



FIRST FLOOR GALLERY HARARE

TROY MAKAZA - KUFA IZUVA RIMWE

www.firstfloorgalleryharare.com

Troy Makaza

Kufa Izuva Rimwe

First Floor Gallery Harare

Kufa IzuvaRimwe, means death is but a day. It is perhaps one of the most poetic and life affirming proverb openings in ChiShona. While the proverb continues with a caution that problems take a long time to build us and no outcome happens on its own, it is valuable to just reflect on the idea that death is just a moment and rest there. Because when we do consider that death is just a moment, we immediately realise that life is far more than that. That in fact Kufa izuvarimwe is the flipside to the concept of hupenyu which means infuses the idea of life with the blessing of being alive, in and of itself.

So there is no necessary conflict or contrast between the joy of a good meal, the pain of war and poverty, celebration of a new birth or the Moon landing. There is no superior civilization, there is no better culture, there is nothing more human than being human. I remember taking my husband to Le Louvre for the first time many years ago, expecting a euphoric reaction to the pathos and spectacle of the grandest museum, the palace and home of Mona Lisa and treasures of Ancient Greece, Rome, Egypt and Mesopotamia. His response stunningly concise was 'To think they built all this and they did not know how to treat other human beings'. It was not a rejection of beauty but seeing it in totality and a totality which included himself, explicitly and undeniably. It is at this crossroads of self-awareness and self-acceptance and recentring the world for all that we find Troy Makaza's Kufa IzuvaRimwe.

Kufa IzuvaRimwe is a body of work, which looks at life as it is lived rather than imagined. Life, with inequality and class, with history of oppression, with the present of poverty and drugs and corruption, with politics dividing people and land, with maps of a continent carving out scars of dispossession and inherited trauma, where answers are neither clear nor close at hand. These new works, assert and vanquish any doubt that there is a need for compromise between painfully serious and deliciously seductive, that do be significant and important art needs to become devoid of joy and beauty, that concept, context and the sublime cannot sing in unison.

InKufa IzuvaRimwe, Makaza brings us a heartfelt invocation to himself and others, to hear and see themselves in history as part of history, to see everything we are and what we live with honesty, with passionate love for being alive. A life infinitely imperfect, infinitely and imperfectly beautiful and infinitely hopeful and optimistic.

Valerie Kabov

Curator

©2022

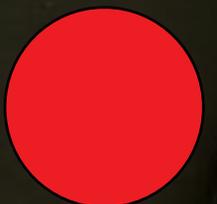
Troy Makaza

Born in 1994, Harare, Zimbabwe

Lives and works in Harare, Zimbabwe

Having specialized in painting in art school but always interested in form and texture, Makaza decided to develop his own hybrid medium which would enable him to unite his artistic goals. After experimenting with various materials, Makaza arrived at silicone a material which can be cast, painted with as well as woven and tied. Over the past eight years Makaza's works progressively developed as an opportunity to speak both viscerally and philosophically to the issues Makaza finds compelling as a young Zimbabwean concerned with politics, history and power and their impact on daily lives of ordinary people as well as a globally engaged millennial. Resonating with traditional modes like weaving and tapestry but unequivocally contemporary, Makaza's works articulate the conversation of what African and uniquely Zimbabwean contemporary can be – a paradigm internationally engaging and locally compelling. Makaza's works has received early critical and collector acclaim, taking part in the 2018 survey of Zimbabwean contemporary art at Zeitz MoCAA, winning the Tomorrows/Today prize at the Investec Cape Town Art Fair in 2019, joining important institutional collections like that of Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden in Marrakech, Rollins College museum collection and noted private collections like Jorge Perez personal collection in Miami.

{click dot to view artists page}



Education

2015: National Certificate in Fine Art - National Gallery of Zimbabwe Visual Arts Studios

Selected Exhibitions:

Solo

2022: Kifa izuva rimwe, First Floor Gallery Harare

2022: Instinct of great survivors, Primo Marella Gallery, Lugano

2021: Art Basel Miami Beach, Nova, First Floor Gallery Harare

2019: Tomorrows/Today (art fair prize winner) Cape Town Art Fair, First Floor Gallery Harare, Cape Town, South Africa

