



RESTONE MAAMBO
ANCESTRAL WHISPERS

Candice Berman

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RESTONE MAAMBO

CANDICE BERMAN GALLERY

4TH May– 23RD May 2023

Restone Maambo is an agent of sight, an explorer of the intangible and the terribly real but also the spirit and how that has come to shape us. His latest exhibition, *Ancestral Whispers*, delves further into the layers of self and place that surround us, drawing attention to the spirits and histories that have shaped us and continue to whisper through our lives.

Finding anchorage and inspiration in the vitality of the African continent, its rich, multitudinous history of settlement and migration, maternity and magic, Maambo returns to the forms and faces of the African woman, her body become all bodies, her eyes portholes for the ancestors, for us to hear their silent whispers as they breathe through our lives.

In subtle, often surprising colours, Maambo's signature mixed media collage style draws the viewer in closer, echoing the whisper of the African sun and soil – an invitation to linger, to rest, to learn. The Sangoma's – traditional healer or diviner's – magic powers of healing and clairvoyance speak to these strong ties to the world of our Ancestors. Age old wisdom whispered to those who can hear it, handed down through the generations.

We do not walk alone, even when we're running away. Even in the mind, the final refuge of solitude seekers, the ghosts that birthed us keep circling, their admonishments and encouragements now sounding like our own, the same chord of purpose and motion pulling us forward – further away, and yet, somehow, closer still.

Which voice do you hear? What is she telling you?

Candice Berman, 2023





RESTONE MAAMBO

Restone Maambo was born in Zambia and navigates his ancestry and experiences with 'Kusololwa Amumuni', the call from the ancestors to become a spiritual healer, through his artistic practice. Brought up by his mother, Maambo's respect and appreciation of femininity and womanhood stem from this positive relationship, and features strongly in his work. He often paints women in what appears to be a spiritual, meditative state, and the viewer feels touched to have been included in what is a very intimate and personal moment.

Maambo's artworks are created using acrylic impasto paint, varnish layering, collage and mixed media, which are often applied to large canvases. The inclusion of collage is integral to the artist's processing, as it depicts an infinite awareness of his environments and his immediate surroundings, both in Zambia and South Africa.

Maambo's use of acrylic paint and varnish layering is lucid, and his work exalts his subject matter, which is produced on a life-sized scale to better establish a relationship between the viewer and his chosen subjects. Maambo's practice incorporates traditional painting methodologies alongside new experimental materials, such as plaster and cement, interactive antidotes which result in playful and experimental mark-making on the surface.

Ancestral Whispers is an exhibition upon which he has been working since 2019



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Wendy, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

156 x 145cm

F: 171 x 158 x 8.5cm





Restone Maambo (b.1980)

