Land Of Milk And Honey

R 79,380.00 ex. vat

Unframed 146 x 97 x 0.1 cm

Framed 150 x 100 x 5 cm

Not signed by artist.

ODE TO SHE - In her captivating 'Ode to She' series, Tony Gum builds upon the narrative established in her previous 'Milked in Africa' series in 2016. In ‘Ode to She’ Gum introduces two additional artworks: 'Land of Milk and Honey' and 'Milk The Bok'.
In 'Land of Milk and Honey', Gum explores the profound connection between her archetype, Africa, and the concept of the motherland. The vibrant green colour symbolises the land, while the figure's striking red lips subtly allude to the sacrifices made by women and the bloodshed of oppression. Unlike her earlier 'Milked in Africa' series, the parted lips of the figure signify her readiness to speak out and share her burdens. Inspired by Exodus 3:17 in the Bible, which speaks of a promised land flowing with milk and honey, Gum delves into the intricate relationship between religion, colonialism, and the hope for liberation from oppression. The depiction of milk on the Bible represents the nurturing qualities of sacred words, offering a beacon of hope. The stature of the woman suggests her adherence to societal expectations, while the milk now depicted in the 'Book' emphasises the healing and nurturing resources within her.
In 'Milk The Bok', Gum explores the indomitable resilience of African people in the face of adversity. This artwork draws a parallel between the adaptability and survival instincts of the Springbok, South Africa's national animal associated with rugby, and the experiences of African individuals.
Despite relentless attempts to erase their spirit, African people remain steadfast, exuding strength and joy. The presence of the feminine figure alongside the Bok serves as a powerful reminder of the shared qualities between the two species, emphasising their inherent strength. The white cloth adorning her head represents respect and power, symbolising the resources she creates and empowers herself with. It serves as a poignant reminder of the significance of self-respect and humility.
Through the exploration of 'Land of Milk and Honey' and 'Milk The Bok', Tony Gum delves deeper into the intricacies of African identity, resilience, and the transformative power of self-expression. Her thought-provoking artworks challenge societal norms, inviting contemplation, while simultaneously celebrating the beauty and strength of African women.

Edition Size	10
Medium	Photography, Premium Satin Giclee Dibond mounted
Location	Christopher Moller Gallery
Height	150.00 cm
Width	100.00 cm
Artwork Height	146
Artwork Width	97
Artist	Tony Gum
Year	2019