2018: Forever Neverland Solo, First Floor Gallery Harare, Harare

2016: Bound Together solo, First Floor Gallery Harare, Harare, Zimbabwe

Group

2022: The Territories of Abstraction (Kapwani Kiwanga, Sophie Ristelhueber, Sidival Fila, Nikita Kadan and Ittah Yoda), 9 Cork Street, Galerie Jérôme Poggi, Paris

2021: Travels with Herodotus (Domenico de Chirico curator), Galleria Bianconi, Milan, Italy

2021: Mirror Mirror! - South South Veza, First Floor Gallery Harare, Harare, Zimbabwe

2020 Level Mosi-oa-Tunya, First Floor Gallery, Victoria Falls

2019: Welcome Home, Museum of Modern African Art al Maaden, Macaal, Marrakesh, Morocco

2019: Kubatana – Contemporary African Art Survey, Kunstlaboratorium, Norway

2018: THE BLACK SPHINX II, Primo Marella Gallery, Milan, Italy

2018: Next Level, First Floor Gallery Harare, Harare, Zimbabwe Another Antipodes,

2018 'Five Bhob' – Zeitz MoCAA, Cape Town, South Africa

2017: Another Antipodes/urban axis, PS Art Space, Fremantle, Australia

2017: Young Now, Hazard Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa

2016: 'I am because you are', First Floor Gallery Harare, Harare, Zimbabwe

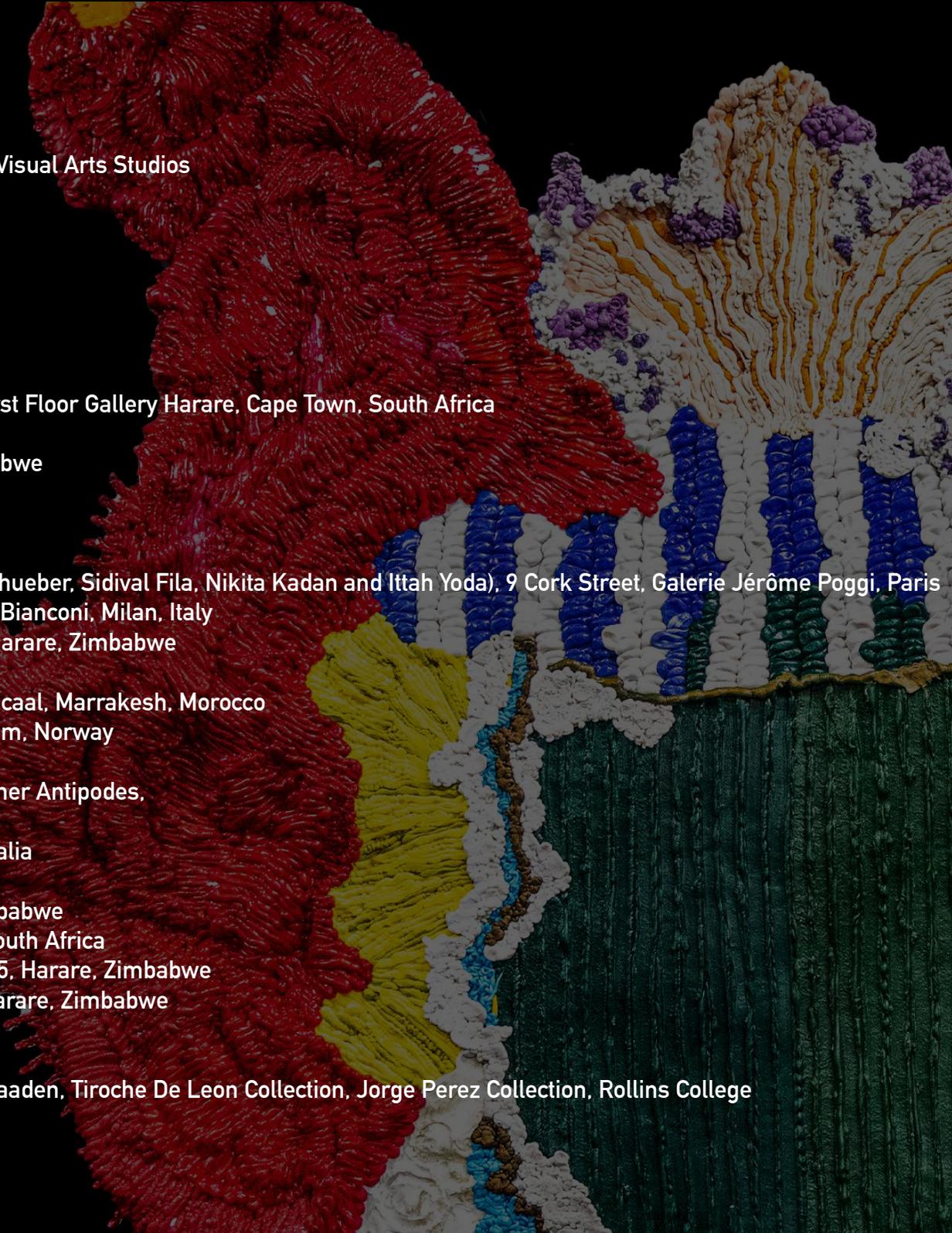
2015: But He's Got No Clothes On, Commune 1 Gallery, Cape Town, South Africa

