

# In the presence of absence

Mandy Johnston



## In The Presence Of Absence

*'Absence suggests experience and traces are its subtle cues that reveal this in our environments and points to the existence of something that is no longer present. There are often feelings of loss, nostalgia or fear associated with absence'.*

Mandy Johnston

This body of work explores ideas surrounding governance and the negotiation of space through materials and how the materiality of objects are used to speak dually about an intimate and collective formation/fabrication of value.

The materials used in constructing the works are particular to the idea of the temporary and transient understanding of space. Where the materials become shadows of themselves and through the artist's intervention carry a secretive history of their origin and the subject matter that is explored through the process of manipulation, formation and fabrication.

These works become keys to very intimate, personal experiences of the boundaries created by presence and absence, mirroring broader societal, political and existential issues.

The exhibition speaks about the physical, conceptual and metaphorical negotiations of space through the ideas contained in the physical, emotional and cognitive understanding of land, borders and boundary lines as well as the ownership of land and the power to construct boundary lines. The ideas explored in *In the presence of absence* are not revolutionary; they are, however, current, basic and inherent in the human condition.

## In the presence of absence



### In defence of empty spaces I

Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast salt pan salt and silver)  
640mm x 385mm  
R5,000.00



### In defence of empty spaces II

Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast salt pan salt and silver)  
640mm x 385mm  
R5,000.00



### In defence of empty spaces III

Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast salt pan salt and silver)  
640mm x 385mm  
R5,000.00

## In the presence of absence



### **Stones**

Salt and Light. Rocks bought from homeless man in Linden 2016

Size: Varies

R3,500.00

In the presence of absence



**Fetish Object: I**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00



**Fetish Object: II**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00



**Fetish Object: II**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00

In the presence of absence



**Fetish Object: IV**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00



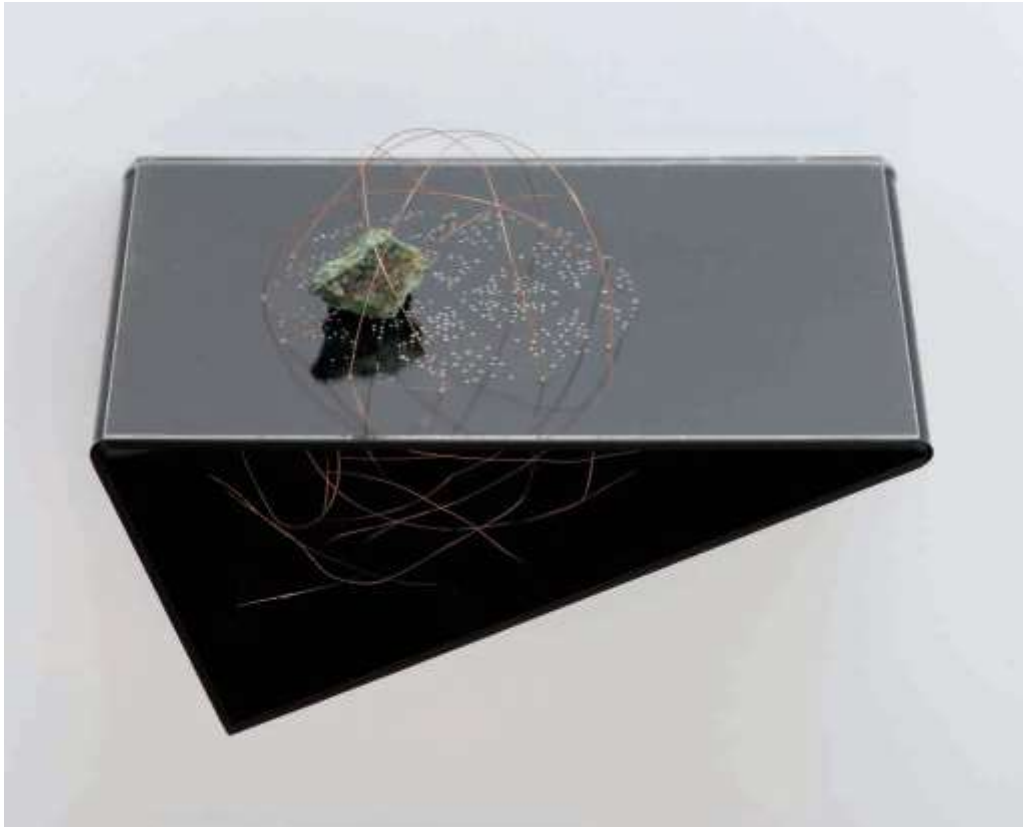
**Fetish Object: V**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00



