

ARTIST: JORDAN SWEKE

EXHIBITION: **IT IS WITHIN**

GALLERY: EVERARD READ JOHANNESBURG

DATE: 31 AUGUST 2019 – 21 SEPTEMBER 2019

## CURATORIAL INVESTIGATION

It is easy upon first reflection to review Jordan Sweke's practice as an archetypal duality of realism vs abstraction. Sweke creates visual manifestations that stretch from detailed abstraction, into cellular binaries and through into formal landscapes. One can often be compelled to explore this variety as simply deliberate contradictions. On the one hand, we observe organic forests, trees, sky or the sea and then when we approach closer to investigate surface details, these quickly become a dissolved and broken geometry – like pure gesture, with pattern and coded formula.

These contrasts of positive and negative spaces, lightness versus darkness, a chaos versus order, seem to evoke opposing narratives. However, by the artist's own account, the combinations of the contrasts converge into a third thread, a 'space' which is not so much 'abstracted' or 'realistic' or 'micro' or 'macro' but rather an in-between that the audience inhabits as they engage with the artworks. There is a combination of natural materiality and digital process as well as of realism and abstracted pixilation and these all serve to catapult the audience from omniscient observer to face head on their actions, their effects, and our place within nature and the whole world around us.

- Emma Van Der Merwe

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jordan Sweke is an independent South African multi-media artist from Johannesburg, currently based in Cape Town. Jordan's practice is concerned with an extensive and ongoing exploration of oil paint as a medium and branches out into a wide array of media. His work is primarily influenced by the connection between humans and the natural world and focuses on natural South African landscapes and indigenous wildlife. His main concerns are to bring immersive natural landscapes into urban spaces and to urge the public to reconnect with their natural heritage.

In 2014, Sweke received an Honours degree in Fine Art, specialising in painting, from Michaelis School of Fine Art. Every piece at his graduate exhibition was sold. Since then, Jordan has received strong support from local and international collectors. He has had numerous commissions and his works have been exhibited at multiple solo shows, locally and abroad, as well as at group shows that have included work by internationally renowned local artists.



