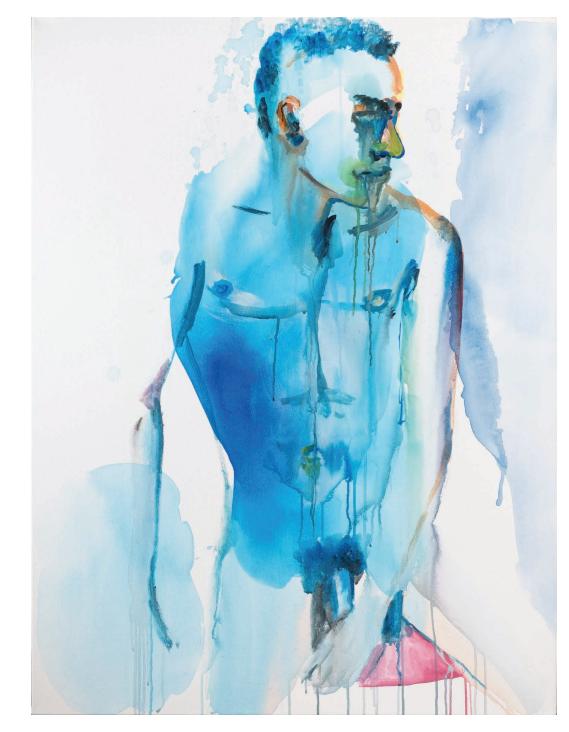
I aint no fxxk boy 2017 Acrylic on canvas 61 x 46cm R 9,000 Unframed



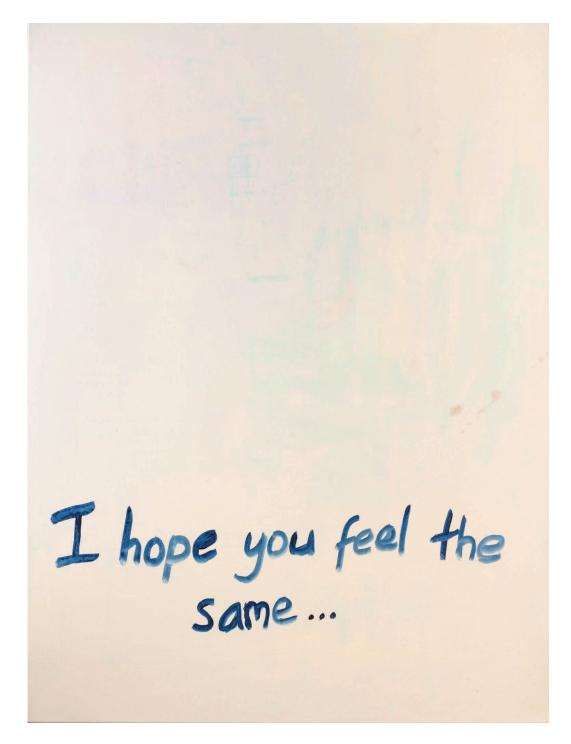
Perfectly imperfect
2017
Aerylic and charcoal on canvas
122 x 92cm
R 29,000
Framed



Watching him sleep 2017 Acrylic on canvas 122 x 92cm R 29,000 Framed



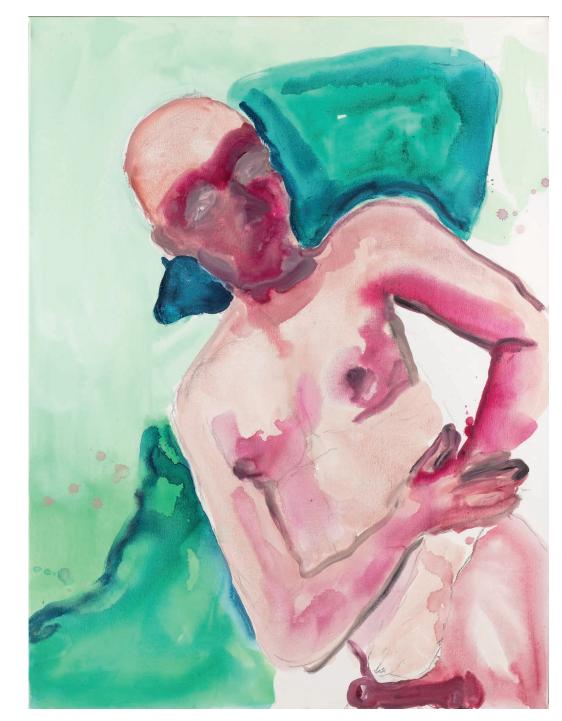
Looking the other way
2017
Aerylie on canvas
122 x 92cm
R 29,000
Framed