2015: Harare No Limits, Harare International Festival of the Arts, 2015, Harare, Zimbabwe

2015: Kuyaruka – Age of Accountability, First Floor Gallery Harare, Harare, Zimbabwe

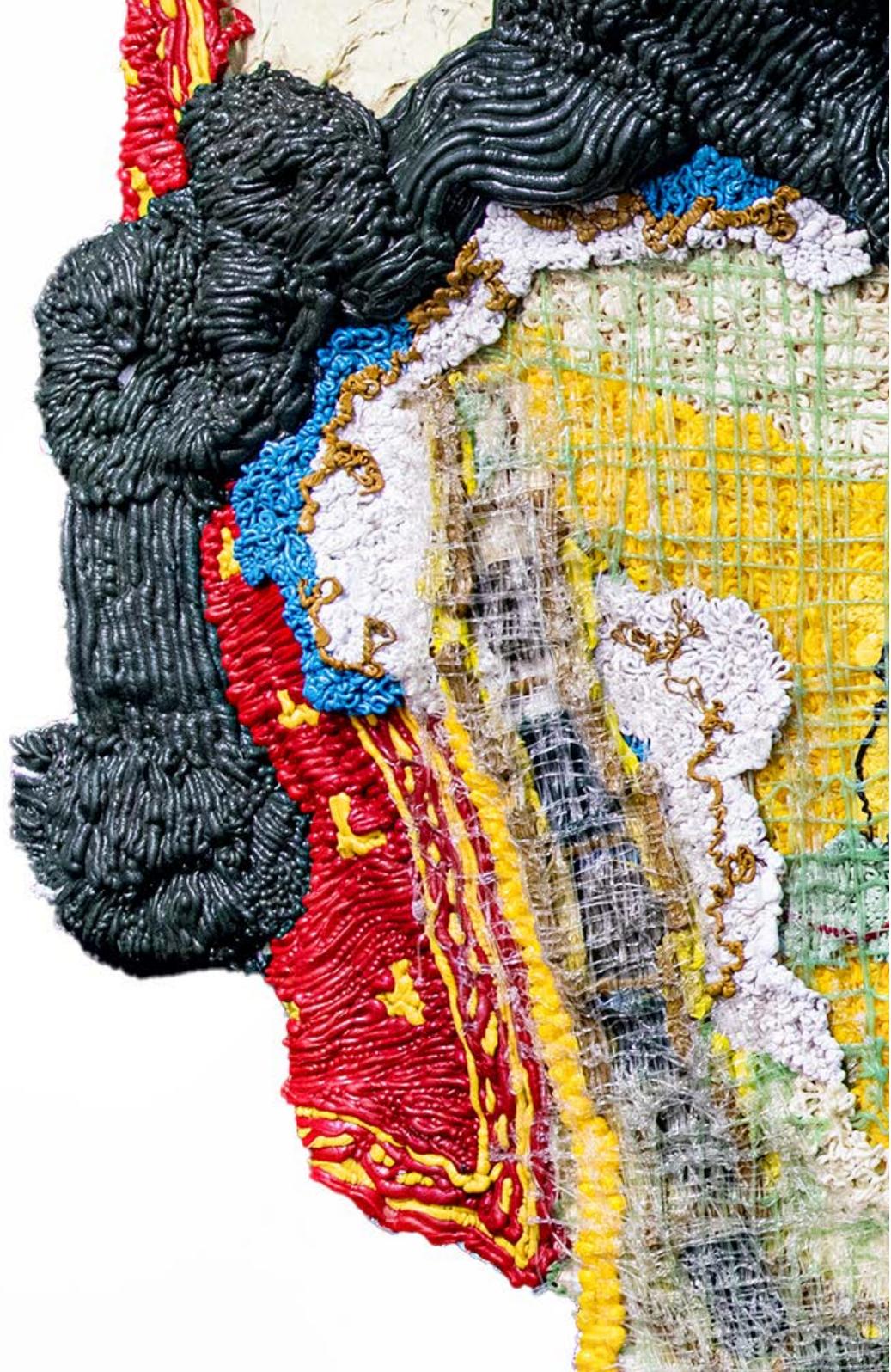
Selected Collections

Fondazione Fiera Milano, Museum of African Contemporary Art Al Maaden, Tiroche De Leon Collection, Jorge Perez Collection, Rollins College



