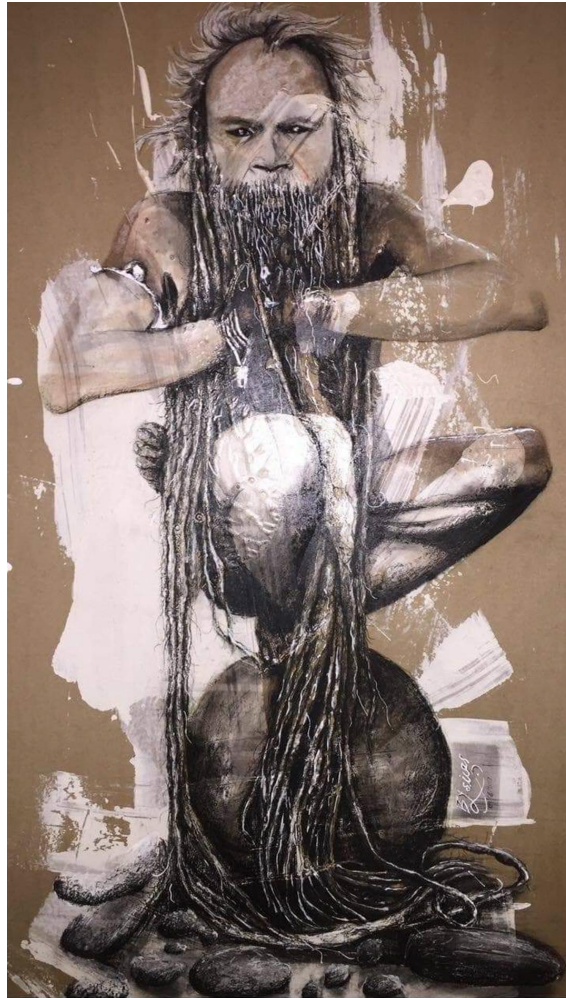


## DIGITAL CERTIFICATION



**Author:** MOTSE RAS SILAS  
**Title:** MERIRI KE MATLA?  
**Year:** 2019  
**Dimensions:** 140 (H) x 83 (W) 5 (z) cm  
**Technique:** GYPSUM, CHARCOAL, PASTELS, OIL  
PASTELS, CHALK, AND TIPEX ON  
RECYCLED CEILING BOARD.

### Description:

I HAVE DREADLOCKS MYSELF AND I WOULD RATHER OFFER UP A LIMB THAN CUT OFF MY LOCKS... I KNOW, IT'S A CRAZY THOUGHT (EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONLY HYPOTHETICAL) BUT WHY DO I HAVE SUCH A HUGE ATTACHMENT TO MY HAIR? IT DOES GROW BACK AFTER ALL... IS IT PURELY A MATTER OF AESTHETICS OR IS IT THE FACT THAT I'VE SPENT SO MANY YEARS

GROWING THEM? OR IS THERE SOMETHING MORE TO THIS UNNECESSARY ATTACHMENT? ASIDE FROM THE BIBLICAL STORY OF SAMSON, I HAVE LEARNT THAT MANY ANCIENT TRIBES WERE OF THE BELIEF THAT BODILY, MENTAL AND SPIRITUAL ENERGIES MAINLY EXIT THE BODY THROUGH THE TOP OF THE HEAD AND HAIR. IF THE HAIR IS KNOTTED, THEY BELIEVE THE ENERGY REMAINS WITHIN THE HAIR AND BODY, KEEPING A PERSON STRONGER AND HEALTHIER. IN THIS PIECE I HAVE DRAWN AN ELDERLY MAN PERCHED ON A BOULDER IN A CHALLENGING MEDITATION POSITION, WITH FLOOR SCRAPING DREADLOCKS. I IMAGINED THIS TO EXPRESS THE POWER OF AN ELDERLY MAN AS A SPIRITUAL LEADER WHO CAN STAY IN THIS POSITION FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME BECAUSE, AFTER ALL, MERIRI KE MATLA.

#### About the Author:



Curated/Exhibitions, Awards and competitions:

- Group exhibitions at Oliewenhuis Art Museum 2013
- Group exhibition, titled Absa Township Art Exhibition Crew competition in the Batho location, 2013
- Group Exhibition at Central University of the Free State, curated by Van Vuuren and P.W Burger in 2013,
- Group Exhibition at Touch of Genius Art Gallery in Randburg, 2017
- Silas Motse was also part of an international competition, Austrian Art Candid

Cute Spring contest 17 and made it to the top 5, 2017

- Group Exhibition at Soweto Theatre, titled Taking back the land of the mind, 2018
- Solo Exhibition at The Reef Hotel, titled (Untold and Unseen Struggles), 2018
- Group-Public Exhibition at Mall of AFRICA by Art Miller Institute of Art, 2019
- Digital feature with SEE.ME at The Affordable Art Fair in New York, 2019
- Featured at the National Arts Festival together with The Cultural Exchange and Imiloa, 2019
- Curated: Conversations with Queens Group Exhibition, 2019
- Currently Winner of Peoples's choice Award, State of the Art gallery Award 2019
- Solo Exhibition ( Bureaucracies of Rubbish: Recycling of Self Identity) at Eyethu Art Space (on going) 2019

**It is possible to verify the integrity of the Digital Certificate at any time uploading the “zip” file within the appropriate section on the ArtID website.**