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**

*CECILIA IX*, 2018

OIL ON CANVAS

150 x 230 cm

AC49195

R44 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**

*CECILIA XI*, 2018

OIL ON CANVAS

170 x 150 cm

AC48775

R38 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**

*CECILIA XII*, 2018

OIL ON CANVAS

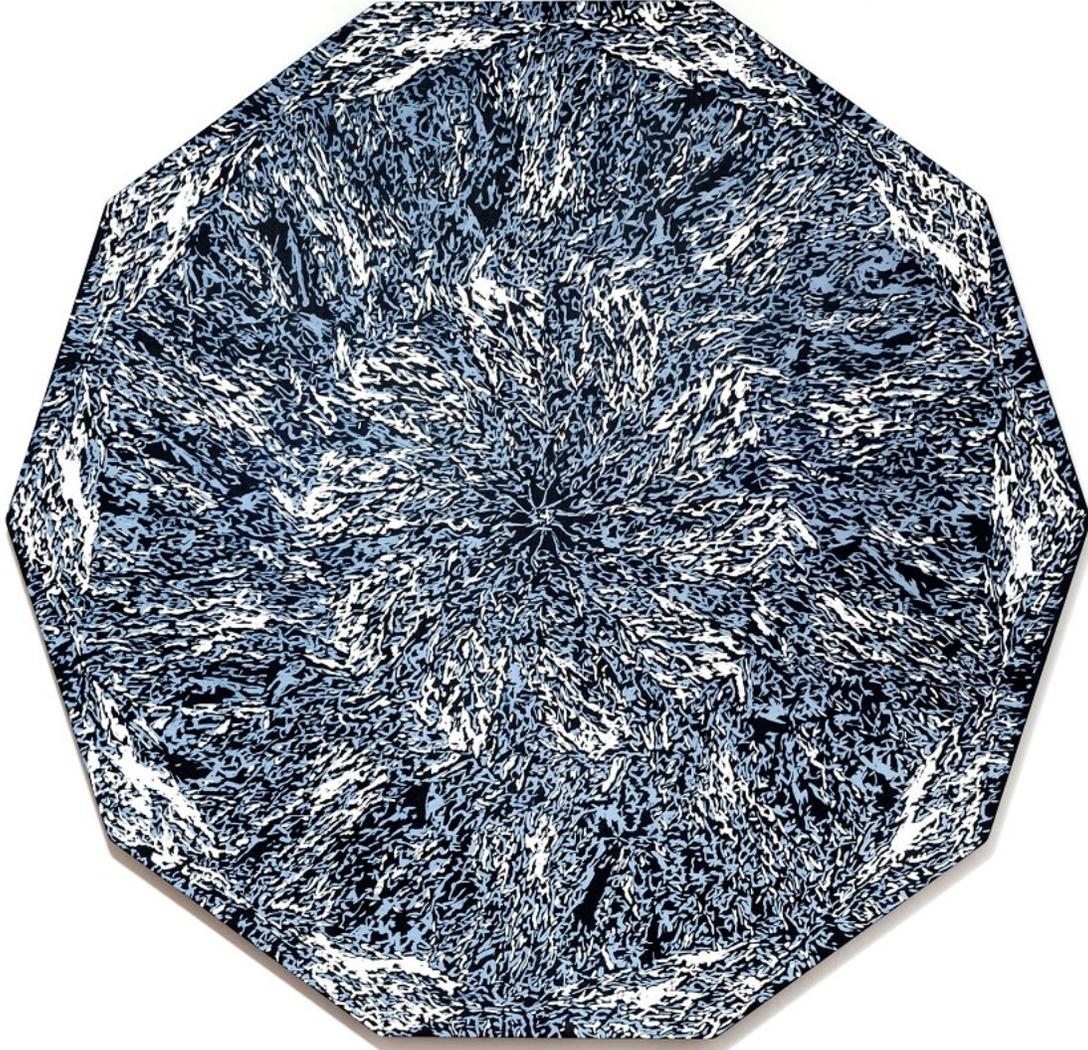
91,5 x 91,5 cm

AC49196

R18 000,00



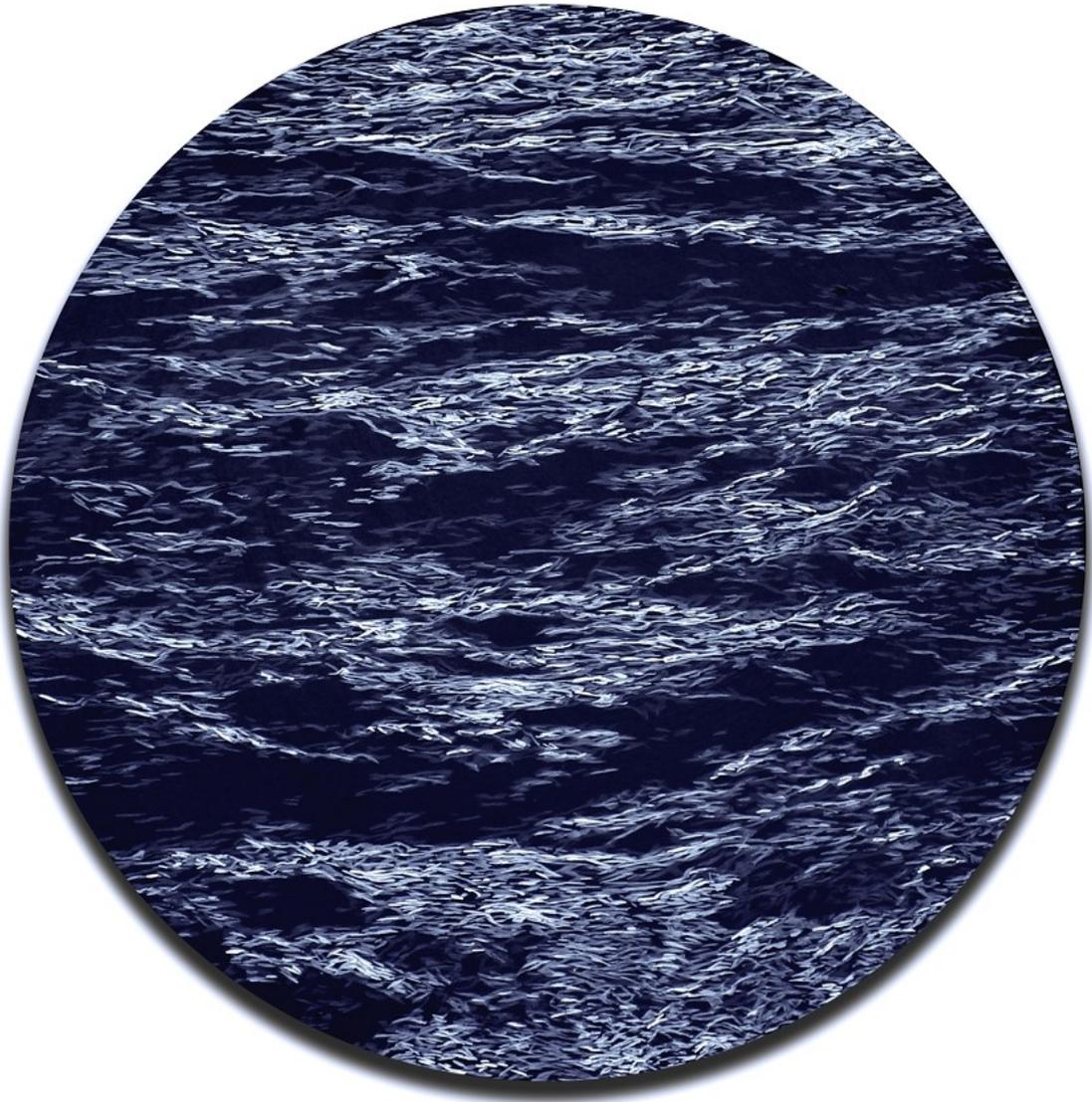
**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*FRAGMENTARY VOID NO. 20, 2019*  
OIL ON CIRCULAR CANVAS  
160 x 160 cm  
AC49206  
R28 000,00



