

Field of Possibility

Artists: Deborah Weber

Front Gallery - 07.03.24 - 18.04.24



Catalogue



Detail of (Clockwise)

- Deborah Weber - *Well Being*
- Deborah Weber - *Follow Me*
- Deborah Weber - *Dancing to the tune*
- Deborah Weber - *Intertwined*
- Deborah Weber - *Motherhood*

Deborah Weber

Jung and later psychologists such as Marie-Louise von Franz have argued that people often project archetypal ideas onto things they don't understand as part of a natural response to the desire for a more predictable, understandable and clearly-patterned world. Such projections are born out of a fear of emotions and experiences that have been repressed. Their own responses and emotions then become replaced by archetypes. One of the most important ways people can access their individual experiences and feelings is through art, which acts as a conduit from conscious to unconscious life.

In this body of work artist Deborah Weber explores the emotional potential held by art which enables the viewer to access states of being in the unconscious mind. The feeling individual is never an island, but is always part of a larger community, so Weber's art gives shape to emotional states either in response to events in the wider social or political environment, or from a deeply personal inner world.

Weber, after a long time in her career spent as a collaborative artist in groups of creative practitioners responding to burning social issues in South Africa, such as land restitution, gender violence and sexuality, used the isolation imposed by Covid lockdowns to turn inward in her artistic practice. The focus of this current body of work emerges from that process of introspection and a more individuated approach to connecting with viewers and their emotions. In that approach, the methods of automatism and automatic drawing became an important mechanism for Weber.

The process of automatic drawing first came to prominence in avant-garde art in the early 20th century, and was a way of suppressing conscious control over the mark-making process, allowing the unconscious emotions to be expressed in the finished work. Weber uses the automatic drawing approach to access her own unconscious emotional field, which is expressed through the characteristic recurring line work and biomorphic shapes that people the exhibition. These are then translated into colour on canvas, fabric and ceramics – a process in which the effect of unconsciously expressed emotion is very important. Colour is always evocative of emotion, a process we rarely understand on a conscious level.

In this body of work the viewer becomes the interlocutor between the unconscious, the world of meaning and their own emotions. The works are mostly playful, sometimes menacing, irreverent, vibrant or perplexing, asking of the viewer to experience the power of their own emotional responses through the symbolic interpretation of the works.



Deborah Weber

Everybody Hurts Sometimes, 2022

Acrylic on canvas

122 x 192 x 4 cm

R21 200 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Mirror, 2023
Acrylic on canvas
100 x 70 x 2 cm
R14 840 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Well Being, 2023
Acrylic on canvas
60 x 60 x 4 cm
R8 480 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Follow Me, 2021
Acrylic on canvas
101 x 101 x 2 cm
R16 960 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Community, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
91 x 91 x 4 cm
R14 840 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Intertwined, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
101 x 76 x 2 cm
R14 840 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Motherhood, 2022
Acrylic on canvas
122 x 92 x 4cm
R21 200 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Parenting, 2021
Acrylic on canvas
101 x 76 x 2 cm
R14 840 (inc VAT)



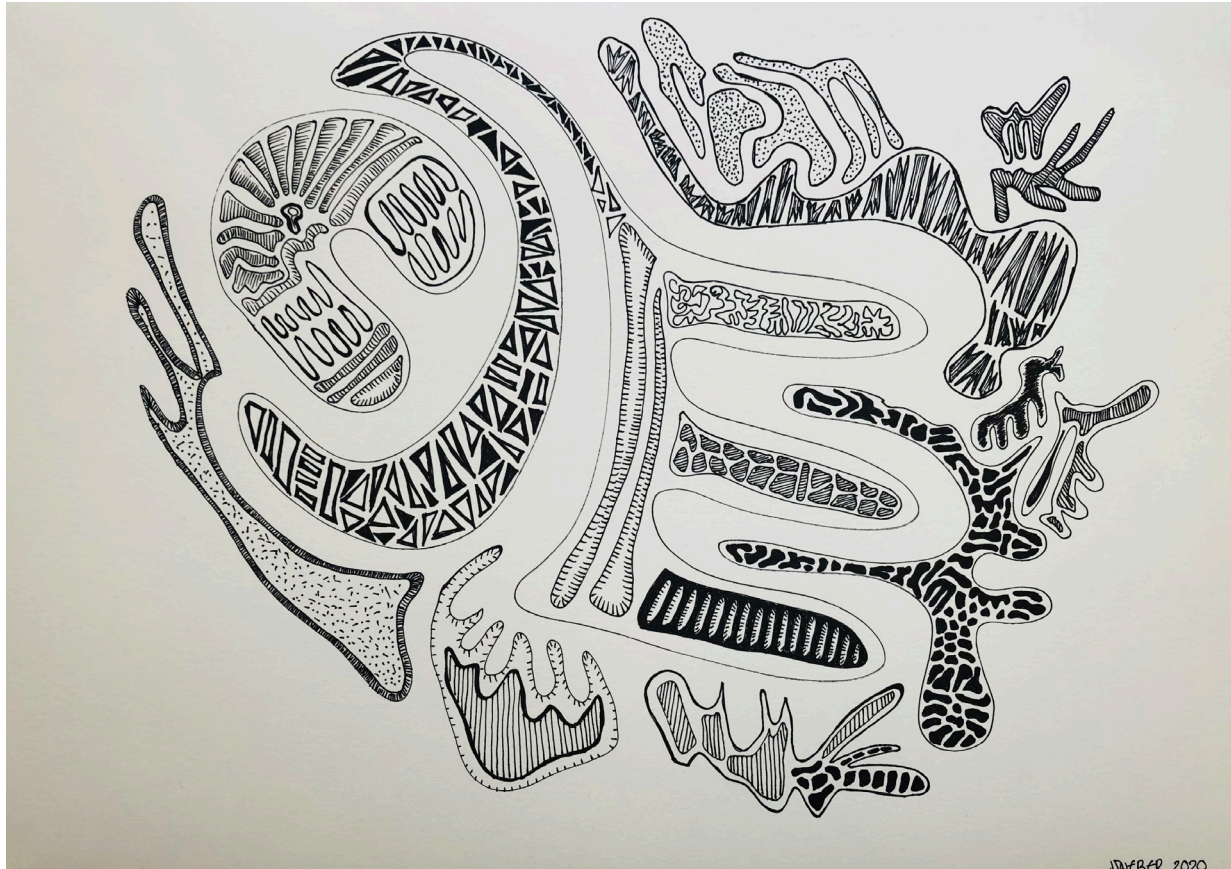
Deborah Weber

Microcosm, 2020

Mixed media and embroidery cotton
on fabric

45 x 45 cm

R8 480 (inc VAT) framed



Deborah Weber

Field of Possibility, 2020

Ink on Fabriano paper

29.7 x 42 cm

R6 360 (inc VAT) framed



Deborah Weber
Organism flora 1, 2022
Ceramics
19 x 32 cm
R6 360 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Organism fauna 1, 2022
Ceramics
13.5 x 17.5 cm
R4 240 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Organism fauna 2, 2022
Ceramics
12 x 15 cm
R3 180 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Organism fauna 3, 2023
Ceramics
14 x 19.5 cm
R4 240 (inc VAT)



Deborah Weber
Container, 2023
Ceramics
18 x 13 x 7 cm
R2 120 (inc VAT)



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