

## ***Mesh***, part of the group exhibition ***Uncanny stories***

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### **BIOGRAPHY Gwenneth Miller**

Miller was appointed as art lecturer at Unisa in 1997. During the early lecturing years she initiated several local and African collaborative projects, such as the large scale projections for the play, “Die Verraaiers” performed at the Aula, and the multimedia project “the Journey to Freedom Narratives”, performed at ZK Matthews. This project travelled to several museums in USA and empowered multiple rural communities, students and alumni.

Working primarily in inks or oil paint, Miller also experimented with digital processes and has since completed her Doctorate (2015) in practice-led research on intermediality. Her art often explores the reciprocity between people, and objects of mediation. She has been the recipient of various awards: Gregoire Boonzaier Prize for Painting as student (1983 & 1984), FNB Gold Award: the collaborative project *the Journey to Freedom narratives* (2004), UNISA Woman of the Year Nominee: for leadership and mentorship roles in relation to Women-in-the-Workplace (2007), a UNISA Women-in-research Award (2012) and the meritorious Robin Aldwinckle bursary.

Miller participated in over 170 exhibitions and projects and her works are represented in private and public collections such as Absa, Telkom, Centurion City Council, UNISA, SAHMS, SASOL, NWU, the Art Bank and Pretoria Art Museum.

The current “Uncanny stories” is her tenth curatorial project.

### **Artist’s statement: “Mesh”**

Intrigued by Merlin Sheldrake’s sensuous descriptions of a hidden world where living matter becomes transformed by a species neither animal nor plant, the artist consider fungi and mycelia to be a metaphor for striving to connect to the inaudible, the in-between, the rich alchemy of chemical flow. Digital works and ink drawings in this series explore mushrooms, but more specifically, pensively explore a sense of their hidden life. Whilst the works look at the fruiting body of fungi, the tone and layering explore mechanisms that hint at the body of the mycelial layers that form part of a world that we, for the most, do not see and know little about. The mycelial mesh is a massive entangled world beneath us, surrounding us - some even living within us. On a personal level the works are about thinking how life continues beyond trauma and how the complex biology of our own emotional being are as hidden as fungi’s energy. The tracing of lines of gills and their twists and spills, echoes the folds of our synapses where memory is buried in our cells.

Link: <https://www.gwennethmiller.com>

**Works.** Name, (date) *Title*. Medium, Format mm.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 1*.

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 280mm x 350mm (Framed in oak: 335mm x 410mm/  
Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 2*.

Canon Lucia Ex on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 280mm x 350mm (Framed in oak: 335mm x 410mm/  
Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 3*.

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 280mm x 350mm (Framed in oak: 335mm x 410mm/  
Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 4*.

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 280mm x 350mm/ 350mm x 450mm (Framed in oak:  
335mm x 410mm/ Framed in oak: 410mm x 512mm) Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 5* .

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 280mm x 350mm/ 350mm x 450mm (Framed in oak:  
335mm x 410mm/ Framed in oak: 410mm x 512mm). Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 6*.

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 280mm x 350mm/ 350mm x 450mm (Framed in oak:  
335mm x 410mm/ Framed in oak: 410mm x 512mm) Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Series nr 7*.

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Rice Paper. 360mm x 360mm (Framed in oak: 470mm x 465mm)  
Available in a series of 5.

Gwenneth Miller (2021) *Mycelium Sound*.

Indian and acrylic inks on Trace paper and butcher paper. 570 mm x 610mm (Framed in light oak: 618mm  
x 675mm)

Gwenneth Miller (2021). *Listening to silence*

Canon Lucia Ex inks on Hahnemühle Paper. Unframed: 570 mm x 610mm.

Gwenneth Miller (2021). *Spores and breath*

Oil on canvas. Unframed: 455 mm x 605mm

Gwenneth Miller (2021). *Metabolic alchemy*

Oil on canvas. Unframed: 455mm x 605mm

Gwenneth Miller (2021). *Underbelly*.

Oil on canvas. Unframed: 305mm x 400mm.

Gwenneth Miller (2021). *Life is at the root tips*.

Ink and watercolour on layered paper. 570mm x 760mm (framed in Oak: 670 mm x 865 mm)