

Chlorine

2017

Oil, acrylic and spray paint on canvas

150cm x 130cm

A figure is doing laps in the fast lane at his local swimming pool. He has come equipped with a pair of goggles, pink nose clip and Speedo swimming cap. The blue, white and red shapes of the swimming lane rope divider bobs above his head. His long, gangly arms stretch out and around his head, he is caught in mid-action doing the front crawl stroke. The part of his body submerged reflects the swirling patterns of light reflected on water. Down below, in the murky chlorine waters is a dirty, blood-stained plaster. Is it his or has it been left behind by a previous, frolicking child? A putrid, green liquid seeps out of the swimmer's black budgy smugglers, he's urinating in the pool. Epp always tends to subvert everyday scenes with grotesque or shocking moments, like pissing in a public swimming pool or a child suffocating with a Sainsbury's bag on his head, he finds dark humour within the banality of daily living. He encapsulates these scenes into immaculate and thought-provoking images, which lead the viewer to reflect on their own embarrassing experience in a public swimming pool.