



TRIPE



TRIBE

An exhibition by Tripe – three consecutive winners of the Absa L'Atelier (2012-2014)

Elrie Joubert, Pauline Gutter and Liberty Battson

This is a feast, a spectacle of excess, a smorgasbord of delicacies offered to the viewer for consumption. Thing is, it's rubber and polyurethane waste from a manufacturing plant in Johannesburg – a single factory which discards this material daily in all colours, sizes and consistencies. What the visitor to this installation is witnessing, is two weeks' rubber waste. Imagine a month, a year, 10 manufacturing plants, 100. Think of what can be achieved by working with these manufacturers to transform this infinite waste into wonders.

The viewer is asked to digest the experience. The smell emitted by the rubber emphasises the wretchedness and unpalatability of being confronted with such excessive waste. The rubber cannot go anywhere. It cannot be recycled. The consumer-driven marketing machine behind this manufacturing plant is fully complicit in the clogging of our earth's arteries.

We have reached a turning point. The mountainous excess normally hidden from view is now exposed and we recoil with disgust. This is a delicatessen of gluttonous devastation, on a platter for all to see in its unfathomable beauty. The artists open discourse, not only showing us this repugnant truth, but offering possibility.

But the knotting, weaving, contorting, stretching, deconstructing and re-imagining of the material is done with great dexterity and skill, providing the viewer with a magnificent focal point which at once intrigues, attracts and tantalises. The mastery of this material which cascades, erupts and spills forth from the moment one enters the Absa building, is a celebration of the magic of contemporary imagination.



Absa Foreward

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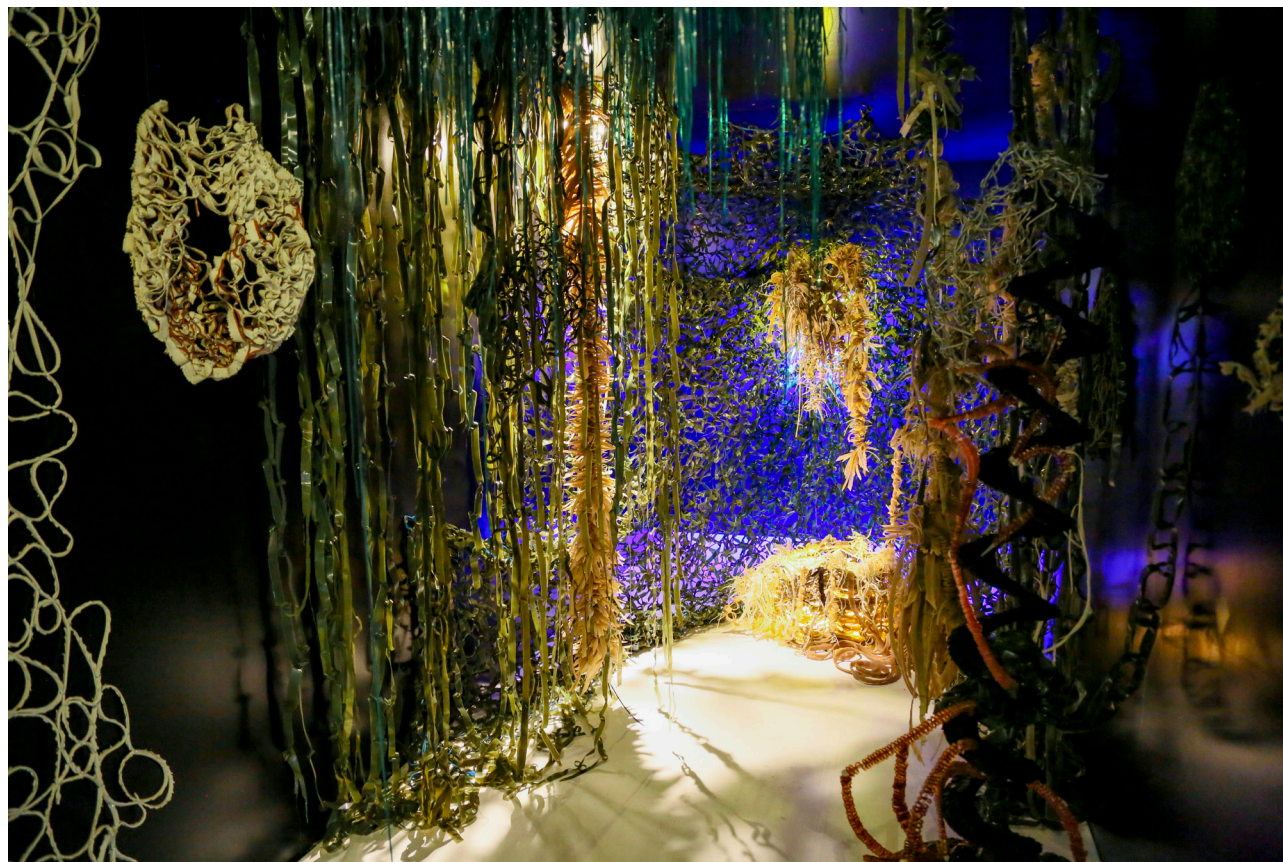
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3D link

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