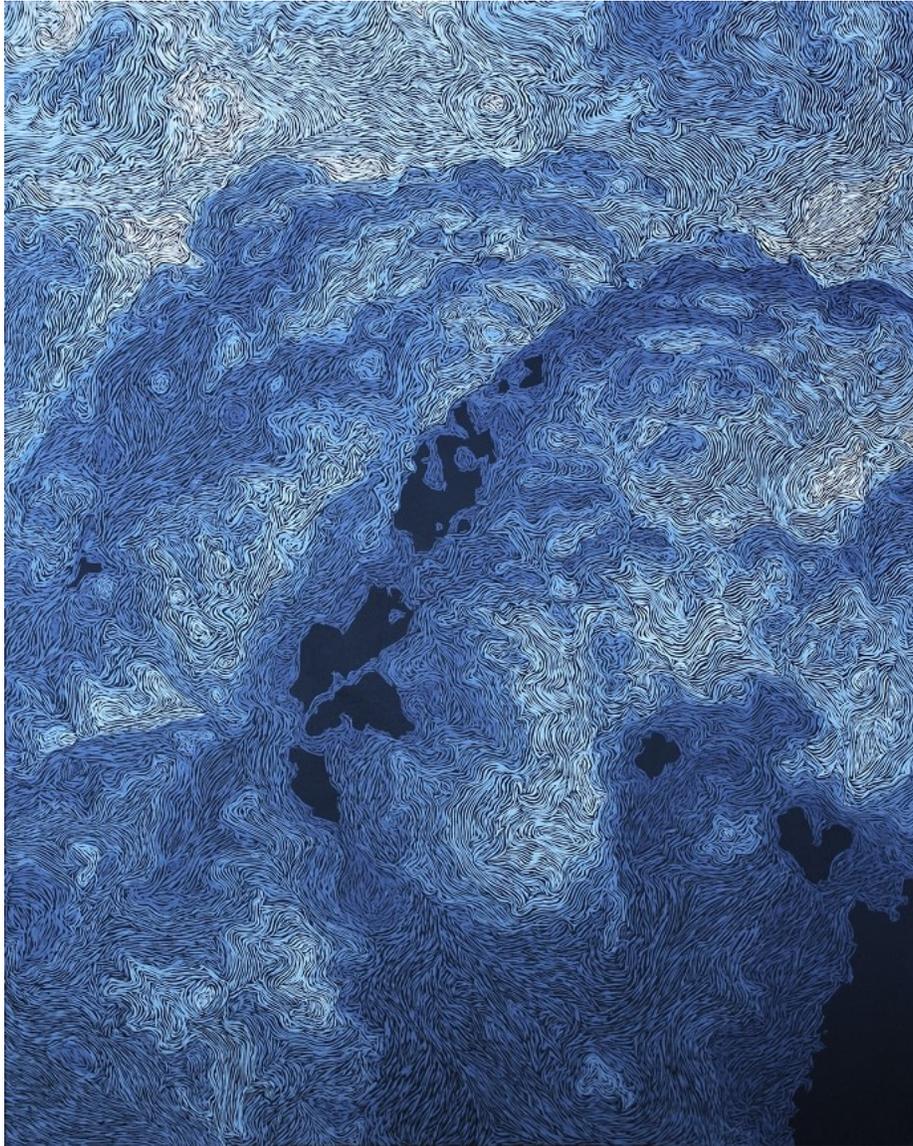
**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*FRAGMENTARY VOID NO. 8, 2019*  
OIL ON CANVAS  
180 x 180 cm  
AC49205  
R32 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*GOUDVELD III*, 2018  
OIL ON CANVAS  
91.5 x 91.5 cm  
AC49197  
R18 000,00



