

## *10 Minutes*

2019

Oil and acrylic on canvas

200cm x 155cm

A half naked female figure roasts her skin under the harsh UV lights of a sun bed. In this painting, Epp revisits his earlier *Tanning Shop* series. Fascinated by the sun bed as a peculiar, almost alien space where people go to look more desirable, these paintings reflect the artist's personal obsession with going on sun beds, abusing them during times of low self-esteem and high anxiety. In *10 Minutes*, a female figure replaces Epp as a self-portrait, her large, inflated fake breasts painted with painstaking detail. A black thong adorns her round buttocks, carefully placed as to not to cover the stamp tramp. The two sets of protective eye goggles make the figure feel even more alien, like some kind of evil succubus, preparing herself for a night of seducing unwitting men. At the same time, the exaggerated small waist and bloated breasts of her hyper-sexualised form, makes her resemble that of a 90s porn star or Playboy Bunny. Here, Epp feeds into the media's unrealistic portrayal of the female body but in a manner which shows the artist's own vulnerability when it comes to living up to society's expectations of looking perfect.