*The Initiation of the
Sangoma, 2023*

Collage, oils and pastels on
canvas

180 x 150cm

F: 191 x 151 x 85cm





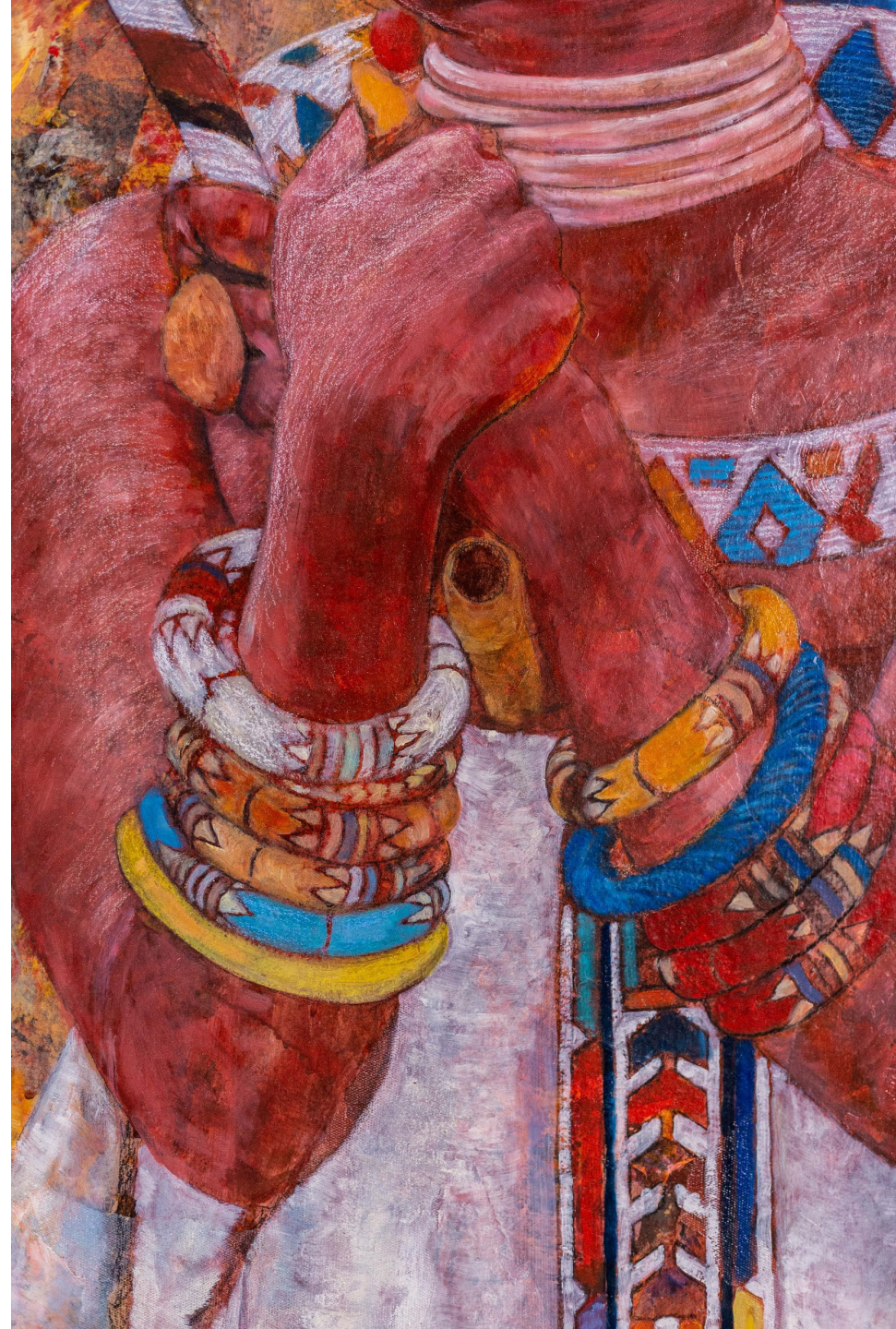
Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Makoti, 2023

Waterbased oils, collage and
pastels on canvas

156 x 145.5cm

F: 169 x 158 x 8.5cm







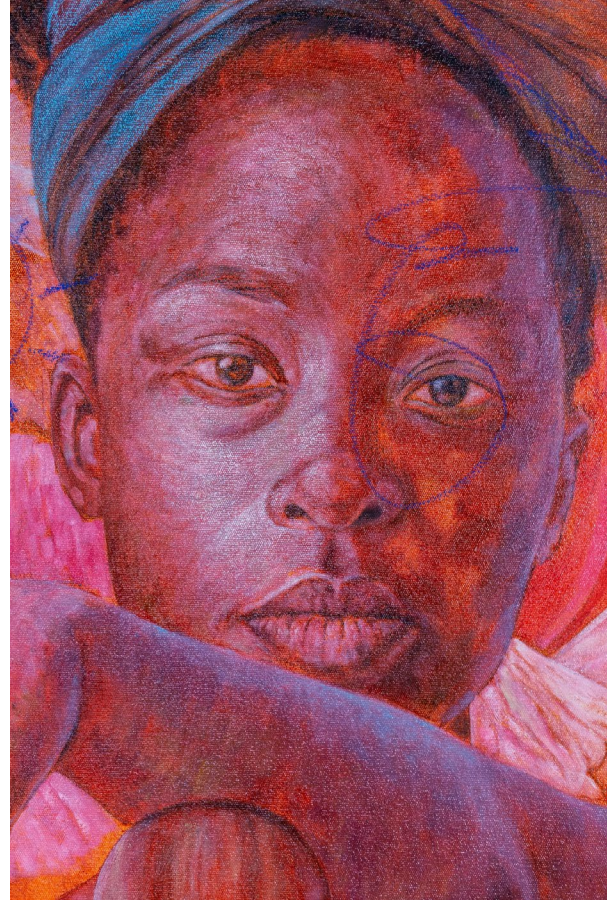
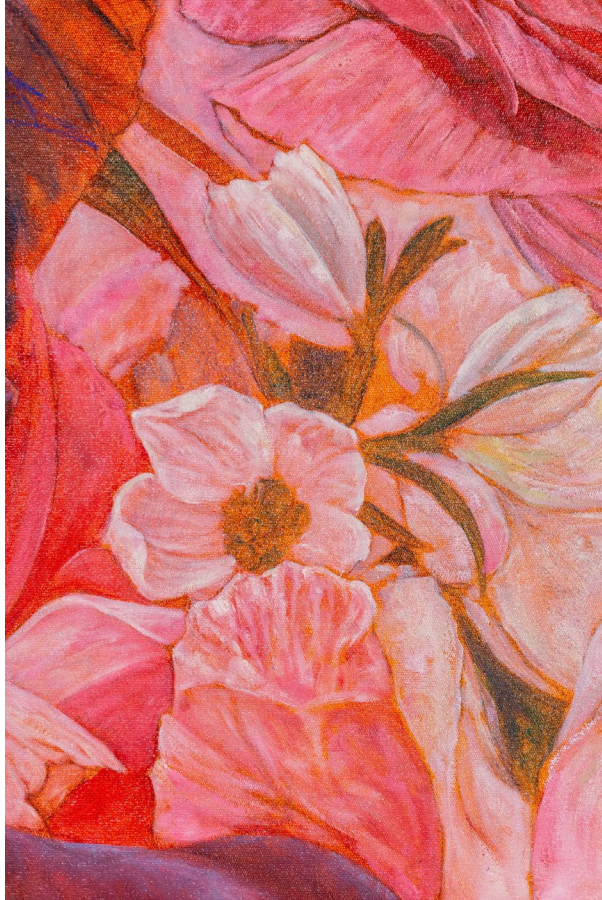
Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Sangoma, 2023