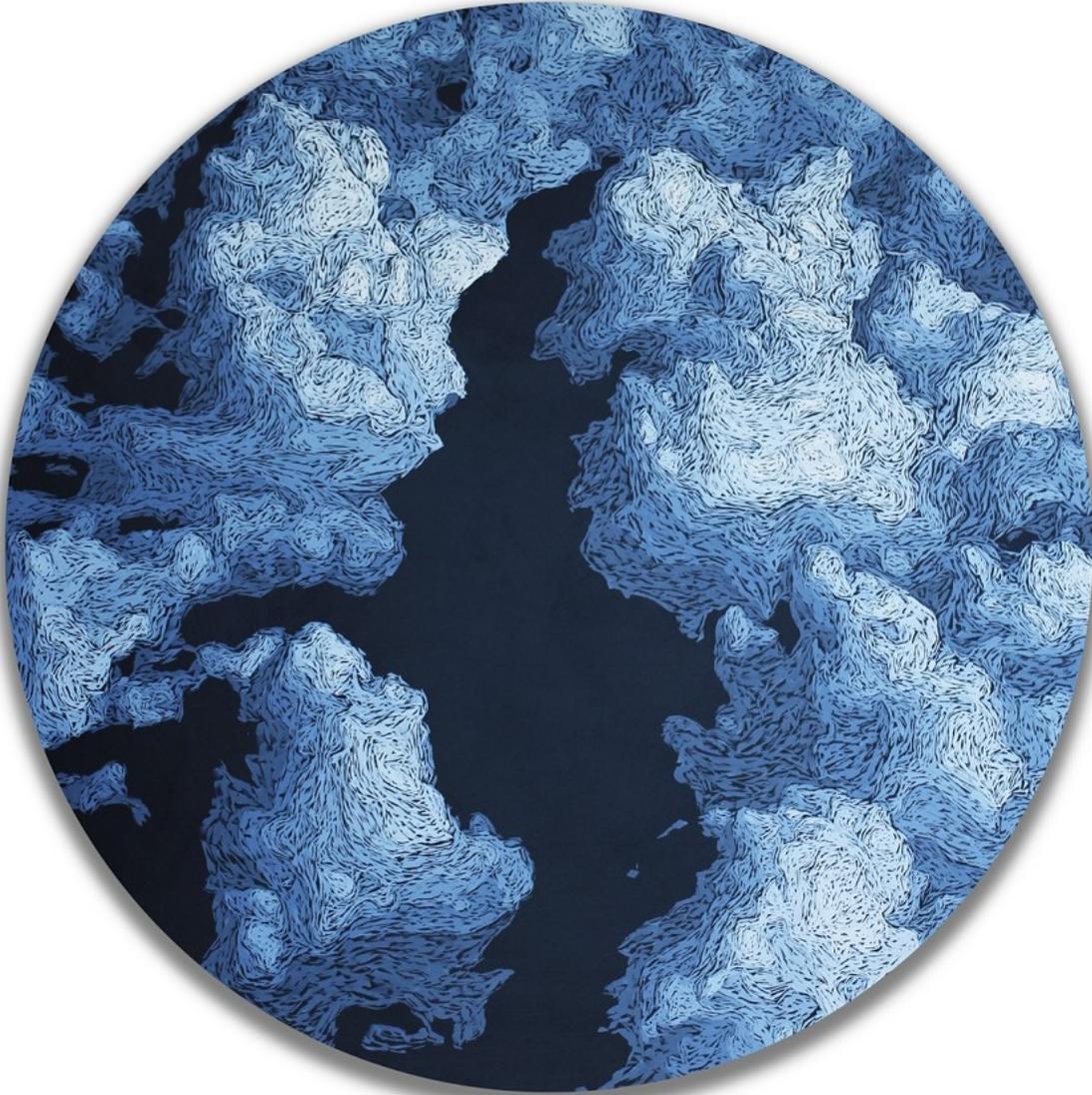
**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS IX*, 2018  
OIL ON CIRCULAR CANVAS  
85,5 x 85,5 cm  
AC49198  
R16 000,00



