

GUNS & RAIN

Bevan de Wet

Investec Cape Town Art Fair 2019

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About Bevan de Wet (South Africa)

Bevan de Wet's (b.1985) work explores mostly etching, relief printing, papermaking, drawing and paper folding techniques. A highly experienced printmaker, de Wet is well versed in the nature of paper and the forms it can take. His latest work is his most conceptual and abstract to date, marking a significant development in his practice.

Embracing chance and transience, the *Fool's Gold* series are new, abstract and unfamiliar landscapes: they speak to creation, disintegration and vulnerability, but also pose questions about how we engage with space and the world. De Wet brings multiple mediums into dialogue, including papermaking, collage and painting. Collaged elements are embedded in the paper during the papermaking process. Once dried, the works are painted on, folded, fragmented and reconstructed. De Wet explores ideas about the social engineering of landscapes and colonial mapping practices. "The practice of construction and deconstruction is a process of reversal and re-imagining", says the artist, "in a sense, unoccupying space, dissecting and collapsing it into a singular, but complex platform".

Meanwhile, in de Wet's *Undertow* series, water is used as a carrier for pigments, relying on its natural flow and evaporation to inform organic and uncontrollable marks on the surface. *Undertow* references water as a critically powerful force, both builder and destroyer, an archetypal symbol of birth and life. Water is also essential to paper making and integral to the working process. "I am fascinated with the tensions that arise when the dried paper comes back into contact with water again. Its fragility is exposed as it warps, changes shape and weakens", says de Wet. These works are best viewed suspended and exposed to get a true sense of their material presence, being allowed to rotate and move in the air. They aim to capture a sense of the flow and movement of water.

De Wet lives and works in Johannesburg. He graduated with a BFA with distinction from Rhodes University in 2008. From 2011-2016, de Wet worked at the Artist Proof Studio in Johannesburg as a professional print technician, collaborator, and academic facilitator. During this time, he worked with artists such as Gerhard Marx, William Kentridge, Norman Catherine, Doris Bloom and The Handspring Puppet Company.

He has exhibited extensively, both locally and internationally, including Drawing on Entropy (solo, Hazard Gallery, 2018), New Forms: A Study of Broken Parallels (solo, Candice Berman Gallery, 2017), Origins & Trajectories, Paris (2016); International Printmaking Alliance Exhibition, China (2016-17); Vestige (solo, NIROX Projects, 2014). In 2012, de Wet was awarded a fellowship from the Ampersand Foundation (New York 2013) and also received the Thami Mnyele Art on Paper Merit Award. In 2014, he was an ABSA L'Atelier Merit Award Winner and also received an ImpACT Award for Visual Art from the Arts and Culture Trust. His work is held in a number of private and public collections including The Wits Art Museum, Nirox Foundation, the South African Embassy in Washington DC, and the Ahmanson Foundation in Los Angeles.



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Fools Gold I (2108)

Ink and pigment on handmade

Sisal paper collage

97 x 75 cm (38.2 x 29.5 inches)

SOLD



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Fools Gold II (2018)

Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage

146 x 60 cm (57.5 x 23.6 inches)

R33,600.00 (framed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Fools Gold II (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Fools Gold III (2018)

Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage

133 x 43 cm (52.4 x 16.9 inches)

R31,500 (framed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Fools Gold III (2018)



