



GUNS & RAIN

**1-54 Contemporary African  
Art Fair**

London

Thurs 8th - Sat 10th October 2020

**Thina Dube**  
(South Africa)

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## About Thina Dube

Thina Dube explores identity politics in South Africa, referencing identity's fluid qualities and many layers, both visible and hidden. His most recent work with acrylic and charcoal is among his most introspective, centering memory, attachment and loss in relation to both people and objects. Harnessing bold colour to embody clarity of memory, Dube builds a tension between narrative story-telling and a "still life" genre - all through his self-reflexive telescope.

Dube's sunflower is a symbol for memory, which moves in response to the sun's journey across the sky. In this sense, memories are not static but dynamic: they change through time, creating an interplay between internal and external factors, shaping our relationships with others and with things. Referencing the theatre convention, his work also "breaks the fourth wall", inviting viewers to project themselves into his often-faceless figures, to reflect on their own lived experience and how memories morph through time.

Dube's enamel mug references childhood but also the history of race in South Africa. "Growing up, the children in my family were given enamel mugs to drink water or tea [because] they never broke why they were dropped...our identity is heavily influenced by our childhood and how we are brought up." At the same time, enamel mugs are associated with domestic servitude and the infantilisation of black people during apartheid, pointing to the broader socio-political landscape that has influenced the artist's upbringing.

Born in 1993, Dube is a graduate of the University of Johannesburg, holds a postgraduate diploma in Education, and teaches at the National School of the Arts. He has exhibited in dozens of group shows across South Africa as well as at AKAA Paris (2018), Cologne Fine Art & Design (2019) and ARCO Lisboa (2020). With Guns & Rain, he had solo exhibitions in 2017 and 2018, and most recently participated in a two-man show in April 2020.



*We Don't Talk Anymore*

2020

Acrylic, drawing ink, charcoal and soft pastel on  
Fabriano

65 x 50 cm



*The Glass House Made It Easier To See Your Reflection*

2020

Acrylic, Drawing Ink and Charcoal on Fabriano  
105 x 75 cm



*Borrowed Time*  
2020

Acrylic, Drawing Ink and Charcoal on Fabriano  
105 x 150 cm



Detail



*When The Moon Visits*  
2020

Acrylic, Drawing Ink and Charcoal on Canvas  
78 x 100 cm



*The Shadow Waits To Talk To You When The Sun Kisses Your Complexion*

2020

Acrylic, Drawing Ink, Charcoal and Soft Pastel on Canvas

158 x 97 cm





*All we are left with is a glimpse of  
what we hold dear*

2020

Acrylic, Drawing Ink, Charcoal and Soft Pastel  
on Canvas

100 x 70 cm





*After The Calm*

2020

*Acrylic, Drawing Ink and Charcoal on Fabriano*

100 x 70 cm



*The world isn't perfect. But it's there for us.*

2020

Acrylic, Drawing Ink, Charcoal and Soft Pastel on Fabriano

105 x 150 cm



*Should I Clean The Mirror?*  
2020  
Monotype on Fabriano paper  
55,8 x 72 cm

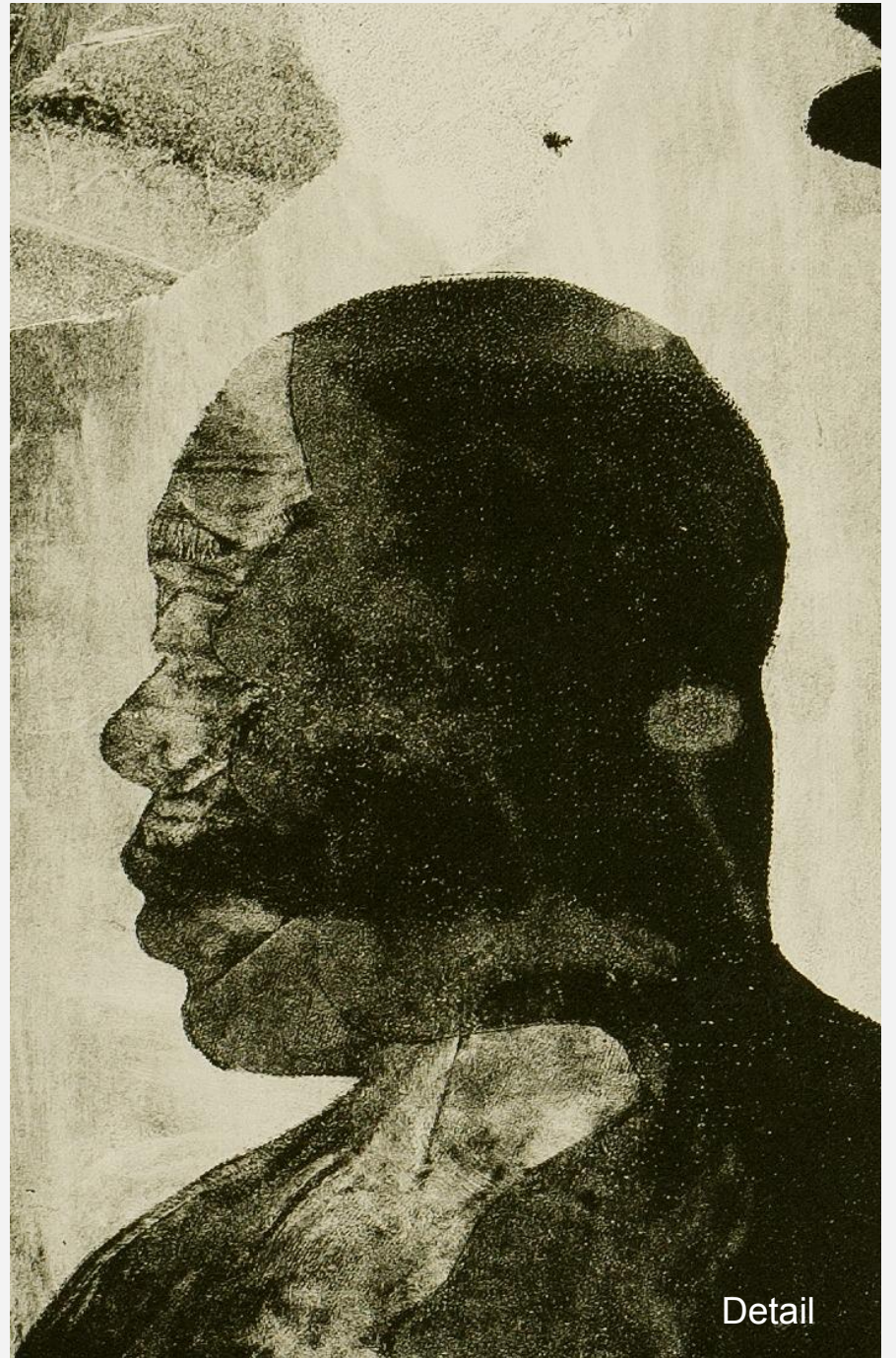


*I Feel Like The Only Way I Can Survive Is To Hate You*

2020

Monotype on Fabriano paper

64,8 x 99 cm





*Listen to the music while time allows it*

2020

Acrylic ,drawing ink, collage, soft pastel, charcoal on fabriano  
100 x 70 cm





*Assume That I Am Listening*  
2020

Acrylic, charcoal and soft pastel on canvas  
99 x 78 cm