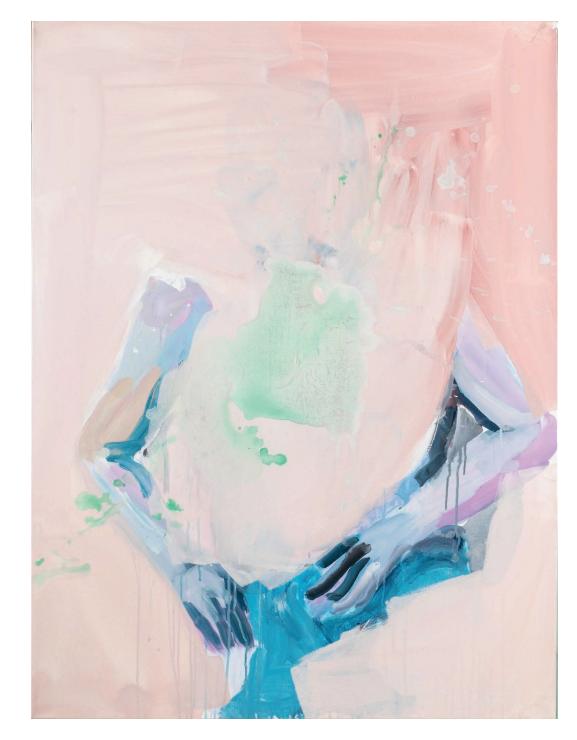
Hope 2017 Aerylic on eanvas 122 x 92cm R 29,000 Framed



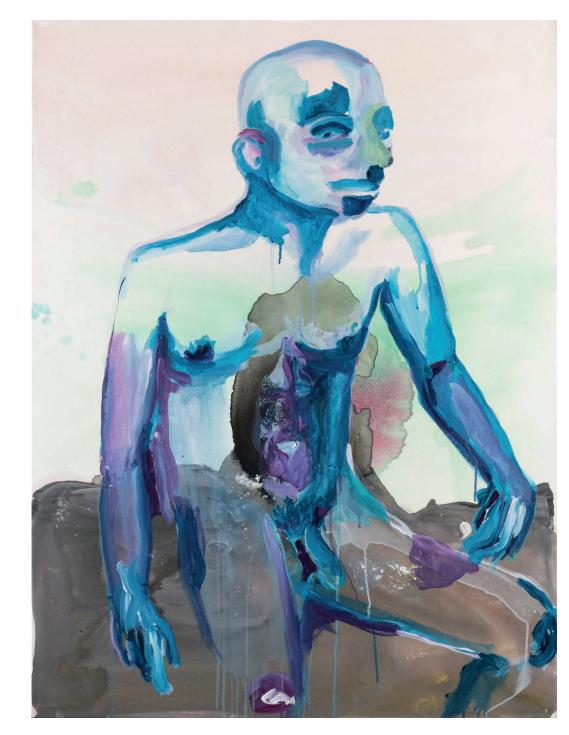
Blue eyes 2017 Aerylie and charcoal on canvas 122 x 92cm R 29,000 Framed



