

TOPIA

[a re-invention of the self]



ADÉBAYO BOLAJI

19 Sept - 20 Oct
2019

Serena Morton
LONDON

This is the first time that I have thought of a title, and made works of multimedia that would respond to this title/theme, at least for an exhibition.

It all started with the internet.

The internet fascinates me.

Here is this platform, this 'other world' that is now simultaneously existing whilst we are at work, school-sleeping, making love or sadly saying goodbye to loved ones, and what's more, the internet will create or duplicate its own versions of these things.

The internet has empowered and disempowered, seen the rise of children fighting climate change and showing us at the same time adults bullying children (behind a screen), for doing so, all for the world to see and comment with a hashtag.

We see a celebrity president proclaiming agendas in a tweet/s and marriage proposals made for all to see.

Our world has changed, and if our world has changed what has happened to art?

Our world, I think, is looking for perfection and the internet wants to give this to us. It is a reminder about the need for perfection, for a perfect world, a... Topia.

But what about art?

I wanted to go back to basics but let the 'basics' be a fusion of something new, so a mixture of ideas that make up one. That maybe a perfect world is not the complete removal of our reality and an escape into another, but to acknowledge truth, stare it in the face and respond to it... honestly.

TOPIA: A place with specified
CHARACTERISTICS.

[GREEK topos, place.]
THE KEY TERM HERE IS
UTOPIA (GREEK ou, not),
an IMAGINED PLACE
OR STATE OF THINGS in
which everything is perfect;
DYSTOPIA (GREEK dus-, bad)
was later invented AS
ITS OPPOSITE.

On next page: Transmissions, 2019
Mixed Media on Coarse Grain Jute
205 x 165 cm



Bolo Ji

Head of a Bird, 2018
Ink & Oil Pastel on Bhutanese Earth Paper
45 x 33 cm



On next page: You Chose Me, 2019
Acrylic, Fabric & Crayon on Cotton
154 x 124 cm



I Remember You, 2019
Ink, Crayon & Pencil on Paper
40 x 30 cm



On next page: Mr Topia, 2019
Mixed Media on Coarse Grain Jute
205 x 165 cm



The Looking, 2019
Ink, Crayon & Pencil on Paper
36 x 26 cm



On next page: A Portrait of Fela Kuti, 2016
Ink, Pencil, Acrylic & Oil Pastel
on Lokta Natural Paper
76 x 56 cm