**Fetish Object: VI**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00



**Fetish Object: VII**  
Rusted steel and silver  
50mm x 50mm x 210mm  
R3,500.00  
**Sold**



**Absence can be measured I**

Copper ore, copper wire and light  
220mm x 160mm x 120mm  
R4,000.00



**Absence can be measured II**

Copper ore, copper wire and light  
220mm x 160mm x 120mm

R4,000.00

**Sold**



**Absence can be measured III**

Copper ore, copper wire and light  
220mm x 160mm x 120mm

R4,000.00



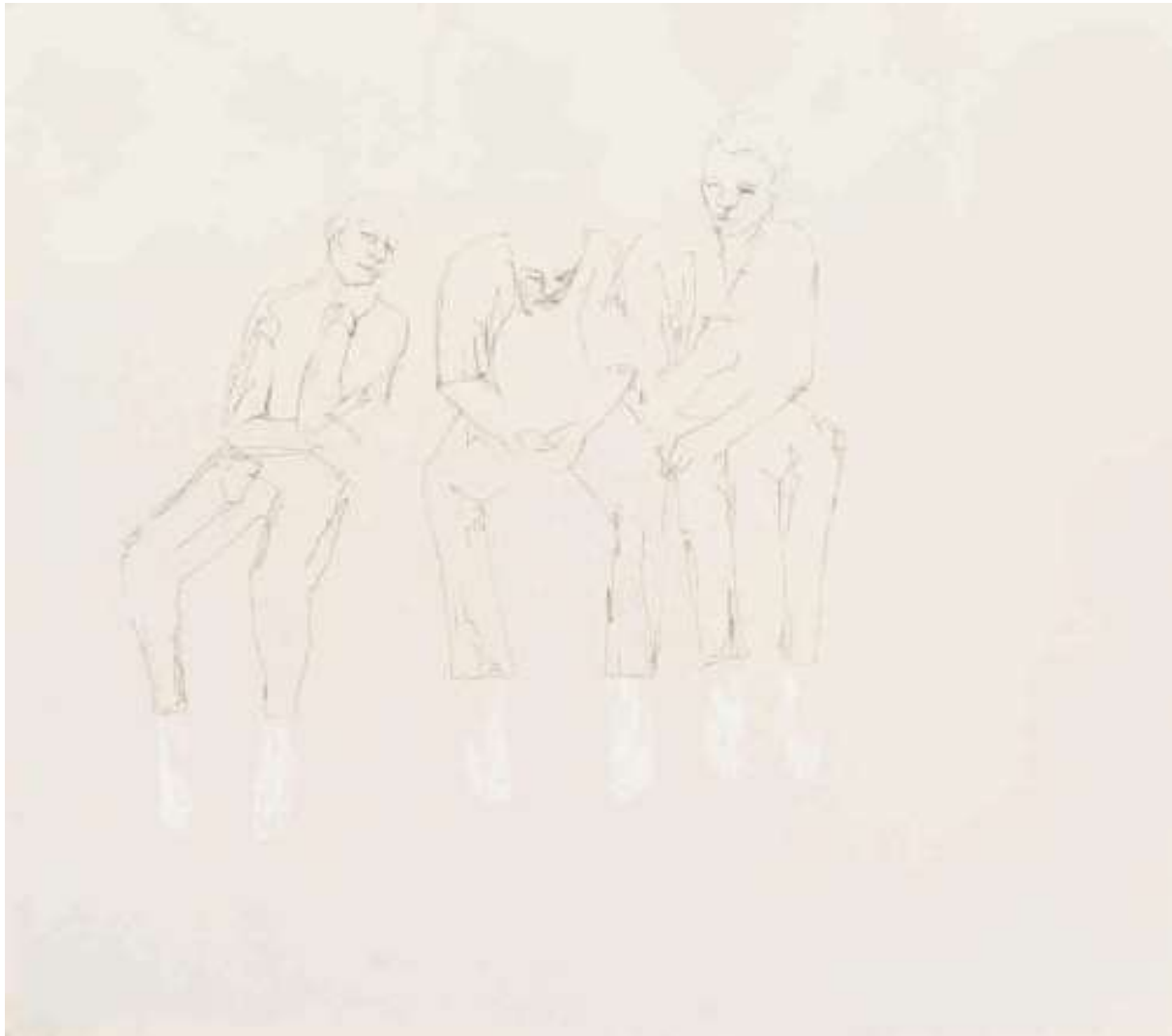


**Absence can be measured IV**  
Copper ore, copper wire and light  
220mm x 160mm x120mm  
R4,000.00



**Absence can be measured V**  
Copper ore, copper wire and light  
220mm x 160mm x120mm  
R4,000.00

## In the presence of absence



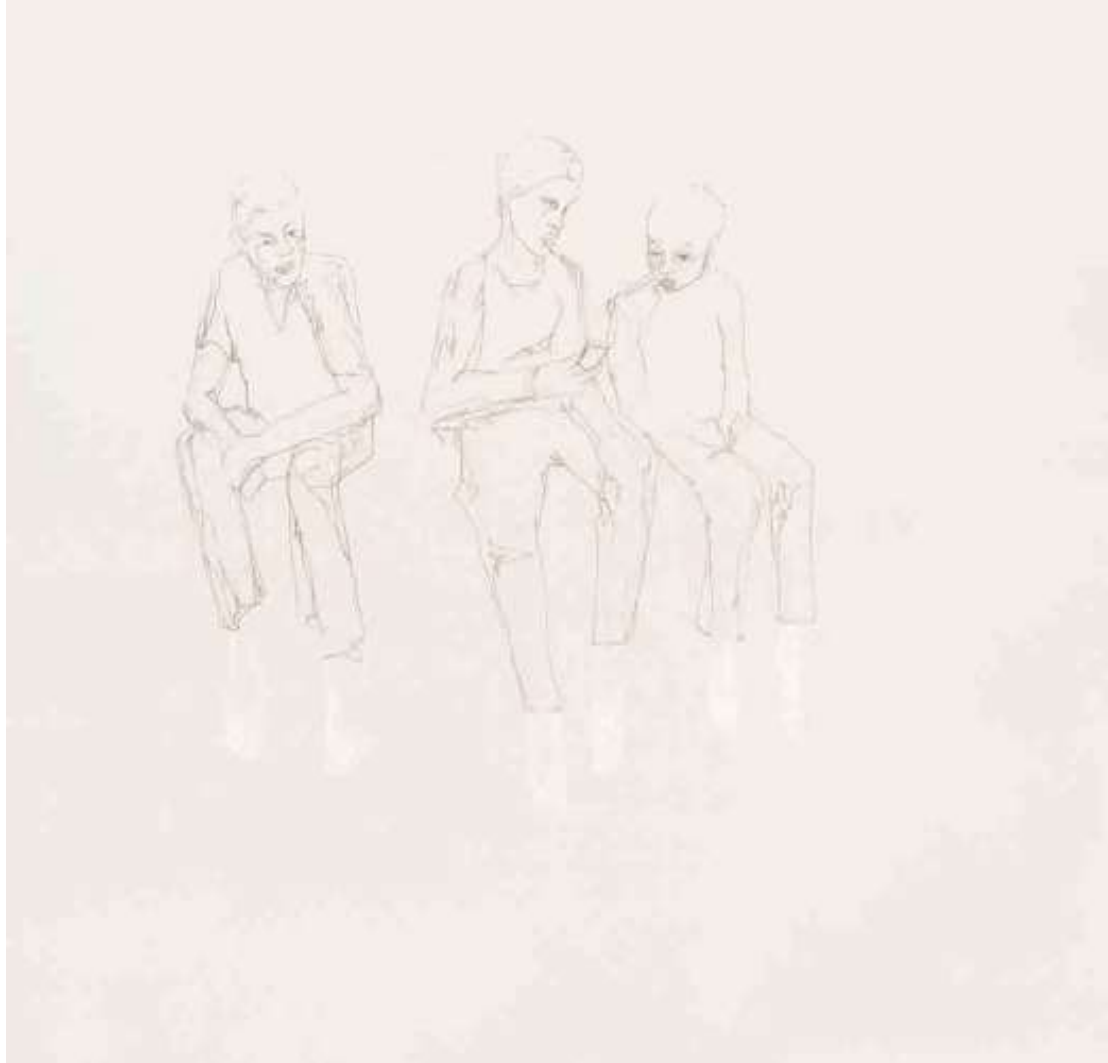
### Weighting room I

Graphite and ink on canvas

2400mm x 2000mm

R6,500.00

## In the presence of absence



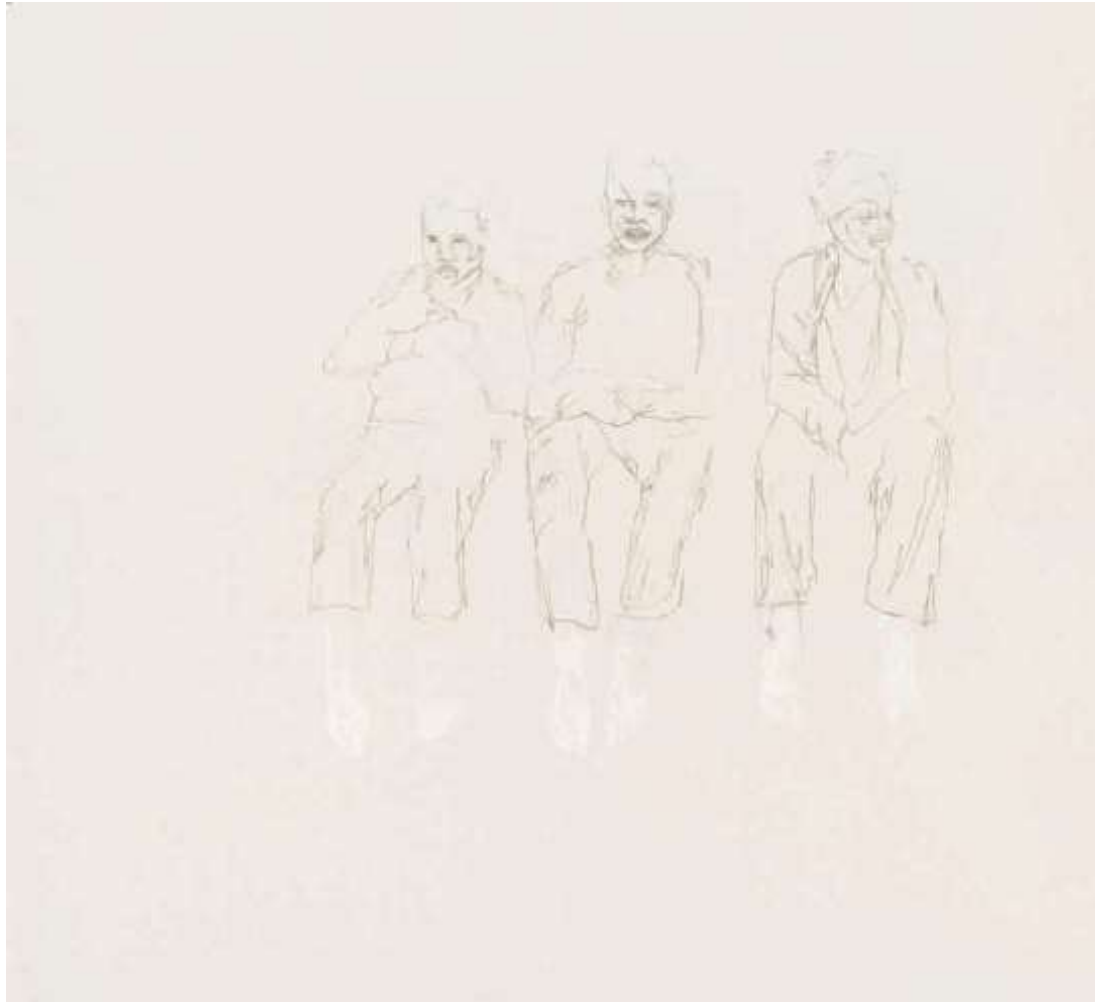