Acrylics and collage on canvas

122 x 90cm

F: 143 x 112.5 x 8.5cm



SANGOMA | DETAIL

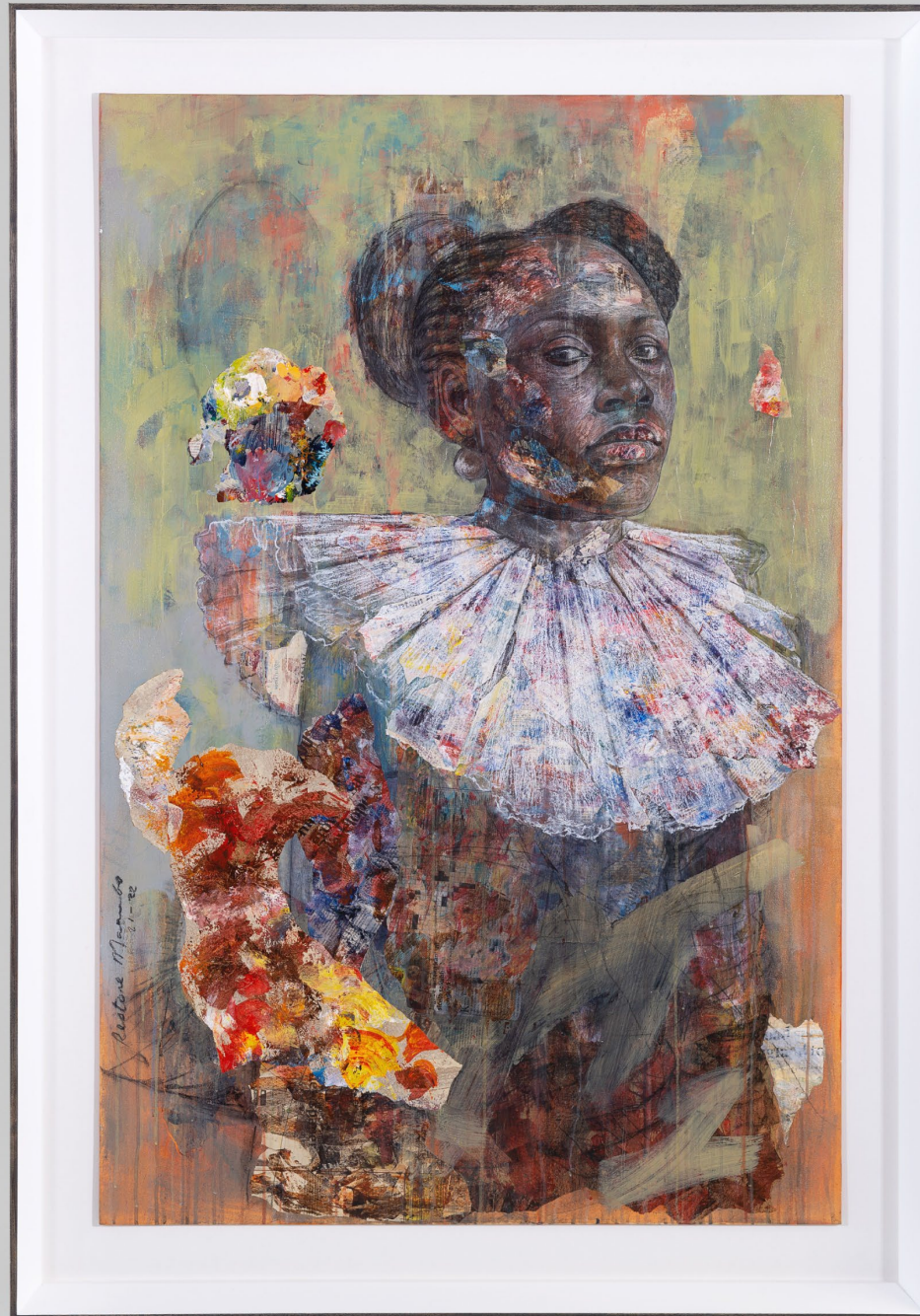
Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Privileged Black Maiden, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastels on
canvas

