

Detox

2018

Oil, acrylic and spray paint on canvas

65cm x 70cm

This painting acts as the cropped image of *Drained*. Here, the viewer gets up close and personal with the sad, gloomy figure from Epp's other painting. However, in this scene he's brushing teeth. The toothbrush jabs at the back of his throat, the figure eager to scrub away the residue left from the night before. The feeling of the bristles scrapping at the inside of his mouth and throat radiate from the image. The toothbrush turns and twists with each thrust back and forth. It appears as though the figure is using the toothbrush as more than just a teeth cleaning device. As it pushes against the back of his throat, his masochistic tendencies become apparent. Epp makes light of one of the most mundane daily activities that we all partake in. For many, brushing your teeth in the mirror becomes a moment of getting lost in personal thoughts, of critical reflection, a cleansing ritual. After a heavy night out, where you've passed out drunk, there is a no more euphoric feeling than finally getting out of bed to clean your teeth the next morning.