

Fools Gold

2020

Oil and acrylic on canvas

190cm x 190cm

A frenzy of limbs navigate a precarious web of red laser beams. A super villain, deploying super-human elasticity in the pursuit of a worthless rock. Gleaming like gold, the lump of iron sulphide foolishly dupes the thief who has her sights set on it. A new type of villain for a new age, she adorns a black catsuit, black heels and most importantly, matching black AirPods. The viewer can imagine 'Toxic' by Britney Spears blasting in her ear. What is a new age super villain without a tribal tattoo on her thigh? A stamp of a rite of passage, of questionable choices made during her adolescence. As she weaves her way through the labyrinth, hanging from a knotted rope, her wet tongue sticks out to the left, breasts following, as if pulling her in the direction of the escape. A hidden, carnal sixth sense. The super villain, a metaphor for the duplicitous characters that take part in the capitalist practices of the art market. Those, who are blind to seeing their actions as villainy at all, have been fooled in this instance. Unknowingly taking home an object with no real value, in this painting, Epp has the last laugh.