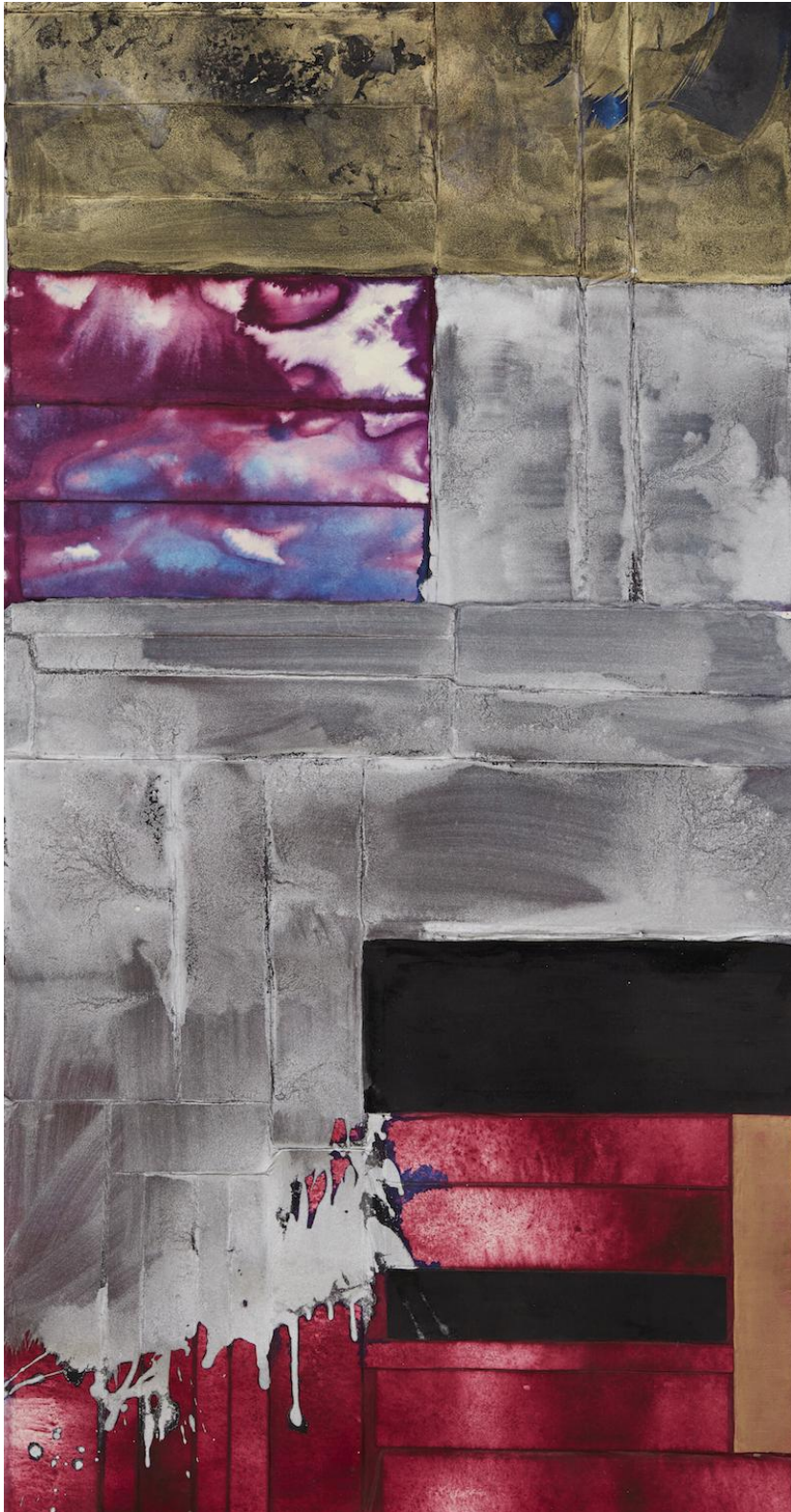
BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Fools Gold IV (2018)

Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage

146 x 67 cm (57.5 x 26.4 inches)

R33,600.00 (framed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Fools Gold IV (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Fools Gold V (2018)

Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage

98 x 74 cm (38.6 x 29.1 inches)

R27,500.00 (framed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Fools Gold V (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Installation view: *Undertow* series



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled I (from the Undertow series) (2018)

Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage

160 x 61 cm (63.0 x 24.0 inches)

R13,500.00 (unframed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Untitled I (from the Undertow series) (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled II (from the Undertow series) (2018)
Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage
154 x 60 cm (60.6 x 23.6 inches)
R13,500.00 (unframed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Untitled II (from the Undertow series) (2018)