### Weighting room II

Graphite and ink on canvas

2400mm x 2000mm

R6,500.00

## In the presence of absence



### Weighting room III

Graphite and ink on canvas

2400mm x 2000mm

R6,500.00

Sold

## In the presence of absence



Weighting room: Sculpture I  
Copper wire  
1200mm x 600mm x 400mm  
R14,000.00  
Sold

## In the presence of absence



**Weighting room: Sculpture II**  
Copper wire  
1200mm x 600mm x 400mm  
R14,000.00  
**Sold**

## In the presence of absence



Absence can be measured: drawing 1

Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

300mm x 250mm

R1,800.00

Sold



Absence can be measured: drawing 2

Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

300mm x 250mm

R1,800.00





Absence can be measured: drawing 3  
Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano  
300mm x 250mm  
R1,800.00

## In the presence of absence



Absence can be measured: drawing 4  
Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano  
300mm x 250mm  
R1,800.00  
Sold

## In the presence of absence



**Absence can be measured: drawing 5**

Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano  
300mm x 250mm

R1,800.00

**1 Sold**

2 available

## In the presence of absence



**Absence can be measured: drawing Composite**

Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

300mm x 250mm

R4,500.00

**Sold**



Absence can be measured: drawing 7

Ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

300mm x 250mm

R1,800.00

## In the presence of absence



Weighting room: monoprint I  
R4,300.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint II  
R4,300.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint III  
R3,500.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint IV  
R3,500.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint V  
R3,500.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint VI  
R3,500.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint VII  
R3,500.00  
Sold



Weighting room:  
monoprint VIII  
R3,500.00  
Sold



Weighting room: monoprint IX  
R3,500.00  
Sold



**Restraint I : Ouroboros**

Cyanotype, rusted steel and shadow  
on fabiano  
415mm x 415mm  
R3,600.00



**Restraint II : Ouroboros**

Cyanotype, rusted steel and shadow on  
fabiano  
415mm x 415mm  
R3,600.00



**Restraint II : Ouroboros**

Cyanotype, rusted steel and shadow on  
fabiano  
415mm x 415mm  
R3,600.00



**Remember**

Graphite and ink on canvas

3760mm x 2300mm

R18,000.00





Remember : Sculpture  
Bone and steel  
1200mm x 1200mm approx.  
R18,000.00  
Sold



**“Bones and stones“**

Ink drawing and embossing on fabricano

Approx. 120mm x 600mm

R1,600

## In the presence of absence



### Disarming spaces I

Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and  
silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



### Disarming spaces II

Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West  
coast salt pan salt  
and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