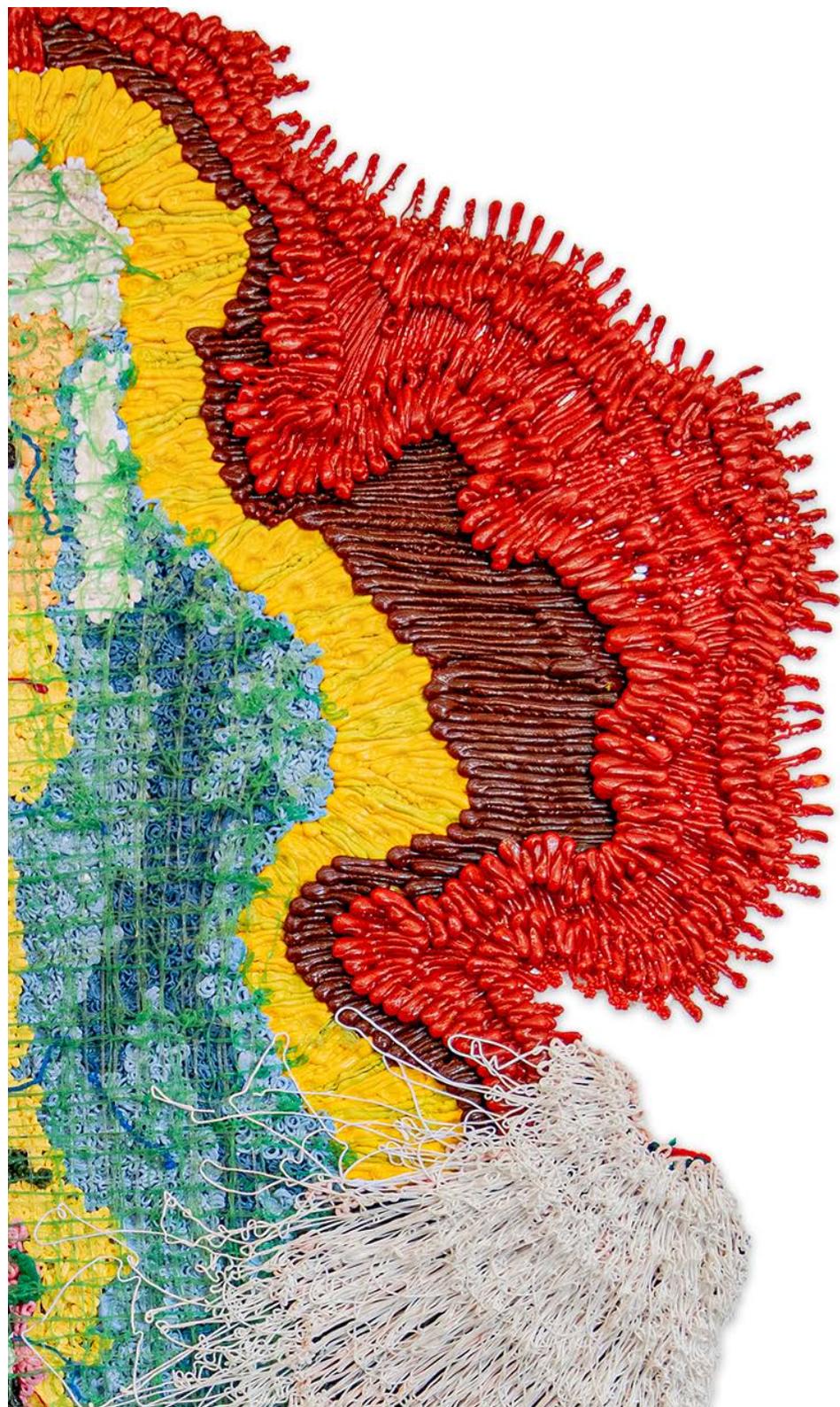
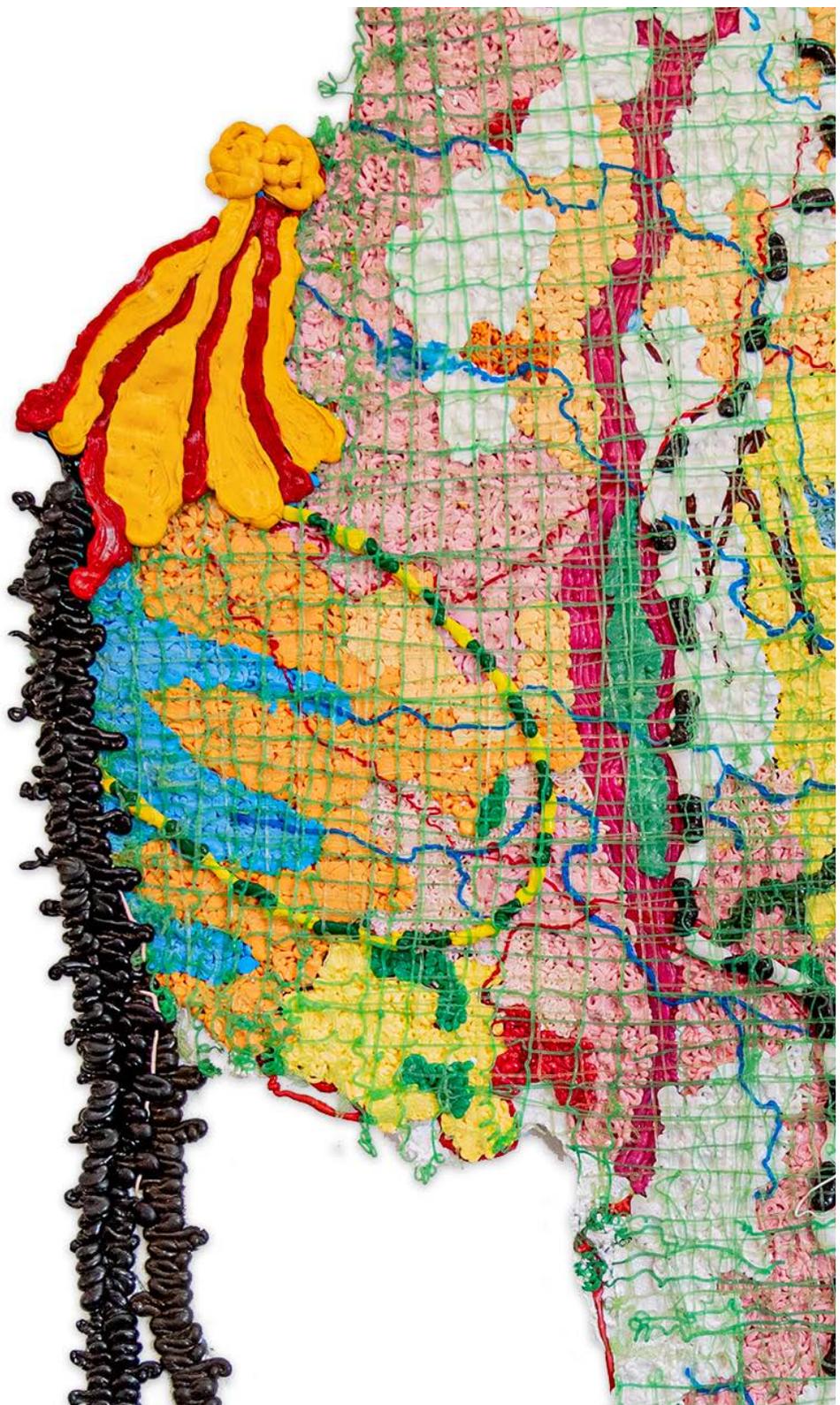


Mapping the unreasonable, Part 1, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
176 x 218cm





Mapping the unreasonable, Part 2, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
203 x 104cm





Heraldry of Detachment, Part 1, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
175 x 142cm





Heraldry of Detachment, Part 2, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
167 x 184cm