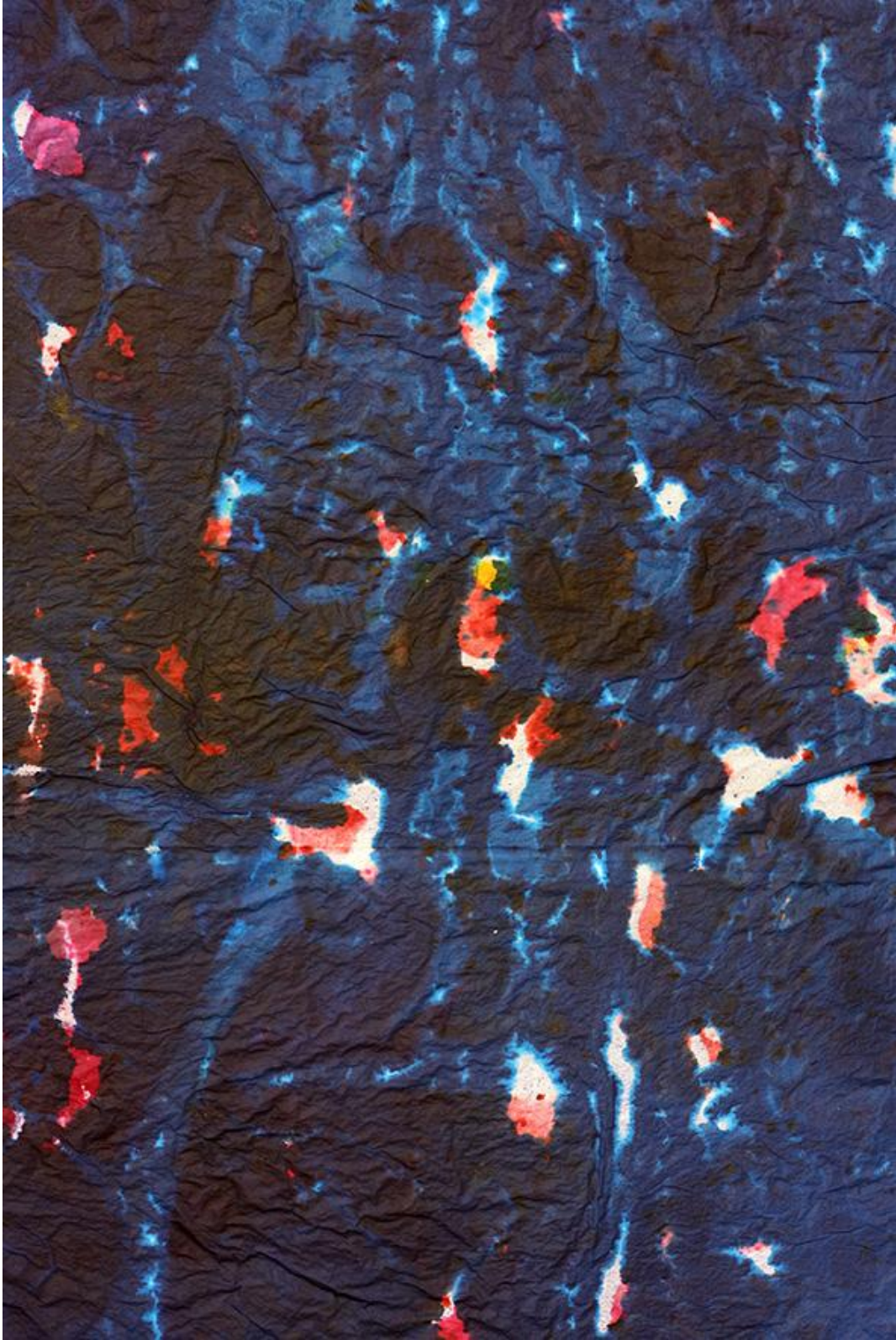


BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Installation view: *Undertow* series



