Sister Series by Delpha Hudson

All 40x40 x4cm, bitumen paint and mixed media on canvas

On *Dripping bitumen paint:*

It is a conceptual process: when I learned what the material could do, then I could control it, allowing it to do as much within parameters that were set up. So the material could dictate its own form its own essence.

This series of small works explore the fluid, and flexible nature of female identity. *Liquid Selves*, is a continuing project of dripped bitumen paint explores gendered multiplicity of self, (selves) and all the people we can be. In this series the figures explore more movement, and gesture, with blocks of colour added to heighten the compositional field, add contrast, and emotional depth.

The aesthetic and materials used are ways of smuggling in meaning. Using different techniques, forces, methods and materials to defeat social clichés. I think of painting as part of my performance practice, I drip bitumen paint as a meditation on language, form, control and chance. There is calligraphic fluidity in body-gesture, the figures and pattern are made by body – hand articulating thought.

'Art is the process of return to the point of emergence,' (Felix Guattari), and the work engages in theories about the production of subjectivity. Titles are used to provide further hints at the truth and misapprehension of gendered lived experience, and art and language allow us to shift between sensate emotionand concept.