Dreams of a Soft Landing, Part 4, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
234 x 177cm



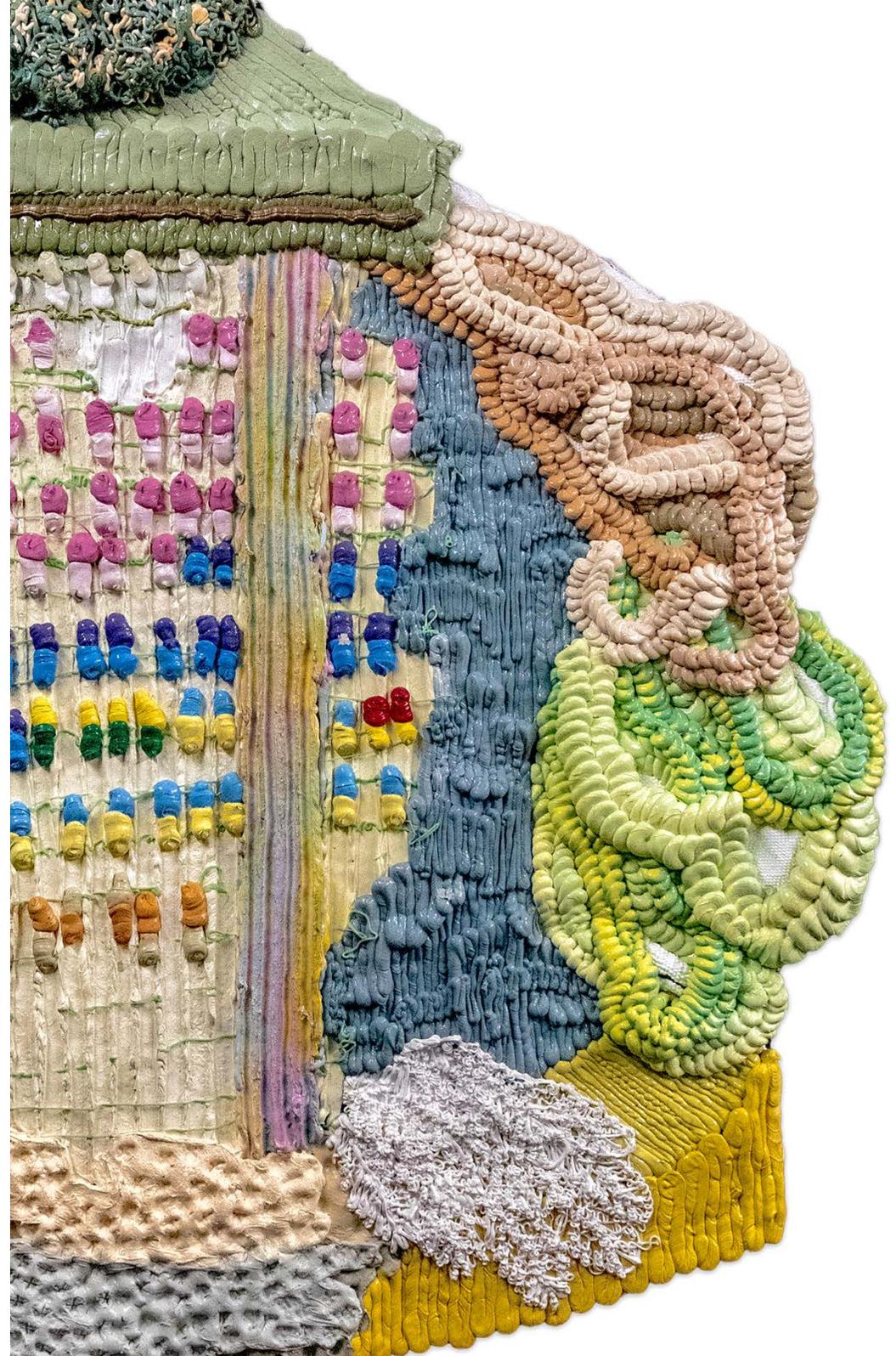


Meaning, responsibility and contentment, Part 2, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
322 x 159cm