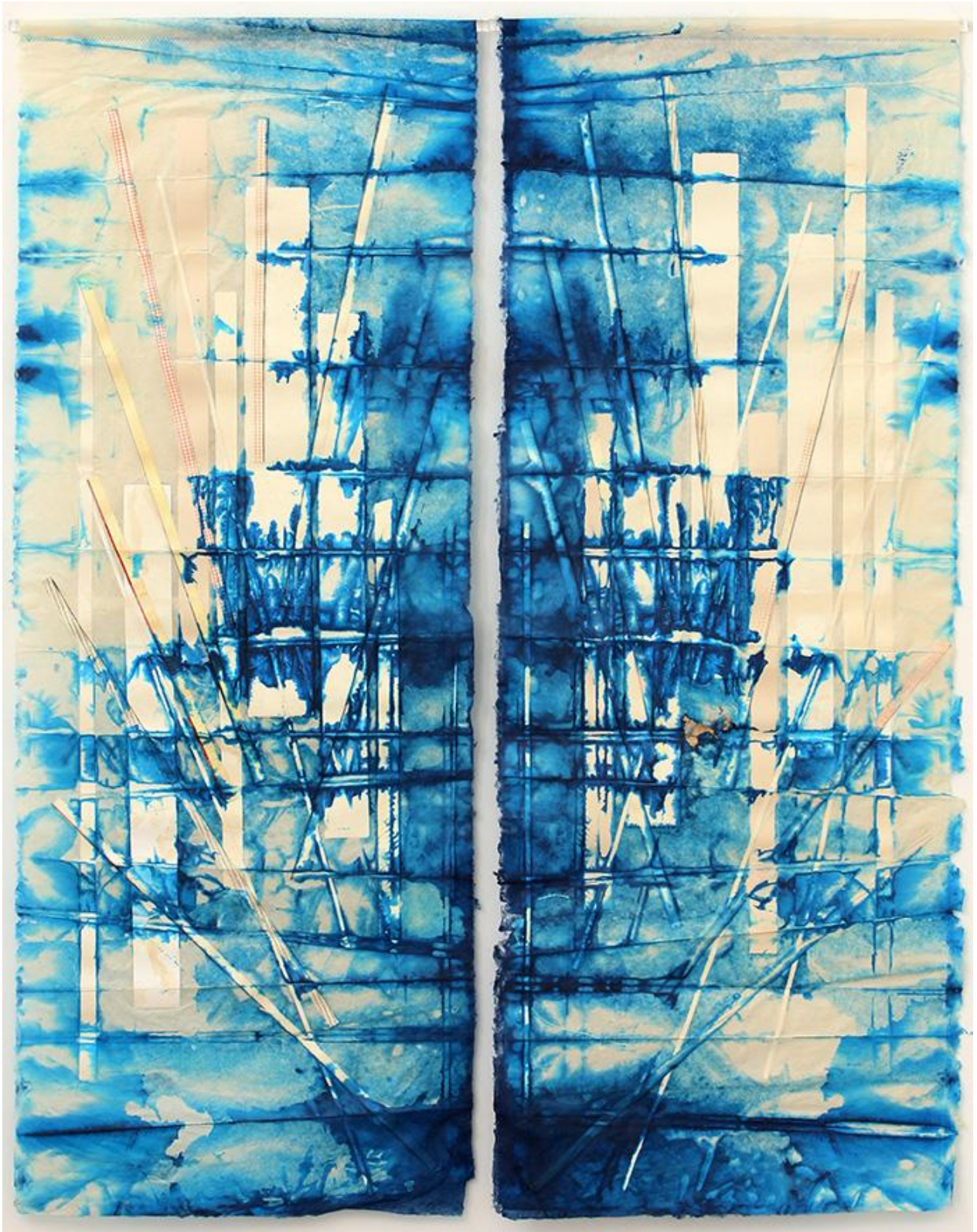
BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled III & IV (from the Undertow series) (2018)
Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage
154 x 60 cm (60.6 x 23.6 inches)
R22,000.00 (as a pair, unframed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Detail from Untitled III & IV (from the Undertow series) (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled IX & X (from the Undertow series) (2018)
Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage
159 x 62 cm (62.6 x 24.4 inches)
R22,000.00 (as a pair, unframed)



