

# Props

by

# Sulette van der Merwe

The paintings presented in the exhibition are composite images influenced by pop art, surrealism and digital art. Though elements appear to be collage, every single mark is hand painted with acrylic paint.

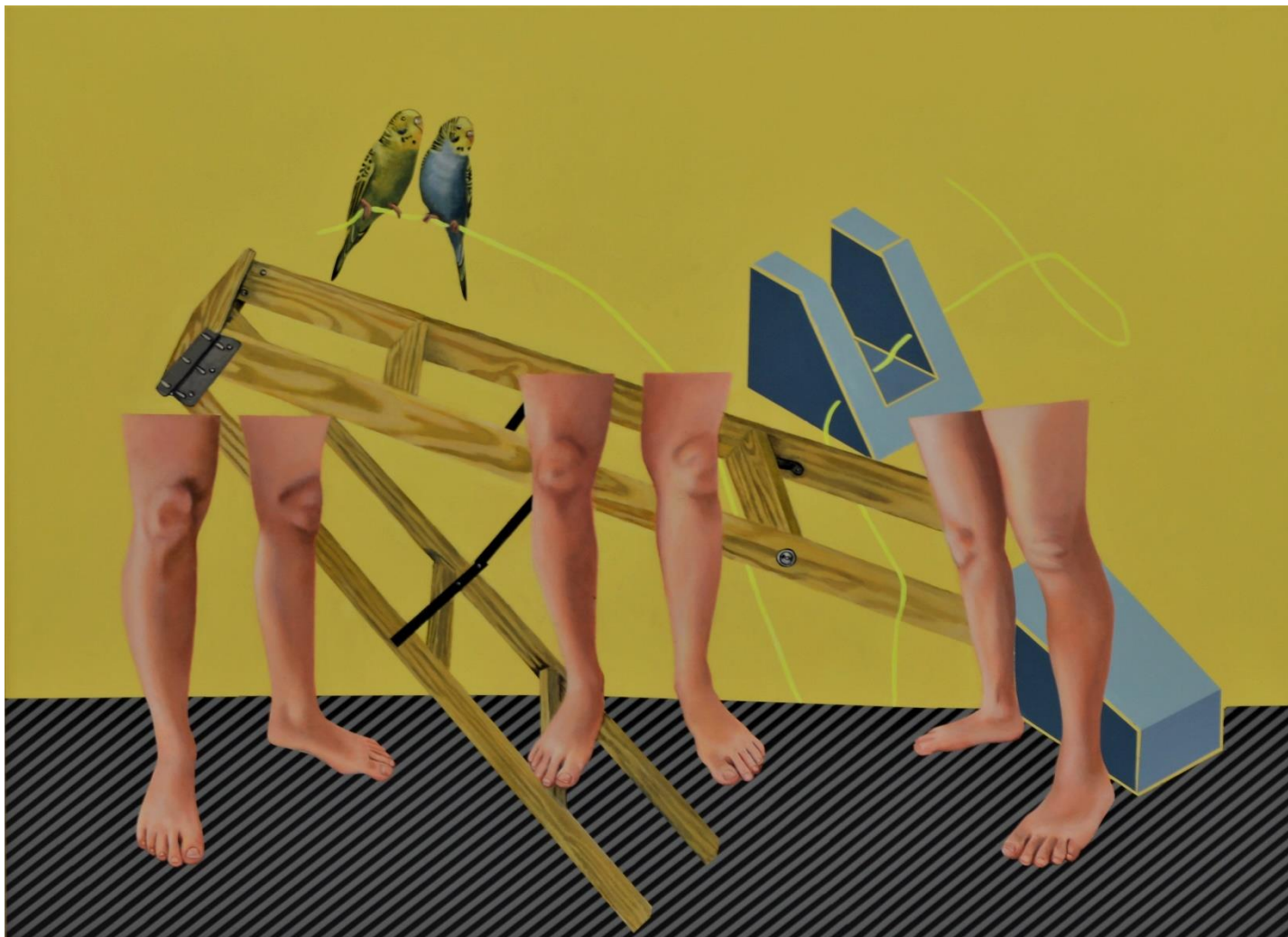
“The visual spaces depicted in my paintings are intuitively constructed from exposing myself to internet images as well as photographing live models. The images are dioramas translated into paint. My work is a staged scene where physical and digital worlds are enmeshed and interchangeable. The artwork starts as a digital composition and is then painted in acrylic on board. Now that the exhibition is online my process has come full circle.”



Auto-ascetic  
Acrylic paint on board  
49cm X 59cm  
2020  
R6 000



Bravado to reveal the hidden  
Acrylic paint on board  
49cm X 59cm  
2020  
R6 000



Coaxing spectacle  
Acrylic paint on board  
69cm X 93cm  
2020  
R10 500





Conditions of irrationality instead  
Acrylic paint on board  
59cm X 49cm  
2020  
R6 000



The dazzling assumption  
Acrylic paint on board  
49cm X 59cm  
2020  
R6 000



Radical little parlour game  
Acrylic paint on board  
69cm X 93cm  
2020  
R10 500

**Sulette van der Merwe** (b. 1982) lives and works near Cape Town, South Africa.

She enjoys philosophy and art history and recent works explore the theme of Heterotopia, a concept used to describe spaces that have more layers of meaning than the immediately obvious. Pop art, surrealism and digital culture also feature prominently in her paintings and video animations.

“I am interested in the narrative abstractions that arise when information from disparate spaces such as illustration, internet sourced images and photography are combined. It is an intuitive and conceptually playful experience to observe the cross chatter between the physicality of painting and the ephemeral nature of the online experience.”

#### EDUCATION

2004 Dip Fine Arts. Tshwane University of Technology

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 Summer group show, WORLDART, Cape Town

2019 nano 1.3, Barnard Gallery, Cape Town

2019 Joburg Fringe, Johannesburg

2019 The second show, 131 A Gallery, Cape Town

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