



Tony Gum

Rock Cause Analysis

11 April — 9 June 2018

Opening: Wednesday 11 April, 6.30 pm

C-Gallery
Via Privata Giovanni Ventura 6, 20134 Milan



Tony Gum, *AmaMpondomise*, 2018
Courtesy of the artist and C-Gallery

C-Gallery is pleased to present the first solo show in Italy, by emerging South African artist, Tony Gum.

The show features the new series *Rock Cause Analysis*, which illustrates Tony Gum's evolving approach and range; immortalizing women who reign supreme among the people of her Xhosa heritage and tribes – AmaMfengu, AbaThembu, AmaMpondomise and AmaMpondo. Producing this series, the artist explores the use of sculpture whilst remaining characteristically true to her self-portrait trademark style of execution where, she is both canvas and muse.

Speaking to the inspiration behind this body of work, Gum explains: 'we are living in a fortunate generation in which women are sitting at the forefront of political influence; championing the excellence of education, redefining the borders of technological innovations and prompting justice and solution towards social injustice. In that light, however, I wonder why women's successes or victories are not conceived as part of history? If in the event they are, why are there not nearly enough of a presence of monuments or memorials that pay homage to the victories made by women?'

Tony Gum anchors her subject matter squarely in realms that offer social, cultural and political interrogative vantage points with aesthetically captivating art pieces. Gum's distinctive style and youthful effervescence has contributed to growing global interest in artists from South Africa, while her dynamic appetite for storytelling creates accessibility across constructs of class, culture, race and gender.

Tony Gum lives and works in Cape Town. She is a young artist on the rise, who has already been exhibited worldwide in several solo and group shows including FNB Johannesburg Art Fair (2015), Cape Town Art Fair (2016), 'Ode to She' at Christopher Moller Gallery (2017) and Pulse Art Fair, which resulted in her winning the 2017 Miami Beach Pulse Prize for her outstanding solo project. Tony Gum's artworks are part of the prestigious Jean Pigozzi Collection.