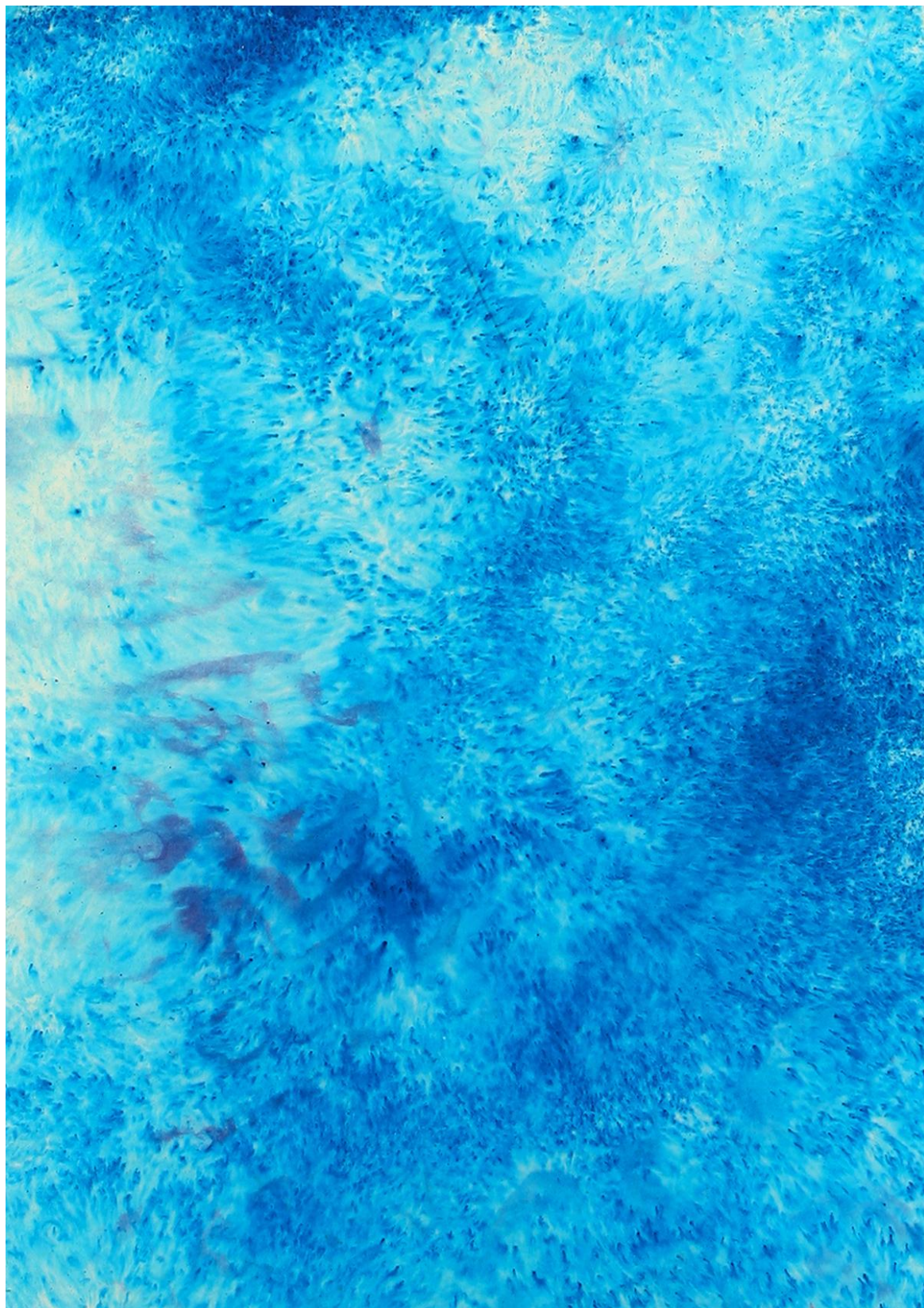
BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Detail from Untitled IX & X (from the Undertow series) (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled V (from the Undertow series) (2018)
Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage
147 x 61 cm (57.9 x 24.0 inches)
R13,500.00 (unframed)

