

Abnormal Adonis

2018

Oil and acrylic on canvas

150cm x 180cm

A mutated, conjoined figure balances in a headstand during a hot yoga class. The blood has rushed to his double head, which expands and stretches like a strange, red haemoglobin blob. On the left figure's stomach is an electric abs toning belt, which sends shockwaves to the abdominal muscles below the layers of fat, stimulating them to contract and grow. A lazy alternative to doing sit-ups, another gimmick bought by consumers eager to have a flat, six pack stomach. Against a vibrant blue and lilac background, the flipped image trains the eye to spot the subtle differences between the almost identical figures. One lanky arm has a watch, the other is bare. The black Nike tick has been flipped and the figure on the right hand side sports a sock and the desired muscular abs of a body builder; the contours of the muscle painted with astute realism. Their legs bind together in the centre of the painting as they attempt to balance upside down, creating a miniature pyramid outline. A more abstract composition compared to Epp's other paintings, here, the artist really pushes the way in which a figure's form can be altered and mutated to become almost non-representational; the work successfully balancing on the fine line between abstraction and figuration.