

Trollin'

2019

Oil and acrylic on canvas

115cm x 115cm

An internet troll sits at his computer, his belly so large and protruding it almost touches the edge of his keyboard. The red glare of the computer screen creates a halo of artificial light around the figure's head, he most likely has not seen sunlight for days. In the reflection of his sunglasses' lens reads, 'fat fuck', the beginnings of an inflammatory comment on someone else's social media feed. Above his black cap is a strip of green, glow in dark stars, which must be the ceiling of his bedroom. Alone, this keyboard warrior sits behind a protective screen of anonymity, which offers him a false sense of security that whatever he writes online won't be traced back to his real identity. An upside down milk carton sits in the holder of his drinking helmet, the straw curling around the figure's head, like a miniature limb. His hands are too busy typing, starting online flame wars on blogs, forums and community chatrooms. *Trollin'* is yet another example of how Epp's practice shines a light on the taboo, under-represented observations of modern life, such as germaphobes, sun bed abusers and internet trolls.