148 x 97cm

F: 171 x 120 x 8.5cm







Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Monique, 2022

Acrylics, oil pastel and collage
on canvas

122 x 92cm

F: 143 x 122.5 x 8.5cm

MONIQUE | DETAIL



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

The Coming of Age, 2023

Oil, acrylic, pastel, pencil, ink
chalk and enamel on canvas

150 x 160cm

F: 155 x 165 x 8.5cm



THE COMING OF AGE

A traditional ceremony of coming of age (NKOLOLA)

Nkolola is a female traditional school where a girl child that has reached puberty was taught issues of womanhood, motherhood and married life among others.

With some similarities in the Zulu tradition culture called umemulo, Nkolola is a legal female institution from the Tonga people in Zambia, that is sanctioned by the village or community leadership, spearheaded and overseen by both the paternal and grannies to the lady that was being ushered into adulthood. It is a fully packed lecture that takes several months. The girl is confined in a secluded hut, not to be seen in public until graduation.

It is extremely imperative and helpful that both sides of the girl parents, collaborate for the attainment of excellent results that would make them all proud especially in the future. A desirable family life and a good reputation is of paramount importance as all these depended on the girl's upbringing. Family ties, family bonds and a successful marriage are still in the hands of a woman.

Age as in counting the number of years for the girl is not important at that time. Age is determined by a girl's starting to menstruate (kukula naa kuyalula). This is the most critical time and a turning point in a girl's life. It is her second phase in life that needed to be guarded jealously by being taught valuable life lessons. And this needed to start this early.

Restone Maambo (b.1980)