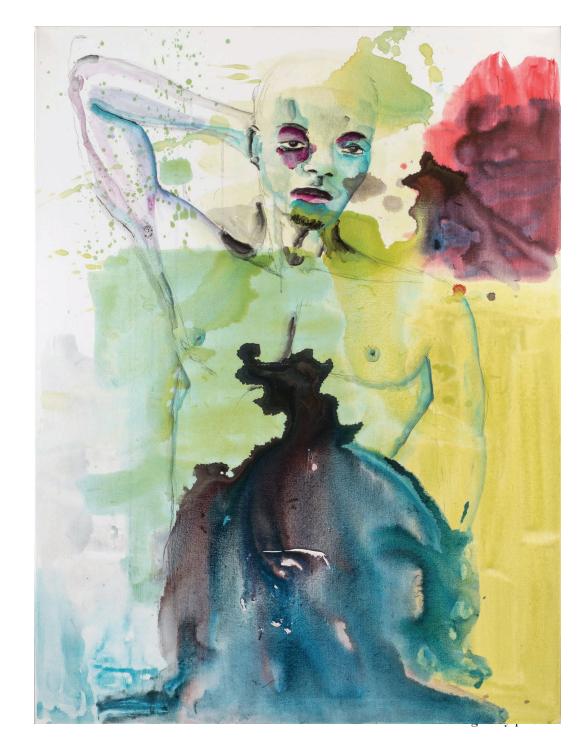
Morning after 2017 Acrylic on canvas 122 x 92cm R 29,000 Framed



Over and over again
2017
Aerylie on eanvas
122 x 92cm
R 29,000
Framed



We all want to be seen
2017
Aerylic on canvas
122 x 92cm
R 29,000
Framed



Trying to impress
2017
Aerylie on canvas
122 x 92cm
R 29,000
Framed



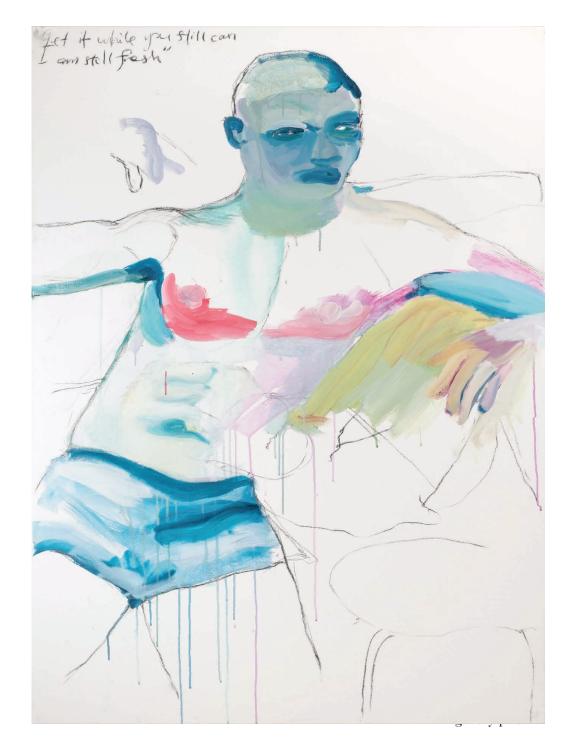
Meant to be 2017
Aerylie and charcoal on canvas 150 x 100cm
R 32,000
Framed



