

Holiday Hat

2021

Acrylic and oil on canvas

180 cm x 160 cm

One from Epp's iconic self portrait series, in *Holiday Hat* the artist presents himself on holiday. A vibrant, warm sunset acts as the backdrop to the familiar, bloated shape of his head. The red and magenta hues engulf the figure, framing him with a heat and vibrancy that sits in contrast to the other paintings from his *Souvenir* show.

Bubblegum is replaced by a twirly straw and instead of pencil behind his ear, there is a duty free cigarette, ready to be inhaled at any moment. This is the artist off duty, enjoy the fruits of his labour. Epp sports a white cap and red, geometric designer sunglasses, which match the sunset behind him. He's also adorned in his favourite denim, acid wash Burberry jacket; worn for special occasions only. Epp's self portrait series reflect the hedonistic nature of millennial consumer culture. The millennial desire to look good and party takes centre stage in *Holiday Hat*, functioning as an emblem for our generation's youth and the freedom that comes with it.