



Giggs Kgole & Frans Thoka, *PHUTI*, Oil, acrylic, yarn, 20 year dried pumpkin, white sporting T-shirt, prison blanket and charcoal on canvas, 55cm x 71cm, 2022.

This masterpiece is a collaboration between Giggs Kgole and Frans Thoka. This collage piece forms part of Kgole's "Ke' mama" Series. PHUTI (Springbok) is a portrait of an elderly woman who carries a weighted blanket of limitation, symbolised by the prison blanket

wrapped over her shoulders like a traditional Basotho blanket. Phuti embraces her life's challenges and stares forward into the future and the palms of creation in the form of her child's growth and discovery as an artist. Despite the weight she carries, she breastfeeds a ball of abstract objects through her time as a loving mother ready to support her and her child's dreams. The dried pumpkin is an object which has been in Kgole's family village house in Limpopo from the moment he was 5yrs old. The pumpkin was used as a cup to collect and drink from it, both water and traditional home brewed beer from the Pedi tribe of South Africa, this is a practice that is used in celebration of thanksgiving of life and to give life. Thanksgiving here is a bond between mother and child. The yarn and fabric are symbolic items collected in Italy, which remind the artist of his childhood, using found objects like the Dadaist to create what resembles what looks like a child wrapping their arms over their mother's shoulder. This moment is frozen as hope for the potential bond will form with time. One has to spring up like a springbok and take on what the future olds, Phuti.



Giggs Kgole, *Yearn*, Oil, Acrylic fabric, striped white Australian shirt and African textile wax print on Canvas, 166cm x 134cm, 2021-22.

*Yearn* is as a dreamscape of Kgole's 16 year old self yearning to be a world exhibiting contemporary visual artist, how a teenage dream never died despite the harsh realities of life

after leaving the schooling environment and trying to send a message of hope from Africa to the world. Growing up in South Africa, Kgole found himself in environments that discouraged prospects of a child making artworks and playing with paints. When environments that are against our dreams push down hard on one's growth, all a child could continue to do is live their futures in their dreams. With time comes a moment when those dreams stop becoming dreams as you realise that you do not need any one's permission to be. 'I didn't ask for your Permission to be Kgole' is what the dreamscapes message was for him, however, questions the viewer on what they shouldn't ask for permission for in their own lives.