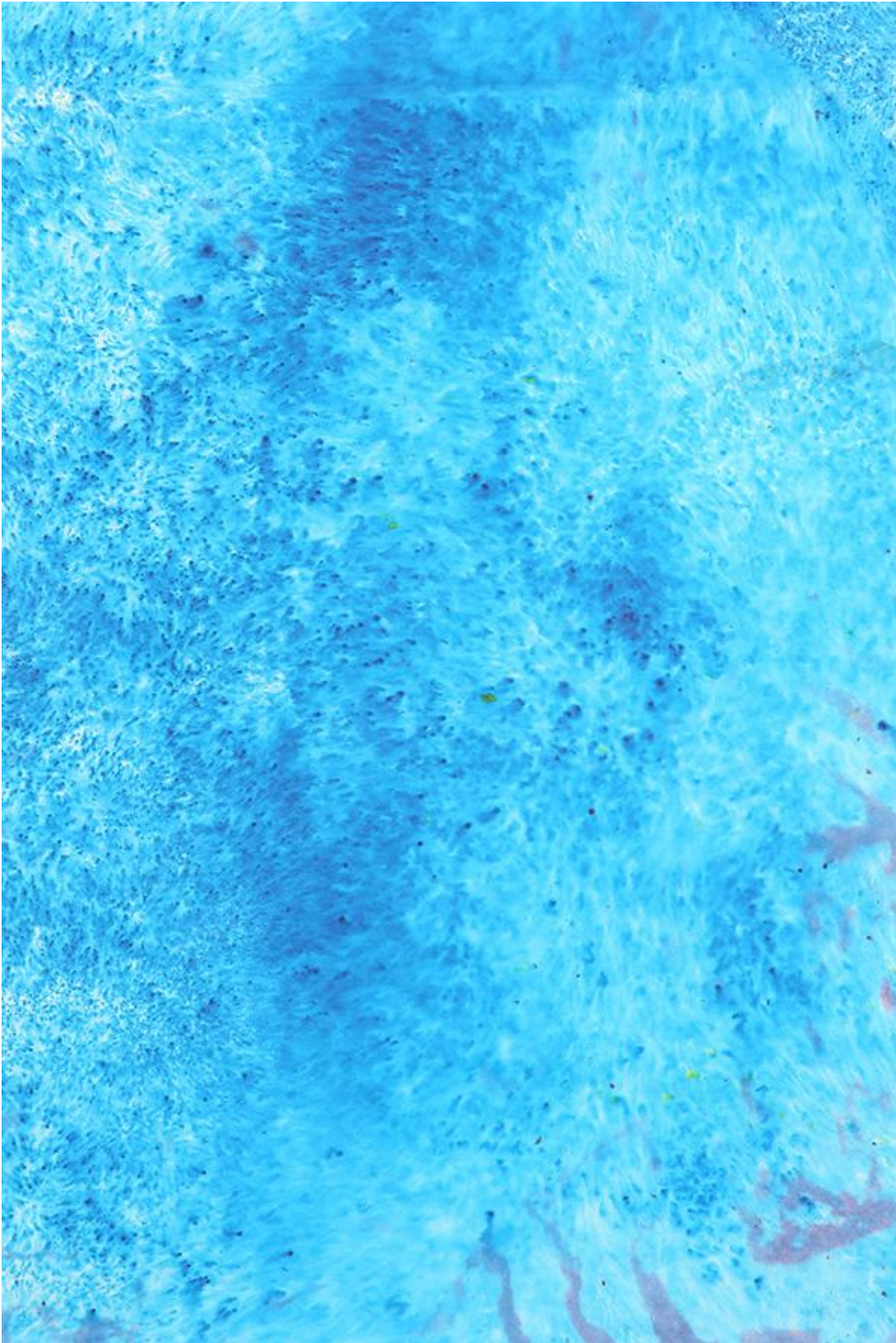


BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Untitled V (from the Undertow series) (2018).



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled VI (from the Undertow series) (2018)
Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage
147 x 61 cm (57.9 x 24.0 inches)
R13,500.00 (unframed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)
Detail from Untitled VI (from the Undertow series) (2018)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Untitled VII & VIII from the Undertow series) (2018)
Ink and pigment on handmade Sisal paper collage
163 x 61 cm (64.2 x 24.0 inches)
R22,000.00 (as a pair, unframed)



BEVAN DE WET (SOUTH AFRICA)

Detail from Untitled VII from the Undertow series) (2018)

Bevan de Wet

Awards & Affiliations

- 2014 ImpACT Award for Young Professionals, Visual Arts Winner, Arts and Culture Trust (JHB)
ABSA L'Atelier Merit Award Winner, Sylt Foundation Residency 2015 (Germany)
Visiting Artists Residency Program, Bag Factory (JHB)
- 2012 Thami Mnyele Art on Paper Merit Award (JHB)
Ampersand Foundation Fellowship & Residency 2013 (New York)