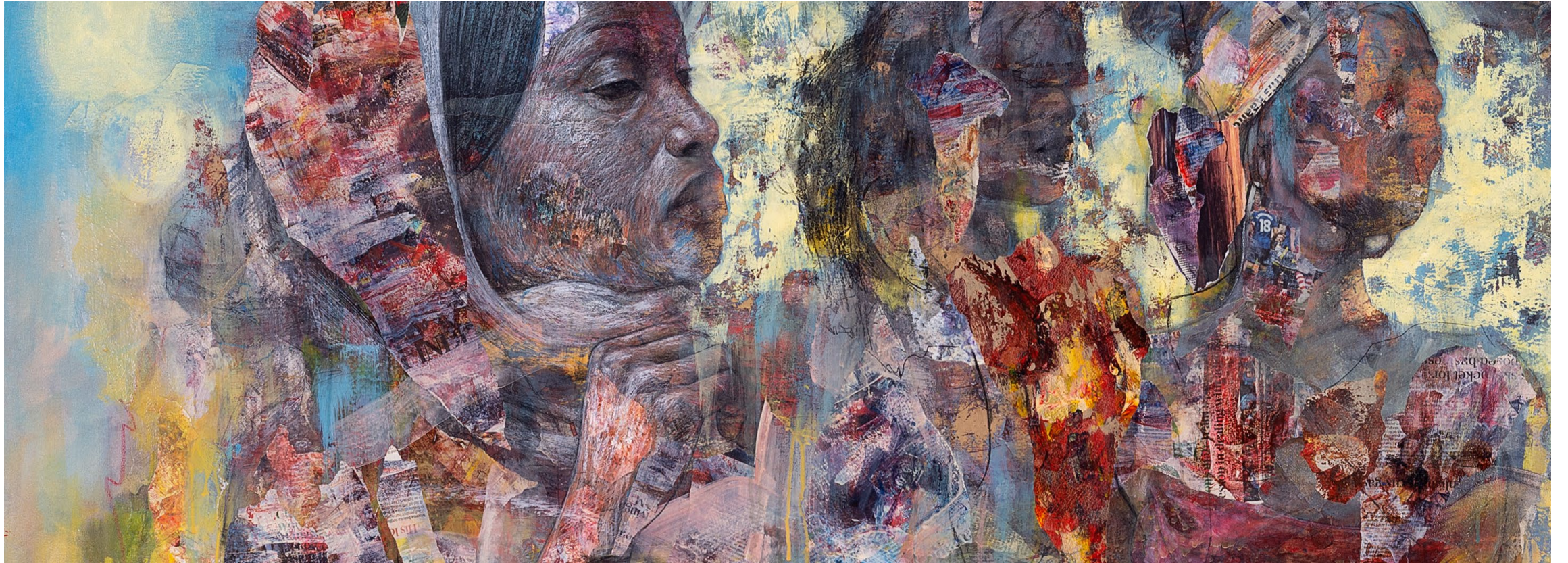
Marital Congregation, 2022

Collage, acrylics, pastels on
canvas

139 x 180cm

F: 143 x 184 x 6.5cm





RESTONE MAAMBO | MARITAL CONGREGATION | DETAIL

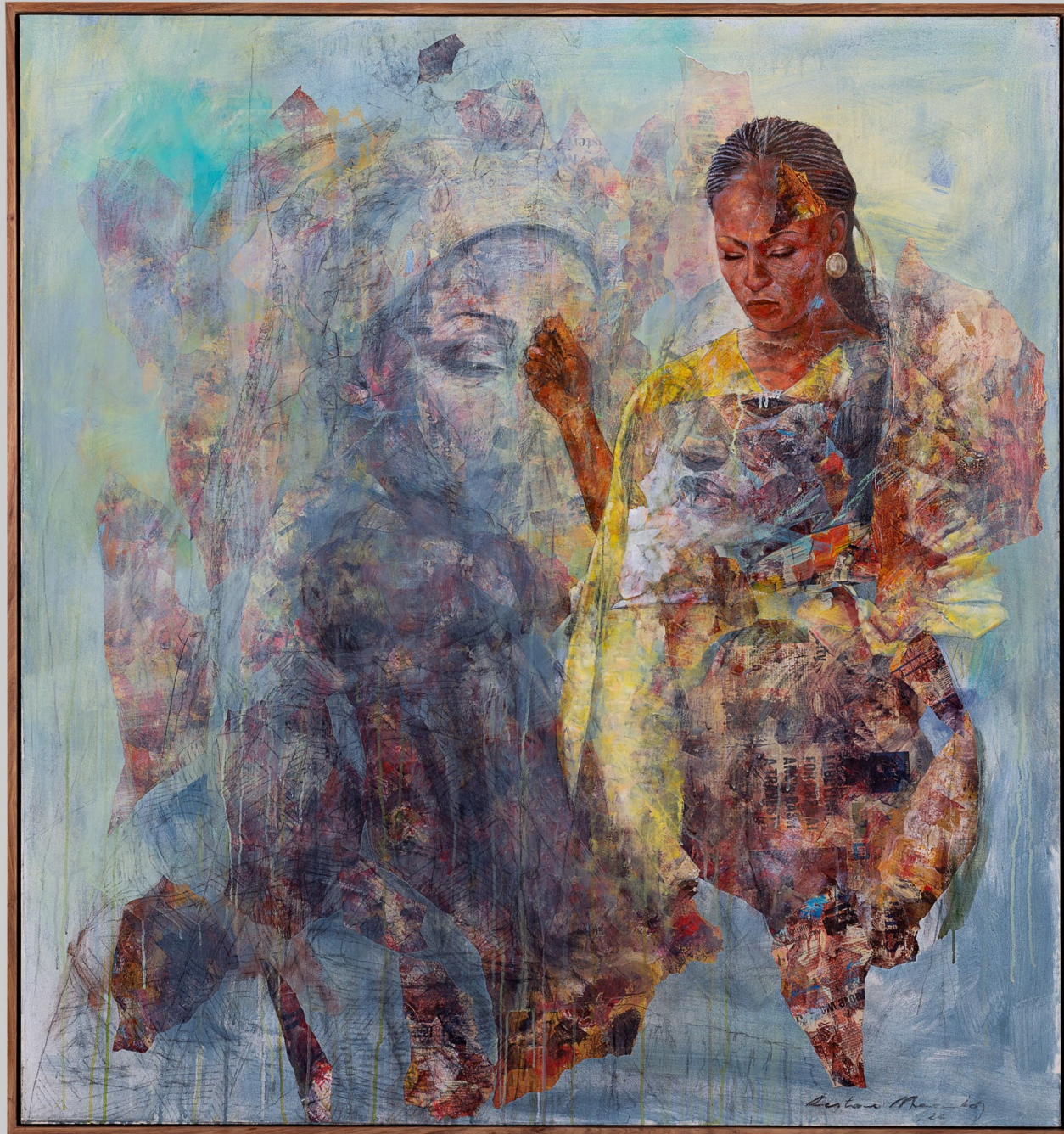
Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Midwife, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastels
on canvas

155.5 x 146cm

F: 160 x 150 x 6.5cm





MIDWIFE | DETAIL



Reston M...

late



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

*The Initiation of the
Sangoma, 2023*

Collage, oils and pastel on
canvas

155.5 x 194cm

F: 166.5 x 205.5 x 8.5cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

*Coming From a Distance
(Rural school girls), 2023*

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

180 x 130cm

F: 183.5 x 134.5 x 6.5cm



COMING FROM A DISTANCE | DETAIL



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

In Relaxed Mood, 2022

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

150 x 120cm

F: 158 x 127 x 7cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Umumelo, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

