



Egoli

R 13,500.00



This artwork by Lugra Ilunga captures the essence of Johannesburg's urban life, a city he calls home and an enduring muse in his exploration of masculinity and societal constructs. The bustling cityscape is intricately detailed, with iconic elements such as the Telkom Tower standing tall a symbol of Johannesburg's economic might and cultural intersectionality.

The artwork portrays a chaotic yet vibrant urban street scene, where the pursuit of wealth and survival converges with cultural and personal identities. Figures from varying walks of life populate the scene, embodying the diverse masculine roles that Ilunga examines in his work: from the spiritual figure walking amidst the traffic to laborers, street vendors, and city dwellers navigating the relentless

rhythm of urban life.

Central to the piece is a symbolic rupture in the street—a treasure chest spilling gold and skulls—suggesting the duality of wealth as both a source of aspiration and a cause of destruction. This imagery ties directly to Ilunga’s reflections on masculinity and its struggles, particularly within the context of Johannesburg’s high-pressure environment, where men are often defined by their ability to attain and wield wealth.

Ilunga’s personal experiences as a Congolese immigrant growing up in Johannesburg are interwoven into the narrative. The artwork reflects the city’s contrasting realities: a space of opportunity and ambition, but also of disparity and tension, where cultural intersections challenge and redefine identity. This piece serves as a powerful commentary on how men navigate the expectations, temptations, and cultural complexities of urban life.

Frame	None
Medium	Mixed Media, Acrylic Paint with Oil Pastels, Charcoal and Collage on Canvas
Location	Johannesburg, South Africa
Height	53.00 cm
Width	78.00 cm
Artist	Lugra Ilunga
Year	2024