I Told You So, 2019
Mixed Media on Coarse Grain Jute
205 x 165 cm



Follow Me, 2019
Mixed Media on Cotton
154 x 124 cm



Climate, 2019
Mixed Media on Coarse Grain Jute
210 x 165 cm



The Internet, 2019
Mixed Media on Cotton
154 x 124 cm

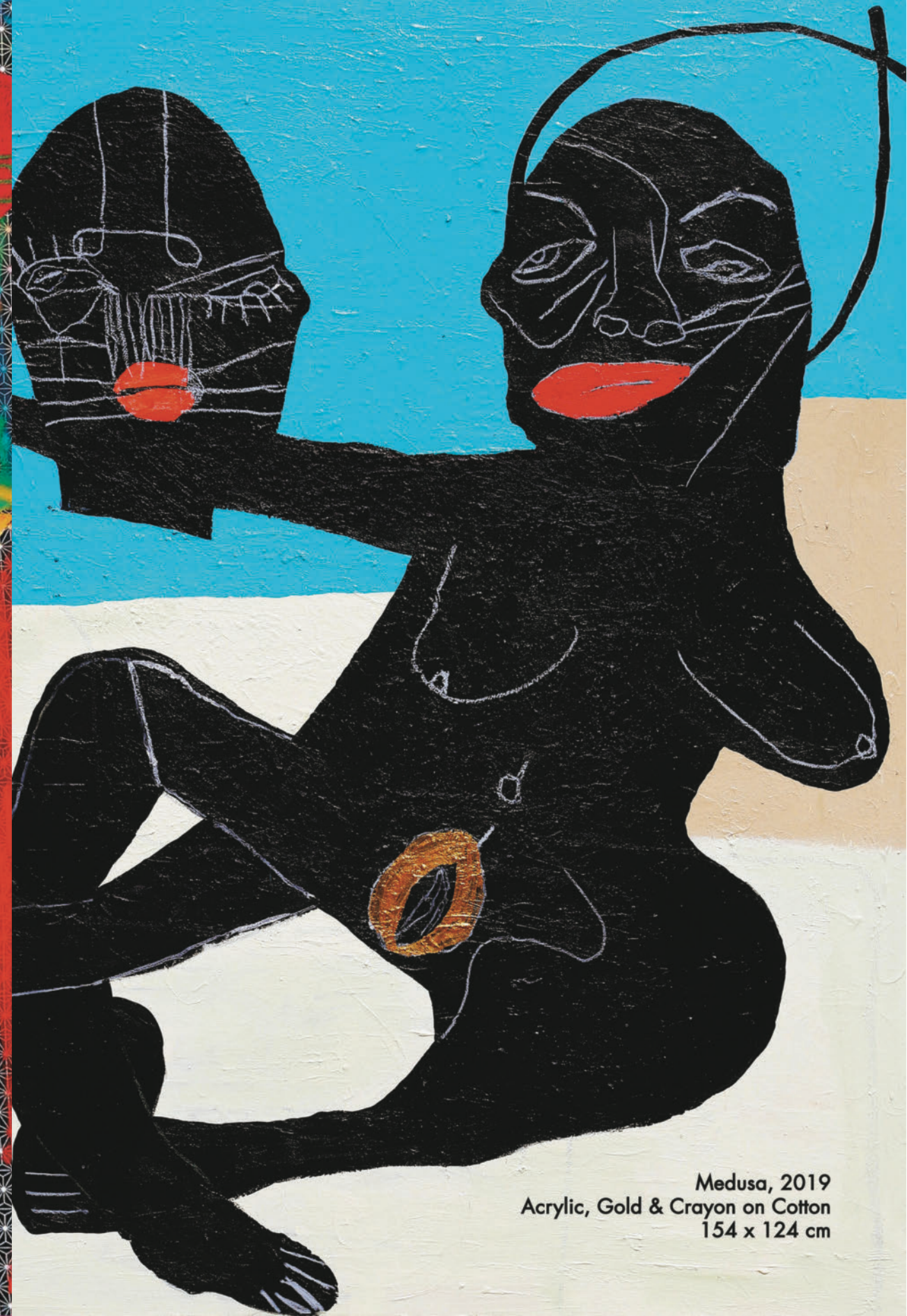
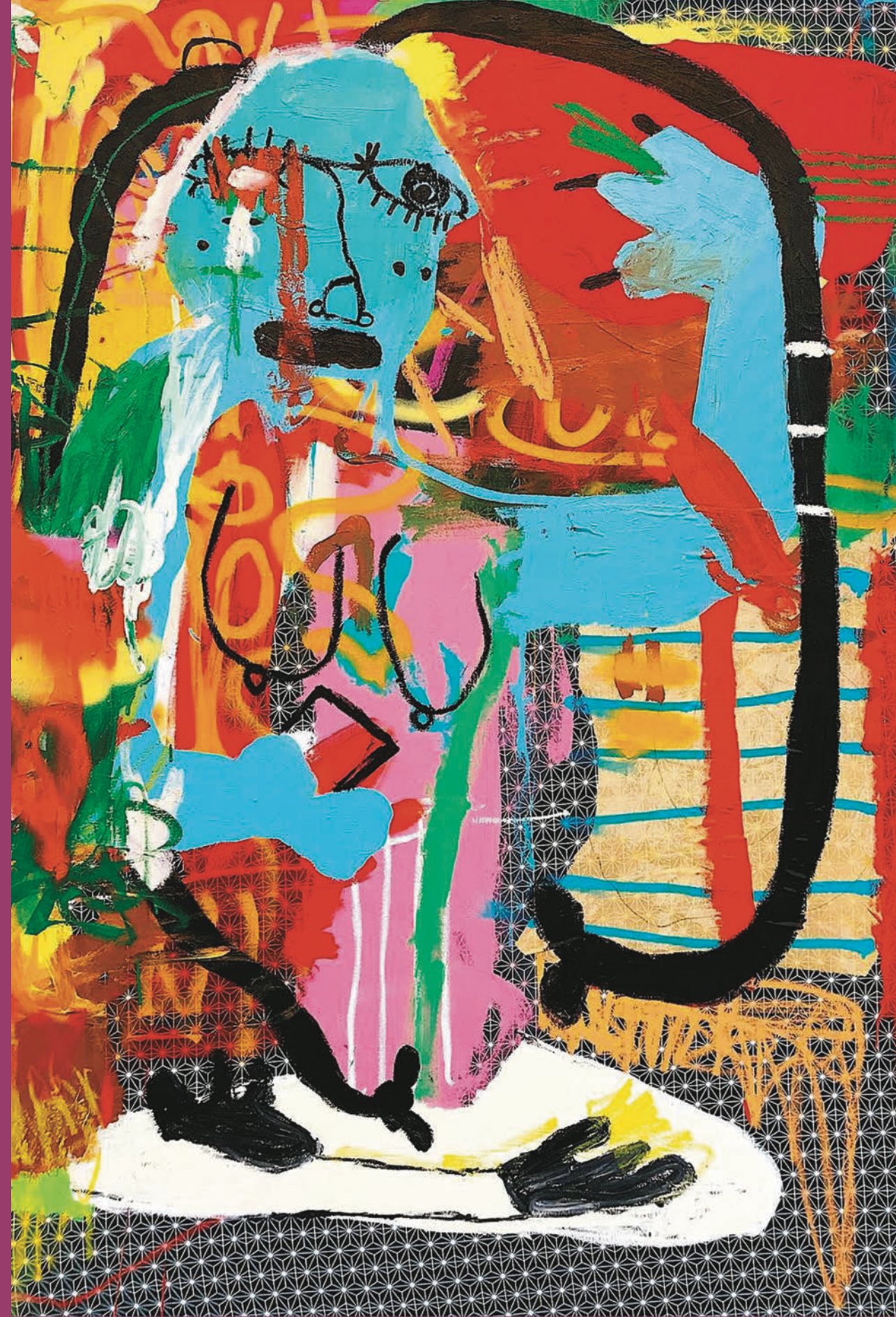