130 x 100cm

F: 152 x 121.5 x 8.5cm





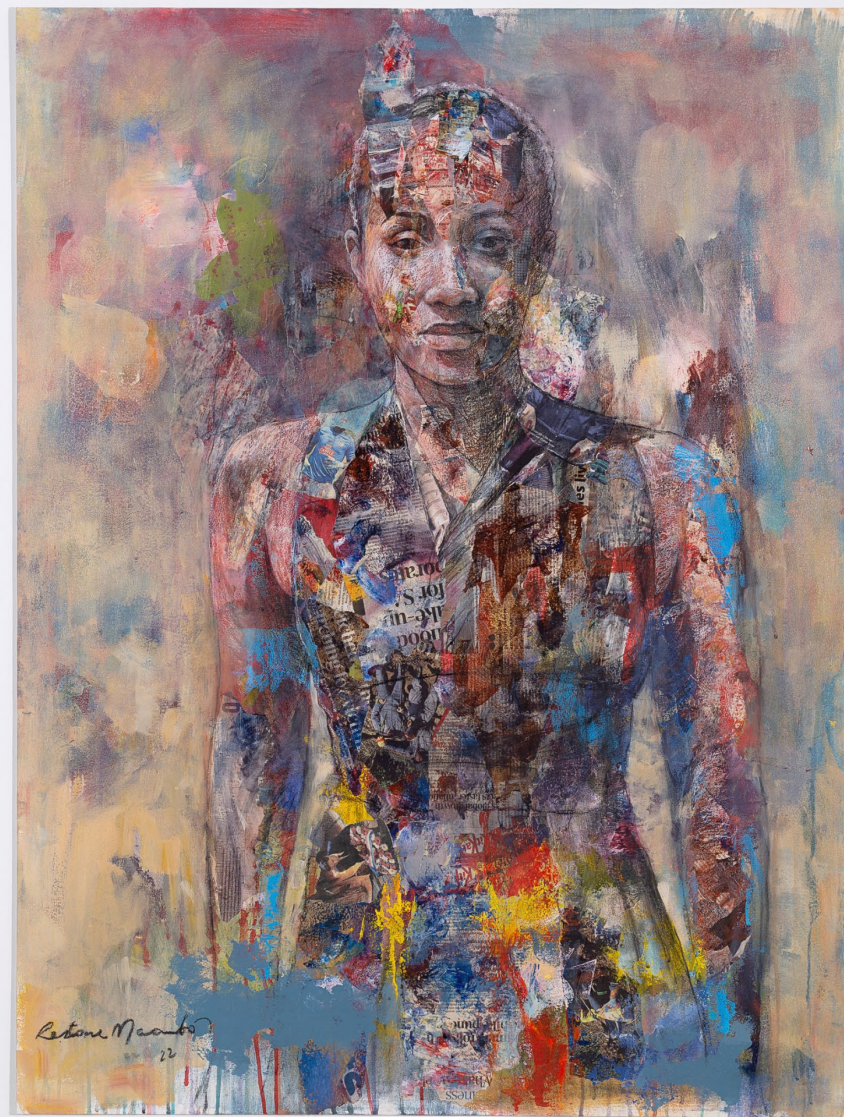
Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Market, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

120 x 90cm

F: 142 x 112.5 x 8.5cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Lone, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

120 x 90cm

F: 142 x 112.5 x 8.5cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Pamela, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

120 x 90cm

F: 142 x 112.5 x 8.5cm





Restone Maambo (b.1980)