### Disarming spaces III

Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



### Disarming spaces IV

Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



### Disarming spaces V

Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00

## In the presence of absence



**Disarming spaces VI**  
Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



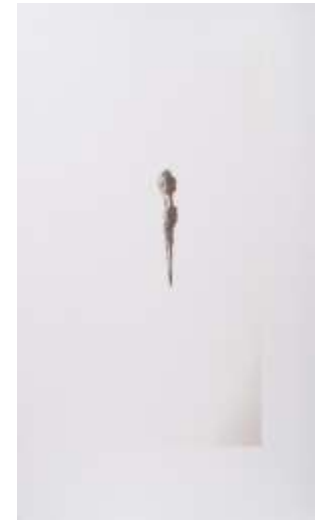
**Disarming spaces VII**  
Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West  
coast salt pan salt  
and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00  
**Sold**



**Disarming spaces VIII**  
Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and  
silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



**Disarming spaces IX**  
Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00



**Disarming spaces X**  
Salt print : Silver on  
Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)  
370mm x 456mm  
R3,750.00

## In the presence of absence



**Copper findings I**  
Cyanotype, copper and shadow on  
fabriano  
271mm x260mm  
R2,100.00  
**Sold**



**Copper findings II**  
Cyanotype, copper and shadow on  
fabriano  
271mm x260mm  
R2,100.00  
**Sold**



**Copper findings III**  
Cyanotype, copper and shadow  
on fabriano  
271mm x260mm  
R2,100.00  
**Sold**



**Copper findings IV**  
Cyanotype, copper and shadow on  
fabriano  
271mm x260mm  
R2,100.00  
**Sold**

In the presence of absence



Sand Sepent  
Copper wire  
300mm x 300mm x 450mm  
R10,500.00  
Sold



**Sticks and stones III. Prints**  
Ink and graphite on fabriano  
278mm x 390mm  
R3,300.00



**Sticks and stones I. Prints**  
Ink and graphite on fabriano  
278mm x 390mm  
R3,300.00



**Sticks and stones III. Prints**  
Ink and graphite on fabriano  
278mm x 390mm  
R3,300.00



**Sticks and stones IV. Prints**  
Ink and graphite on fabriano  
278mm x 390mm  
R3,300.00  
**Sold**





**Sticks and stones V. Prints**  
Ink and graphite on fabriano  
278mm x 390mm  
R3,300.00



**Sticks and stones VI. Prints**  
Ink and graphite on fabriano  
278mm x 390mm  
R3,300.00



**Restraint**

Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast salt pan salt and silver)

500mm x 550mm

R4,300.00

## In the presence of absence



**Remember: monoprint I**  
Mono print, ink on fabriano  
400mm x 400mm  
R3,500

## In the presence of absence



**Remember: monoprint II**  
Mono print, ink on fabriano  
400mm x 400mm  
R3,500

## In the presence of absence



### Saltscape I: do not disturb

Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast  
salt pan salt and silver)

640mm x 385mm

R10,500.00

In the presence of absence



**Saltscape II: Stones line the fences**

Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast salt  
pan salt and silver)

640mm x 385mm

R10,500.00

In the presence of absence



**Saltscape III: Something there is that does not love a wall**  
Salt print : Silver on Fabriano ( West coast salt pan salt and silver)  
640mm x 385mm  
R10,500.00



Post I  
Copper wire  
170mm x 170mm x 400mm  
R5,500.00  
Sold





**Post II**

Silver wire

170mm x 170mm x 400mm

R5,500.00



**Stones line the edges II**

Dry point ghost, ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

1330mm x 208mm

R5,400.00



**Stones line the edges I**

Dry point ghost, ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

1330mm x 208mm

R5,400.00

**Sold**



**Stones line the edges III**

Dry point ghost, ink and transfer paper graphite on fabriano

1330mm x 208mm

R5,400.00

Absa Gallery contact information:

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