

| Gildo Soares

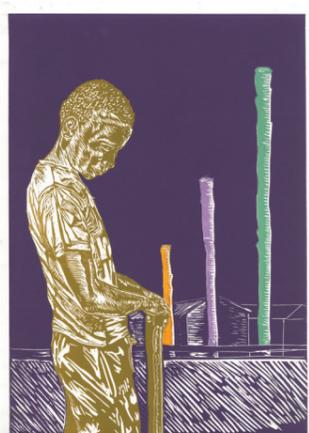
Gildo was born in Mozambique in 1992. He moved to Johannesburg and attended Little Artist, a visual art school in Hillbrow. Next, Gildo enrolled at Artist Proof Studio, where he graduated as a professional print maker in 2017. He started in 2018 as an intern in the Education Unit.

To celebrate Hollard's 40th anniversary, he placed different pieces together, representing what our company has already done and what is still to come. In his artwork, *Smile and Strength*, Gildo portrayed an underground city, being pulled to the earth's surface by a young man. The rope represents Hollard's impact on today and many generations to come.

He was excited to work with a company that embraces art in everything that we do. It excites Gildo to have an opportunity for translate his own vision as an artist. Just the opportunity as an emerging artist to share a message on behalf of the continent is a special honour.

Gildo says, "I can't say enough about Artist Proof Studio! They've done so much for me, as an artist and as a person. They helped me secure much-needed income, with help finding a job at Phumani Paper at the University of Johannesburg. After enrolling, I was given the chance to study the full 3 years on a bursary, with support for transport and living expenses. My work has been featured in various ways, including Joburg and Cape Town and Turbine Art Fairs, and this opportunity to work with Hollard. I am blessed to have them at my side."

He considers Artist Proof Studio to be the "mother" of his career as an emerging artist, feeling blessed to have them at his side.



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Smile and Strength (2019)
Linocut - 42x29.5cm



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