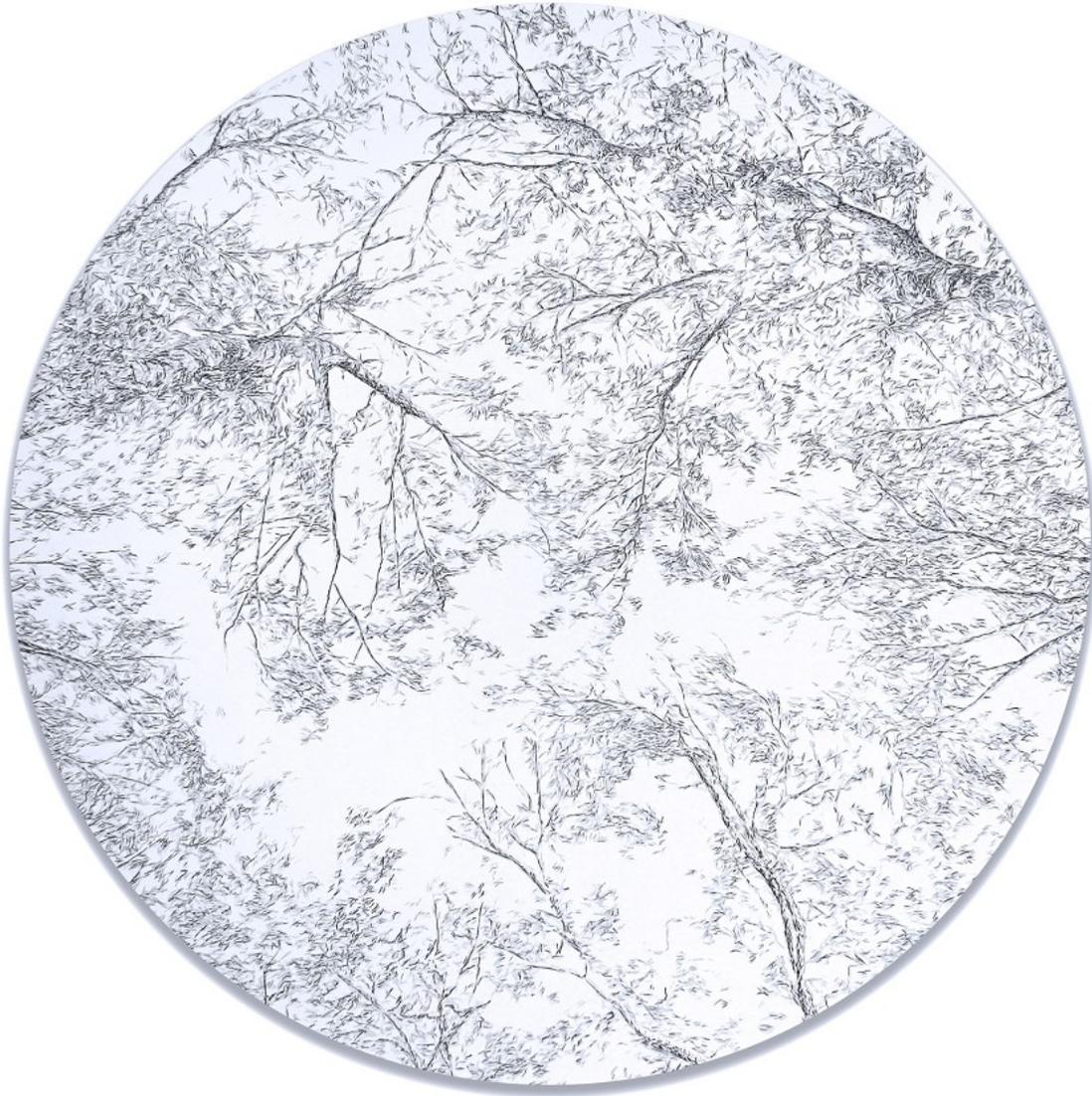
**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS XI*, 2018  
OIL ON CANVAS  
163 x 131 cm  
AC49200  
R34 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS XII*, 2018  
OIL ON CIRCULAR CANVAS  
140.5 x 140.5 cm  
AC49201  
R28 000,00