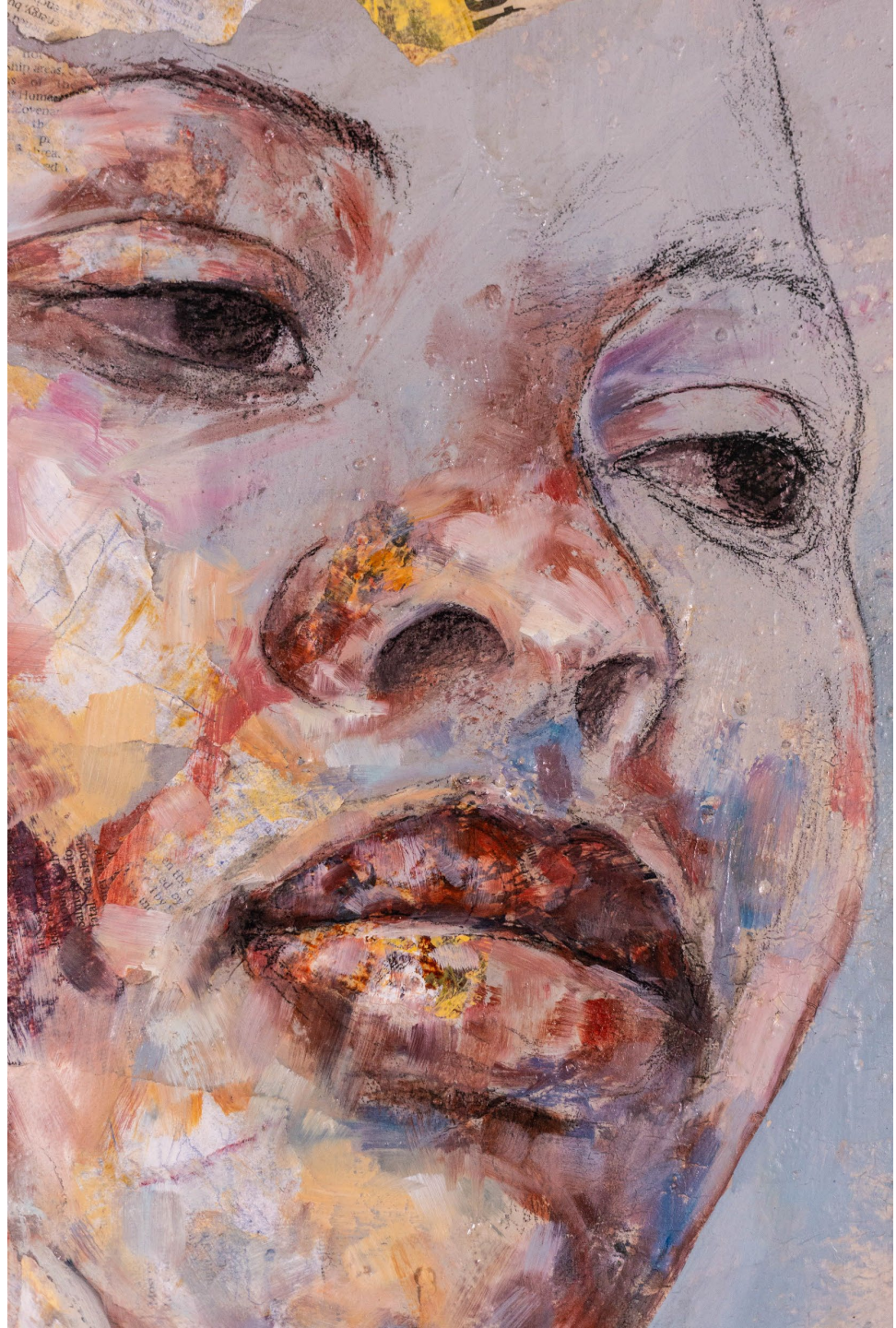
After Shower, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

150 x 100cm

F: 171 x 124 x 8.5cm

VIRTUAL | WORK IN PROGRESS, 2022





Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Virtual, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

150 x 100cm

F: 175 x 124 x 8.5cm



BLINDFOLDED LEADER | WORK IN PROGRESS, 2022



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Blindfolded Leader, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

178 x 129cm

F: 182 x 133 x 6.5cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

The Coming of Age, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

120 x 90cm

F: 142 x 112.5 x 8.5cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

*Bashi bukombe (woman given
in marriage), 2023*

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

120 x 90cm

F: 142 x 112.5 x 8.5cm





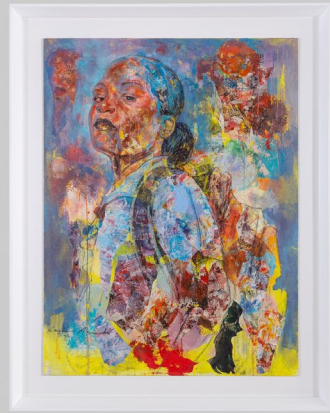
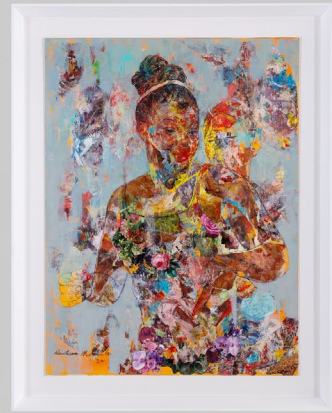
Restone Maambo (b.1980)