Egress and Access , 2022
Silicone infused with paint
128 x 114cm



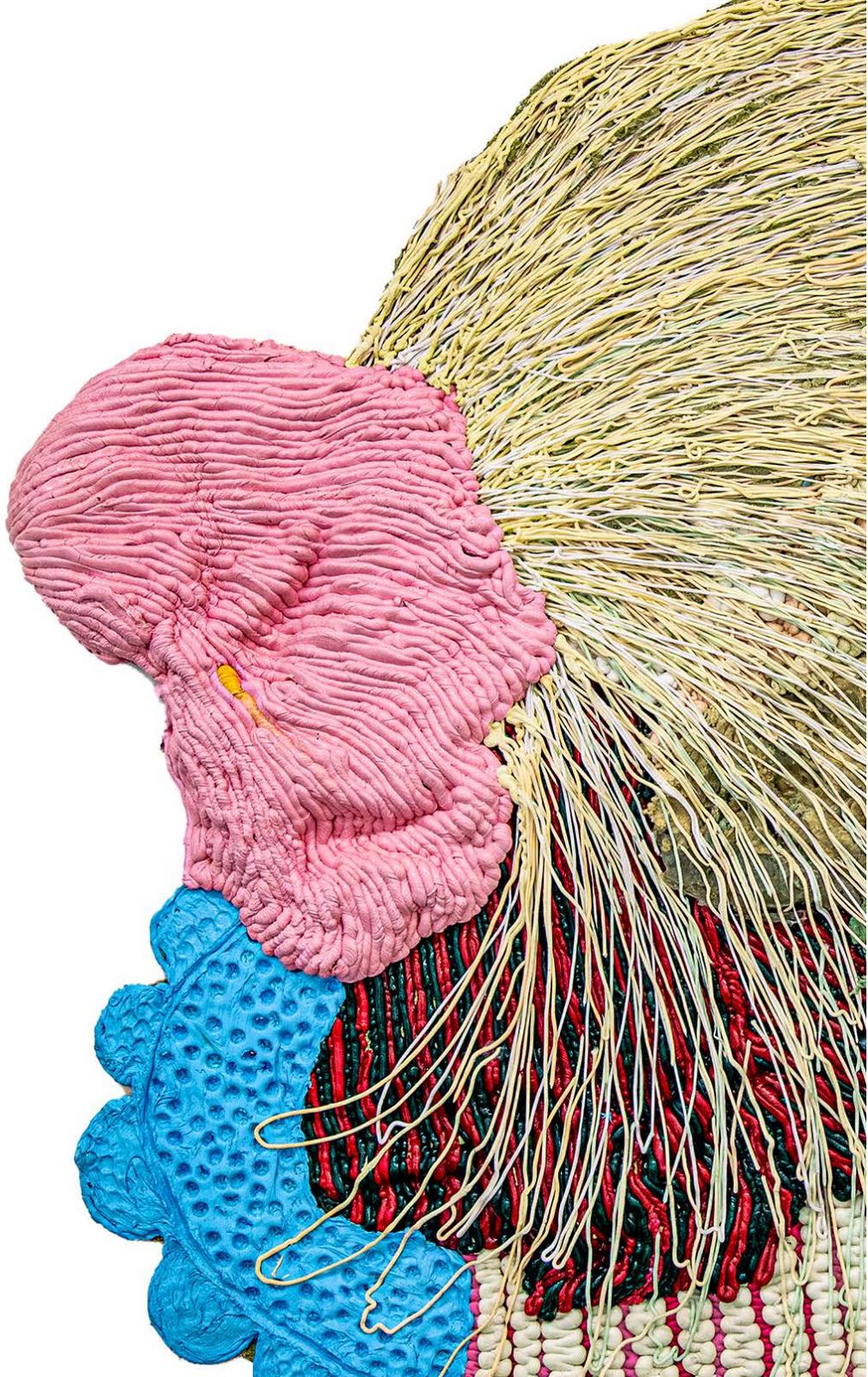


These Drugs Don't Work, 2022
Silicone infused with paint
192 x 190cm





You're No Caesar! 2022
Silicone infused with paint
120 x 118cm











PLEASE
DO NOT
TOUCH THE
ARTWORKS











FIRST FLOOR GALLERY
HARARE | VICTORIA FALLS

WWW.FIRSTFLOORGALLERYHARARE.COM
firstfloorgalleryharare@gmail.com

2ND FLOOR KARIGAMOMBE CENTRE
53 SAMORA MACHEL AVENUE
HARARE

ELEPHANTS WALK
253 MOSI-OA-TUNYA
VICTORIA FALLS