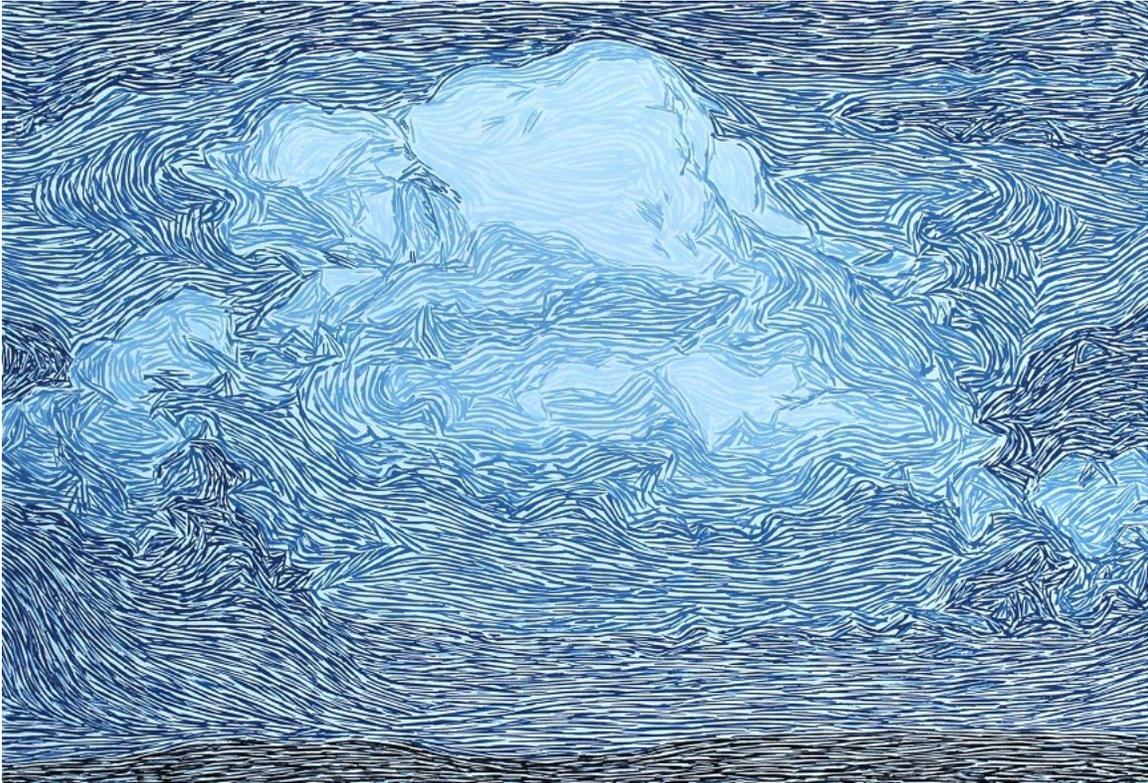
**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS X*, 2018  
OIL ON CIRCULAR CANVAS  
131.5 x 131.5 cm  
AC49199  
SOLD



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS XIII*, 2019  
OIL ON CIRCULAR CANVAS  
169.5 x 169.5 cm  
AC49202  
R30 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS XIV, 2019*  
OIL ON CIRCULAR CANVAS  
98 x 98 cm  
AC49203  
R18 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*INVISIBLE THINGS XV, 2019*  
OIL ON CANVAS  
41.5 x 61.2 cm  
AC49204  
R9 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*NEWLANDS IX*, 2018  
OIL ON CANVAS  
122 x 91 cm  
AC48774  
R24 000,00



**JORDAN SWEKE (1991)**  
*NEWLANDS VII*, 2018  
WOODCUT PRINT ON FABRIANO ROSAPINA  
ED. OF 5  
84 x 59,4 cm  
AC49207  
R14 000,00  
FRAMED