Residencies

- 2017 Cill Rialaig Arts Residency (Ireland)
- 2015 Sylt Foundation Residency (Germany)
- 2014 Bag Factory Artist Residency (Johannesburg)
- 2013 Ampersand Fellowship Residency (New York)

Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 *Drawing on Entropy*, Hazard Gallery (JHB)
- 2017 *New Forms: A Study of Broken Parallels*, Candice Berman Gallery (JHB)
Bevan de Wet, South African Fine Art Print Fair, GIBS (JHB)
- 2016 *Drawing Rooms*, with City Soiree (JHB)
- 2014 *Vestige*, NIROX Projects (JHB)

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2018 *The Cat Show*, David Krut Projects (JHB)
See Art: Contemporary Drawing, Gallery 2 (JHB)
AKAA Art Fair, with Artist Proof Studio, Carreau du Temple (Paris)
Spring Salon, Lizamore Gallery (JHB)
Boundless Objects, Artist Books Exhibition, The Toffee Gallery (CT)
Printmaking Excellence (4 person show), Artist Proof Studio, Tothill's Building (CT)
Bank 002: Emerging Contemporaries, InToto gallery (JHB)
20/20 Vision, RIAI, The Architecture Centre (Dublin)
See Art: Contemporary Abstract, Gallery 2 (JHB)
Investec Cape Town Art Fair, Artist Proof Studio Booth (CT)
- 2017 *National Art Bank: Emerging Visions*, Oliewenhuis Museum (Bloemfontein)
35 Years: Trailblazers, Lizamore & Associates (JHB)
Irish Footprint, Cill Rialaig Arts Centre (Ballinskelligs, Ireland)
Turbine Art Fair, Turbine Hall, (booths include Candice Berman Gallery, The Art Room, Artist Proof Studio) (JHB)
One Colour at a Time, Contemporary Screenprints, WITS Art Museum (JHB)
International Printmaking Alliance Exhibition, (touring) Nanjing Jinling Art Museum; Tianjin Art Museum; Shijiazhuang Art Museum; Shenzhen Guanlan Original Printmaking Exhibition (China)
- 2016 *Fierce.Now*, Afrovibes Festival, Compagnie Theater (Amsterdam)
International Printmaking Alliance Exhibition, Taimiao Art Gallery, The Imperial Ancestral Temple (Beijing, China)
FNB Joburg Art Fair, APS Gallery Stand, Sandton Convention Centre (JHB)
Korean Contemporary Printmakers Association Biennial, International Printmedia Festival (Seoul) *Passage*, Southern Hemisphere International Printmaking Exhibition, The Jincheon Print Museum (Jincheon, Korea)
Turbine Art Fair, Turbine Hall (booths include Guns&Rain, The Art Room, LL Editions) (JHB)
Origins & Trajectories, PIASA (Paris)
Interlude, No End Contemporary (JHB)
Performing Wo/Man, Oliewenhuis Art Museum (Bloemfontein)
- 2015 *Bleeding Edge*, Afrovibes Festival, Campagnietheater (Amsterdam)
Sasol Signatures 2015, finalist, Pretoria Art Museum (Pretoria)
We see (in) the Dark, Life Collection, MOAD (JHB)
Turbine Art Fair, Turbine Hall (booths include Guns&Rain, Candice Berman Gallery, Dead Bunny Society, and Artist Proof Studio) (JHB)
The Collaborative Spirit, No Man's Art Gallery (Amsterdam)
My Land, My Land, ABSA KKNK (Oudshoorn)
A Journey of Reconciliation, Laband Art Gallery (Los Angeles)
- 2014 *Altered Terrain*, Exchange Rates - Bushwick International Art Expo (Brooklyn, NY)
Jan Royce Gallery Launch Exhibition (Cape Town)
Degrees of Separation, ABSA Gallery (JHB)
TWENTY: Contemporary Art from South Africa, Turchin Center for Visual Arts (North Carolina)
Sylt Foundation Stand, Turbine Art Fair (JHB)
ABSA L'Atelier Art competition exhibition finals, Top 10, ABSA Towers (JHB)
MixTape, An exhibition of Work by the Master Printers, Artist Proof Studio (JHB)
South African Voices: A New Generation of Printmakers, Washington Printmakers Gallery (Washington DC)