I've got you 2017 Aerylie on canvas 150 x 100cm R 32,000 Framed



This is it
2017
Aerylie on canvas
150 x 100cm
R 32,000
Framed



Fresh meat 2017
Acrylic and charcoal on canvas 150 x 100cm
R 32,000
Framed



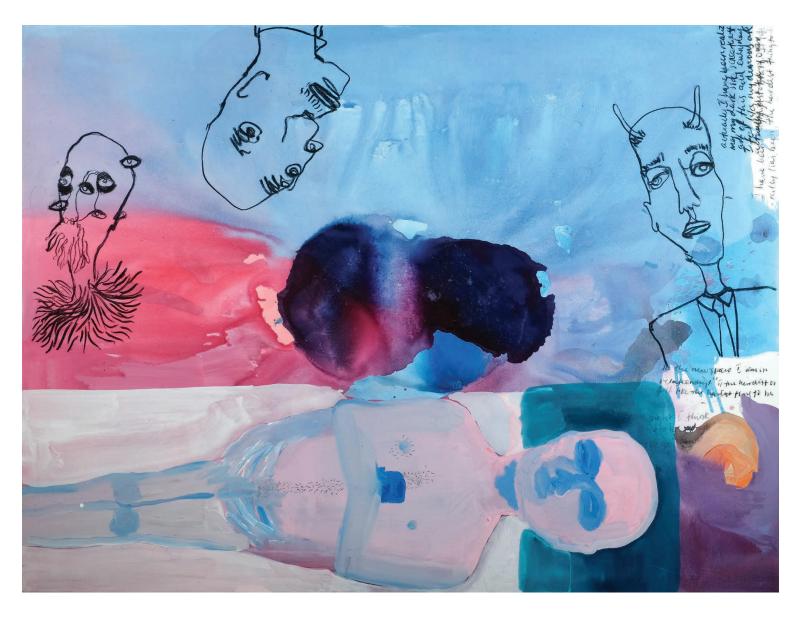
My heart nearly froze
2017
Aerylic on canvas
150 x 100cm
R 32,000
Framed



Insecurities
2017
Areylie and ink on Hahnemühle
107 x 78cm
R 24,000
Framed



Third party
2017
Aerylie and charcoal on canvas
150 x 200cm
R 48,000
Unframed



Failing to sleep
2017
Aerylie and charco on canvas
150 x 200cm
R 48,000
Unframed



Manolo 2017 Digital print on Hahnemuhle 42 x 30cm Edition 1/3 R 5,000 Framed R4,500 Unframed

Right

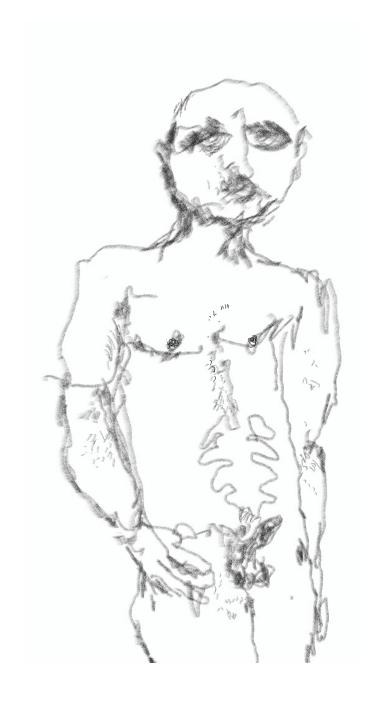
Untitled
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed



Too many voices
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

Love begins here
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed



Memories
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

By myself
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

I hope you feel the

Left

I hope you feel the same
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

On my way
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

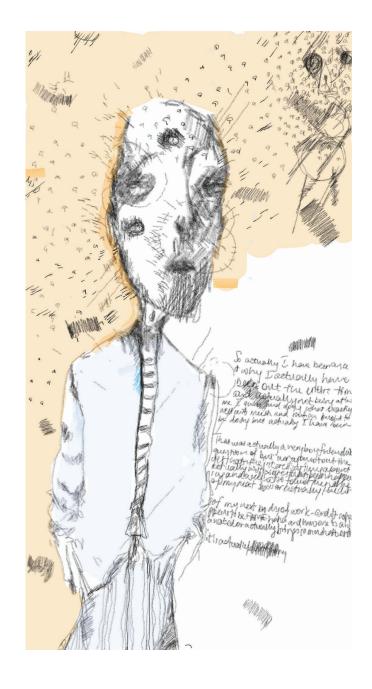




Learning from the past
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

Date-yourself
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed



What's your aspiration?
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

 $I \, think$ 2017 Digital print on Hahnemuhle 42 x 30cm Edition 1/3 R 5,000 Framed R4,500 Unframed

