

STIAN BAM

FLORA



12.11.2019 - 13.12.2019

RUST-EN-VREDE GALLERY : SOLO EXHIBITION CATALOGUE

STIAN BAM FLORA

*The goddess replied to my question, as she talks, her lips
breathe spring roses: "I was Chloris, whom am now called Flora."
- Ovid, Fasti 5 193 ff*

South African actor Stian Bam presents his latest series of charcoal drawings in his first solo exhibition titled 'Flora'. He works predominantly in charcoal, building up several layers to create dramatic monochromatic narratives. Stian is heavily influenced by Baroque art, a movement known for its dramatic compositions, emotional exuberance, and the powerful use of chiaroscuro.

Stian usually has a humanistic approach when selecting his subject matter, choosing to focus on the human narrative, the philosophies behind myths and legends, as well as mortality, vanitas and transience, as represented by objects. He finds similarities between Christian Iconography and Classical Mythology interesting and uses this as the foundation of his creative endeavours.

From the earliest of times, flowers have been referenced in World Mythology and -Religion. Lilies, for example, have come to be most commonly associated with purity and devotion. It is the most important flower in the Catholic faith - symbolizing the Virgin Mary. Roman myth tells us that lilies came from the Queen of the gods; while she was nursing the baby Hercules, some of her milk fell to the ground and formed these elegant blooms. In another myth, Chloris, the Greek goddess of flowers came upon the body of a dead nymph whilst in the woods and decided to breathe life anew, transforming the nymph's body into a flower. All of the gods agreed that this was the most spectacular flower, and dubbed it the 'Queen of Flowers'. Aphrodite named it 'Rose', dedicating it to her son Eros, the god of love.

From these tales we can gather that flowers have always been viewed as an important component for survival. Without flowers there would be no pollination and hence, no fruit. We need flowers to sustain ourselves both physically and emotionally.

The flowers Stian chose to include in the exhibition all hold personal meaning to him. They have come to symbolize old relationships and new beginnings, love, loss and ultimately - the celebration of life.



STIAN BAM

Rosaceae II (Rosa Floribunda)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper

Unframed - Paper Size 70 x 50 cm

R 5 500

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Liliaceae II (*Lilium Asiaticum*)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 40 x 40 cm

R 3 500 - SOLD



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Asteraceae I (*Phaenocoma Prolifera*)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 40 x 40 cm

R 3 500



Protea



Protea



Protea



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Rosaceae I (Rosa Floribunda)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 1 x 1m

R 8 100



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Orchidaceae II (Phalaenopsis sp.)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 40 x 60 cm

R 4 900



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Orchidaceae I (Phalaenopsis sp.)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 40 x 60 cm

R 4 900



FLORA





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Proteaceae II (Protea Grandiceps)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper

Unframed - Paper Size 70 x 55 cm

R 5 500

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Liliaceae I (*Lilium Asiaticum*)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 40 x 60 cm

R 4 200 - SOLD



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Proteaceae (*Protea Cynaroides*)

Charcoal, Pastel and Chalk on Paper
Unframed - Paper Size 50 x 70 cm

R 5 500 - SOLD



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