Art practice: Genealogy

The Gallery

Abject objects
Blou Koppies
Koppies / Poppies
Brooches
Thorns
Necklaces
Divinities

Upstairs

Klaagliedere
Spoons
Genealogy

The Exhibition
In her work, she offers a critical examination of the role of women in historical narratives, particularly in relation to the practice of genealogy. Her focus is on the challenges and opportunities faced by women who have been marginalized in historical records. By using the genealogy as a tool to probe the experiences of women, she aims to reconstruct narratives that were previously erased or distorted.
Thorns
Blou Koppies
Van onder
Marlene de Beer
Moedeloos en Moederloos (Dejected and Bereaved)
Porcelain, gold lustre
2016
R 1 112 each
Marlene de Beer
Gebruik en Gebroke (Used and Broken)
Porcelain, gold lustre
2016
R 1 112 each
Marlene de Beer

Fluks en Flink (Diligent and Efficient)

Porcelain, gold lustre

2016

R 1 112 each
Marlene de Beer
Sku, Skaam en Skugter (Wary, Shy and Withdrawn)
plain, gold lustre

While I hurt
Marlene de Beer
Onsigbaar en Onwrikbaar (Invisible and Resolute)
Porcelain, gold lustre
2016
R 1 112 each
Handjies
The depths of despair
Until you help me
I cannot escape from it.
Koppies
Marlene de Beer
Koppie en Poppie (Cup and Doll)
Porcelain, gold lustre
2015
R 714 each
Marlene de Beer
Vessels
Porcelain
2015
R 714 each
Marlene de Beer
Getrou en Geoffeer (Faithful and Sacrificed)
Porcelain, gold lustre
2015
R 714 each
Marlene de Beer
Geduldig, Gedienstig en Gedaan (Patient, Obedient and Exhausted)
Porcelain, gold lustre
2015
R 714 each
Serve these together

It is a real pleasure to solve the problems of my knitting friends.

At the young age of twelve years nine months and twelve days

Marlene de Beer

Citation
Wood, porcelain
2015
R1 954
the mainstay of any tea table

My beloved
the mainstay of any tea table

My beloved

Marlene de Beer

I cannot escape from it
Necklaces
Take away my anger and wicked temper
Rub in butter or fat
Marlene de Beer
Necklace
Porcelain, pearls, antique silver catch
2015
R 1 904

My beloved

I see her win
I see her win
For a beast that has ingested poison

She hides her tears
Oh mother, where art thou

I cannot escape from it
Oh mother, where art thou
The Abject
I shall not cease from crying out
She hides her tears
It was a vision
Oh mother, where art thou
Where shall I pour out my distress?
Deliver me from evil
Klaagliedere
GENEALOGY
Marlene de Beer
Within dark and desperate nights

Marlene de Beer
The one who gives solace
Porcelain, sisal, wood
She will never sit down on a 
stove lid again

Until you help me

I cannot escape from it

do crawl out from under the weight of 
this burden
Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lamentation), For better or for worse
Hadeda skull, porcelain, cotton
2016
R 2 381
Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lamentation), Uit diepte gans
verloren (the depths of despair)
Porcelain, cotton, found objects
2016
R2 381
Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lamentation), While the black dog eats at her heart
Porcelain, cotton, sisal
2016
R 2 381
Dearest in memory

While the black dog ran at her she

A part of me became lost

My precious kloge

fugacity

Make me meek

Marlene du Beer

Kloogling [appropriation]. Within dark and
desolate nights

Porcelain, glass beads, cotton, wood

2016

R 2 696
Make me meek

Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lamentation), Within dark and
desperate nights
Porcelain, glass beads, cotton, wood
2016
R 2 698
My jammer klaagte

In glory

Make me meek

Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lamentation), Within dark and desperate nights
Porcelain, glass beads, cotton, wood
2016
R 2 698
Destined to sacrifice

While the black dog eats at her heel

A part of me became lost

My jammer klages

In glory
Destined to sacrifice

While the black dog eats at her heel

A part of me became lost

Marlon Klaag
Porcelaine
2016
R 2 698
I give comfort

Marlene de Beer

Rosary (Lamentation), She hides her weakness

Porcelain, cotton

2016

R2 381
I give comfort

Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lamentation), She hides her weakness
Porcelain, coffee, linen, thread
I am sorry I hurt you

He looked at me

Martine de Beer

Kongqilu (Lamentation). She beat herself

Porcelain, pearls, cotton

R 2 381
I am sorry I hurt you

He looked at me

Marlene de Beer
Klaaglied (Lament)
Porcelain
2016
To you, O God, my thanksgiving.

I trust in goodwill.

My salvation.

Marlene de Beer
Mixed media (ceramic)
It pleased the Lord of heaven and earth
Porcelain, copper, cotton
2016
R 2,481
To you, o God, my thanksgiving
Upstairs
GENEALOGY

Marlene de Beer
Utensils
Marlene de Beer
Spoon (with crocheted detail)
Sterling silver, fine silver
2013
R 3 015

Marlene de Beer
Spoon (with face)
Sterling silver, fine silver
2017
R 2 063
Divinities

With oblations (offerings)
GENEALOGY
Marlene de Beer

The aim of this project is to reappraise historical interpretations of Afrikaans female subjectivity and cultural ideological representations.

My work serves as a visual re-storying of the muted voices of three of my female ancestors, giving voice to some of the more hidden aspects of their narratives and forms part of an attempt to establish a maternal genealogy.

Afrikaan women stand accused of enthusiastic participation in their roles as Volksmoeders. These women's seeming collusion with an oppressive and prescriptive patriarchy was largely due to internalisation of their own ascribed inferior positions as women in a male-dominated culture.

My intention therefore, is to draw attention to 'maternal debt' that has been omitted, due to the absence of historical patriarchal interpretations, and to afford voices to the mute women who served as silent corporeal foils for men.

This exhibition forms part of de Beer's PhD degree in Visual Arts at Stellenbosch University and contributes to the conceptualisation of a feminine imaginary.
The shadow of her touch

Marijo de Beer
Obsession
Ceramic, porcelain, Sterling silver, steel
2017
R 476
The shadow of her mother
For a beast that has ingested poison

Marlene de Beer
Oblation
Porcelain
2017
NFS
My wounds bleed

Heed my cry of despair
Why am I not happy in my oppression
Serve these together

It is a real pleasure to solve the problems of my knitting friends

At the young age of twelve years nine months and twelve days