Think he also feeds of myenergy and then I red red the gleathen of it all Any ways I just a superior and all I just a superior graph and all a just a superior graph and all a superior graph and a just to info me about him only helewise he is a super guy he cares for an anal I appelled about hom, there is "I fingent to the world the fame is mainting to fine pomeone who is inflict to fine pomeone who is inflict to a on a day. I comen to pera know the free pion a do and I to be in the form of the pion and to and I to be in the free that from my incle and all of a wolf all all the first that a guy who are taked all of a wolf and it to that a graph a degree that a graph a fine to that folds to I thing are he that the property and a superior to the and the superior to the superior to the and the superior to the super Anways and host willy just move into his spour for manuary it hecticher i am being in a relationship. tirst of all its much better to have yourself first on the thought process or maybe with
this very one it is much easter
to actually he the first one in
mind as he alterally has a time
pable to when he is avoidable and
when he strik and I have to respect
you work how and shot. Faltually took me time to be added to understand the dynamics of aethody being with thos guy and I will mixing want on hom too, to actually open up. I be get a maximum feel of him when I after ally go and ke him. After my suggestion of hom only bushing him and basically taking carrollar past those visits of will be taking the a manable only hand. And a millest faim he a manable only hand. And a millest faim he a manable

Blue tops 2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle 42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

I was doing just fine... 2017 Digital print on Hahnemuhle $42 \times 30 \mathrm{cm}$ Edition 1/3 R 5,000 Framed R4,500 Unframed

I was doing just fine before I met you. So I have actually been playing someon who be should be hered by what is go ne on actually be

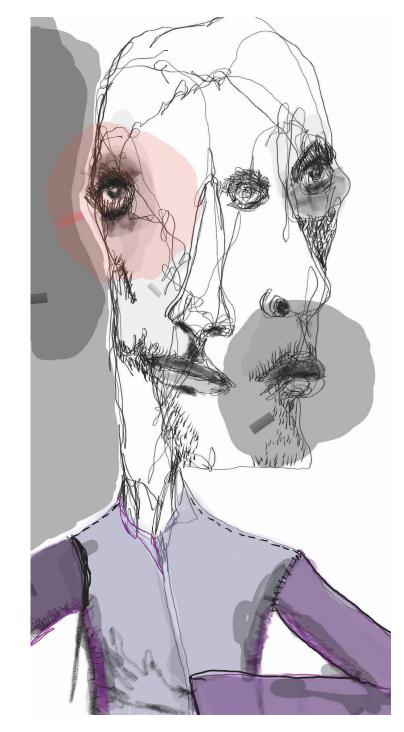


Left

03h45, waiting for my lover
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed

Right

Love...
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed



Loosing my mind
2017
Digital print on Hahnemuhle
42 x 30cm
Edition 1/3
R 5,000 Framed
R4,500 Unframed



He was somebody else's 2017 Acrylic and ink on Hahnemühle 107 x 78cm R 24,000 Framed



Dr Chaos 2017 Aerylie and ink on Hahnemühle 107 x 78em R 24,000 Framed



He wasn't done looking 2017 Aerylie and ink on Hahnemühle 107 x 78cm R 24,000 Framed



He said find someone who will give you butterflies \$2017\$ Aerylie and ink on Hahnemühle \$107 x 78cm R 24,000 Framed





It is what you think it is 2017
Acrylic and ink on Hahnemühle 25 x 23cm
R 6,000
Framed

On different pages 2017 Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle 25 x 23cm R 6,000 Framed





Inner conflicts
2017
Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle
25 x 23cm
R 6,000
Framed

Navigating in the unknown 2017
Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle 25 x 23cm
R 6,000
Framed





He likes me, he likes me not 2017
Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle 25 x 23em R 6,000
Framed

Counting seconds
2017
Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle
25 x 23em
R 6,000
Framed





Moral; take it easy 2017
Aerylie and ink on Hahnemühle 25 x 23cm
R 6,000
Framed

Something missing 2017
Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle 25 x 23cm
R 6,000
Framed





Ghosted
2017
Aerylic and ink on Hahnemühle
25 x 23cm
R 6,000
Framed

 $He \ sees \ me$ 2017 Acrylic and ink on Hahnemühle $25 \ x \ 23cm$ $R \ 6,000$ Framed