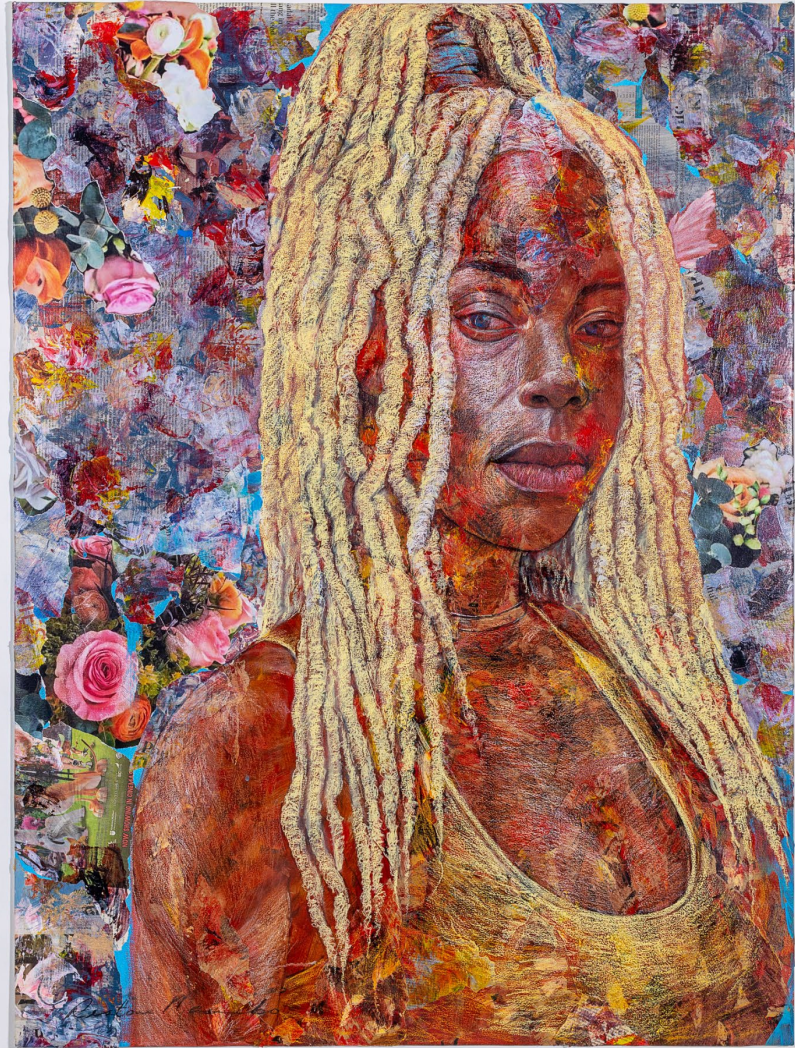
School girl, 2023

Collage, acrylics and pastel on
canvas

120 x 90cm

F: 142 x 112.5 x 8.5cm







Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Legalization I, 2022

Collage, acrylics and pastels
on canvas

121x 99.5cm

F: 142 x 112 x 8.5cm



Restone Maambo (b.1980)

Legalization II, 2022

Collage, acrylics and pastels
on canvas

121 x 99.5cm

F: 142 x 112 x 8.5cm

Restone Maambo Resume

Born 1980, Zambia

Lives and works in Cape Town, South Africa

Education

Kasamba Primary School, Lusaka;
Secondary School Monze and Munali
Ruth Prowse School of Fine Art

Solo Exhibitions

2023 Ancestral Whispers, Candice Berman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
2022 An Exploration of Africa, Candice Berman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
2021 '*Remember the divine mother*' at The Melrose Gallery, Johannesburg
2018 '*Kusololwa Amumuni: To Be Led By Light*' by Restone Maambo, Gallery One11, Cape Town
2016 '*Levetation*' at Eclectica Art & Design, Cape Town
2010 Red and black art gallery, South Africa
2010 Ruste-en-vrede ,Durbanville, South Africa
2006 & 2007 Ruste-en-Vrede Gallery, Durbanville, South Africa

Group Exhibitions

2022 African Portrait, Candice Berman Gallery, Johannesburg, South Africa
2019 Group Exhibition at The Boutique Gallery; Belgium
2018 Winter Group Exhibition; Gallery One11, Cape Town
2018 Summer Exhibition; Gallery One11
2017 Launch Exhibition; Gallery One11
2016 Group Exhibition at Eclectica, Cape Town
2011 Everal Read, Cape Town Group show
2009 SASA Annual Exhibition; Cape Town
2009 Dorp Street Gallery, Stellenbosch, Selected Upcoming Artists; Cape Town
2008 2nd year Student Exhibition; Ruth Prowse Art School; Cape Town
2007 1st year Student Exhibition; Ruth Prowse Art School; Cape Town
2004 Vineyard Art Gallery; Claremont; Cape Town
2004 AVA Membership Exhibitions; Cape Town
2000 – 2003 Numerous shows at Henry Tayali Art Centre, Lusaka, Zambia
- Alliance Francaise Annual Exhibition; Lusaka Zambia
- Alliance Francaise, Francophone show, Zambia
- Lusaka Branch exhibitions, Zambia
- Ngoma Awards Group Selection; Lusaka Zambia

Collections:

Chris Brown; Andy Mac Dowell; H. Jankowitz; Nando's; Yellwoods & Coca Cola.



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