Rest, 2019
Acrylic & Crayon on Cotton
154 x 124 cm

To Fly, 2019
Acrylic, Ink, Pencil & Crayon on Paper
34 x 30 cm



On next page: An Experience, 2018
Acrylic, Fabric, Spray Paint
& Oil Pastel on Cotton
154 x 124 cm



Medusa, 2019
Acrylic, Gold & Crayon on Cotton
154 x 124 cm

Red Water, 2019
Ink, Pencil & Crayon on Paper
35 x 33 cm



On next page: The Happening, 2017
Acrylic & Oil Pastel on
Lokta Natural Paper
76 x 56 cm



Euphoric, 2019
Ink, Crayon & Pencil on Paper
30 x 25 cm



On next page: Topia, 2019
Ink & Crayon on Paper
30 x 22 cm



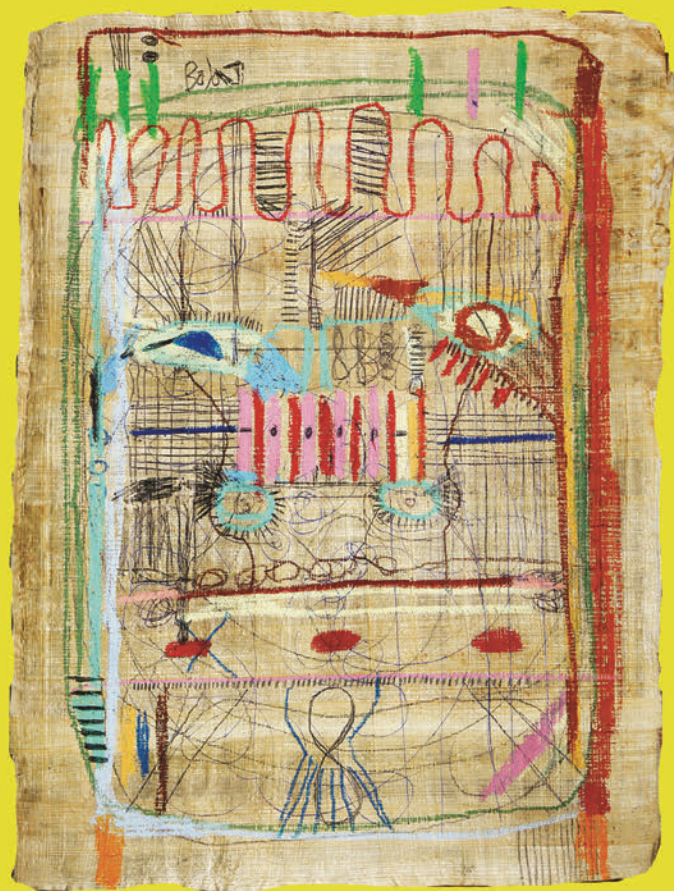
Another Messenger, 2019
Crayon & Acrylic on Paper
33 x 26 cm



On next page: Mythic Head, 2019
Mixed Media on Paper
41 x 29 cm



A Lesson, 2019
Ink, Crayon & Pencil on Egyptian Papyrus
35 x 25 cm



On next page: Head of a King, 2018
Pencil & Ink on
Bhutanese Earth Paper
45 x 33 cm



Adébayo Bolaji is a multi-disciplinary artist living and working in London, England. His background of film and theatre, both in acting and screenplay-writing, compliment Bolaji's exploration of newer media in the visual arts.

Bolaji believes that ideas choose the medium of execution.

His painting method follows a marinating process for the pieces to be completed, which is why Bolaji often steps away from the canvas while simultaneously working on multiple projects.

The subject of his paintings vary, from seemingly aesthetic pictures to a direct commentary on the state of the human condition, all focusing on the ironic and bizarre aspects of everyday life.

At the centre of his practice is the dialogue of change and the focus of the individual within a connecting society, whether that be religious, historical, anthropological or popular culture.

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Opening Times:

Tuesday-Friday 10-5pm
Saturday 10-4pm
Sunday and Monday by appointment only

For further information please contact: info@serenamorton.com

Special thanks to:



