

H O L D

Before you were born
A thought, a whisper

Entering the world
You filled your space

To be held, to be wanted
Your deepest longing

We all need to belong
We all need to be

H E L D



Liesel Dutrie

Hold | Solo Exhibition | Liesl Duthie

GFI Art Gallery Port Elizabeth

28 October - 29 November 2022

Opening 5:30pm for 6pm Thursday 27 October

Artist Statement

Human connection, belonging and closeness - these ideas are fundamental to this body of work.

These themes are explored within the context of birth, adoption and family security.

A feeling of nurture in the portrait work is juxtaposed with a sense of isolation or abandonment in the cold mechanical forms of the paediatric ward cot. The vintage pram and weathered rocking chair heighten the nostalgic element.

The atmosphere and interaction of light and shadow on these objects in the studio led to some interesting experimental work, resulting in a combination of abstraction and realism.

The idea of an exhibition entitled "Hold" developed as I spent time drawing at Isithembiso Babies' Home, and through close contact with adoptive families. In 2018 I felt the need to explore art-making at a deeper level and to create a cohesive body of work. This theme provided the platform for the ensuing exploratory work.

The exhibition is comprised of a combination of large and small oil paintings and charcoal drawings alongside selected installation items, set to music written by Robert Duthie for this purpose.



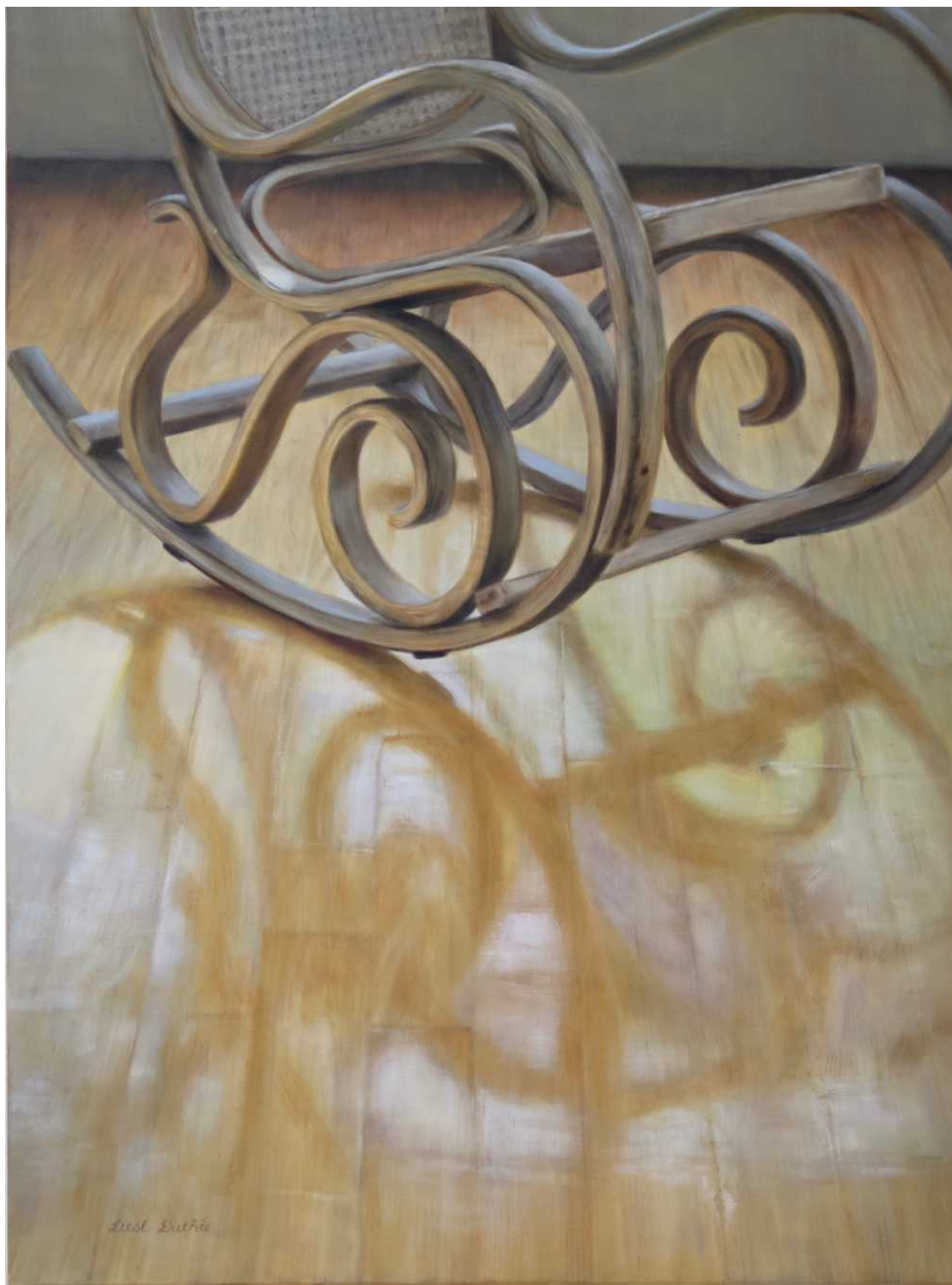
Before you were born 1-5

Medium: Charcoal on Fabriano

Size: 21cm x 21cm

Size framed: 41.5cm x 40.5cm

Price: R 3500



Stained Glass

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 800cm x 600cm

Price: R7500



Arrival

Medium: Charcoal on Fabriano

Size: 74cm x 56cm

Size framed: 105cm x 87cm

Price: R 8000

Acknowledgement: Lizette Ras photographer



Launch

Medium: Charcoal on Fabriano

Size: 42cm x 76cm

Size framed: 73.5cm x 106cm

Price: R 8000

Acknowledgement: Lizette Ras photographer

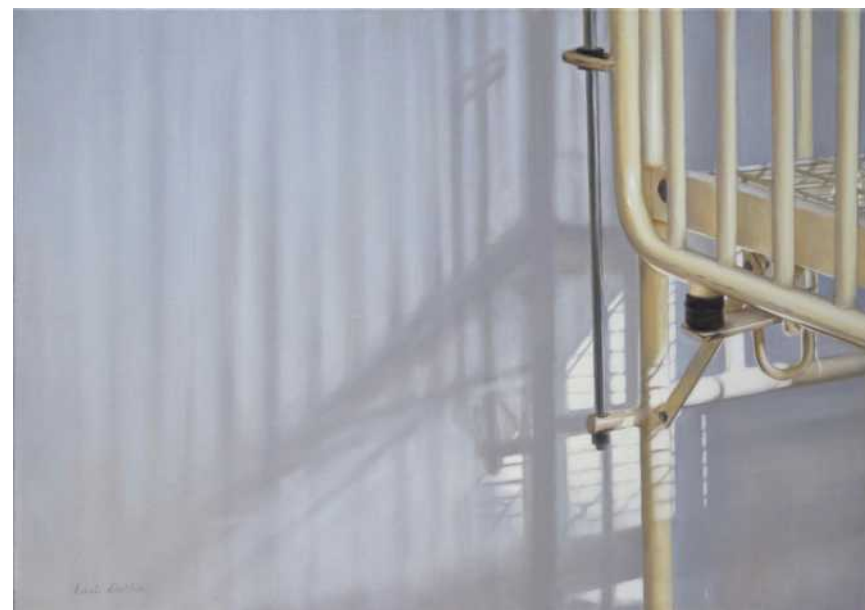


Cast

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 80cm x 1m

Price: R7000



Scaffolding

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 60cm x 80cm

Price: R7000



Movies

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 60cm x 80cm

Price: R7000



Carve

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 650cm x 850cm

Price: R5000



Winnie

Medium: Charcoal and graphite pencil on Fabriano

Size: 30cm x 42cm

Size framed: 61cm x 72.5cm

Price: R6000



Working parts 1-6

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 20cm x 25cm

Price: R2800 each



Balancing Act

Medium: oil and oil pastel on canvas

Size: 1m x 750cm

Price: R 16000

Defender

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 81m x 750cm

Price: 14000





I've got you babe

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 24cm x 46.5cm

Size mounted: 36.5cm x 58.5cm

Price: R4500

Wrapped baby study

Medium: oil on canvas,

Size: 26cm x 16cm

Size mounted: 39cm x 28cm

Price: R3500



Happy to be stuck with you

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 28cm x 18.5cm

Size mounted: 40.5cm x 30cm

Price: R3500



Baby's head study

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 18.5cm x 19.5cm

Size mounted: 32cm x 31cm

Price: R3500



Swing low

Medium: oil on canvas
Size: 600cm x 800cm
Price: R6500



Soothe

Medium: oil on canvas
Size: 18cm x 26.5cm
Price: R1800



Kitchen table

Medium: oil on canvas
Size: 19cm x 25cm
Size mounted: 32cm x 37cm
Price: R3500



Dreamer

Medium: graphite pencil on paper
Size: 20cm x 20cm
Size mounted: 33cm x 32cm
Price: R2000



Eugene Marais and family

Medium: Print of oil painting on Hahnemuele archival paper
Size: 32cm x 53.5cm
Price: R2000



Picket fence

Medium: oil on canvas
Size: 16.5cm x 26.5cm
Size mounted: 29cm x 38cm
Price: R3500



About The Artist

My artwork is born out of a passion for observing people and exploring human experience and emotion, particularly in the nuclear family. A need for connection, empathic responses, value and purpose are underlying themes. The internal and external forces which shape us find their way onto the canvas. Often described as calming and contemplative, the work embodies a search for peace and beauty in an often turbulent world.

My work is representational. Once a strong composition has been established, I work in layers to complete both drawings and paintings. Although I have developed standard ways of approaching art-making, each work is carefully considered to find its unique path to completion. I love the process of developing and revealing three dimensional form, playing with colour temperature as well as the opaque/transparent qualities of paint.

Oil painting and charcoal drawing have become my media of choice, both of them for their forgiving nature, fluidity and depth.

2021 Portrait Award: Fifth Place: Painting "I am." Top 40 Exhibition, Rust en Vrede Gallery, Durbanville

2021 Portrait Award Top 40 Exhibition: Painting "Madonna." Rust en Vrede Gallery, Durbanville

2021 Portrait 100 Exhibition, Rupert Museum, Stellenbosch

2021 Changing the Narrative Exhibition, GFI Gallery, Port Elizabeth

2019, 2018, 2014 Artwork selected for Bouchard-Finlayson Tondo Competition, Hermanus Fynarts Festival

2017 Sanlam Portrait Award Top 100 Exhibition, Michaelis School of Art, Cape Town

