

### **Metaphysical positions: *metaphysics, feminism and positionality***

Using bitumen paint as medium and metaphor, I have developed strategies in which I use figurative and historical gestures to reconfigure possibilities for fluid female identity, and selfhood.

Using metaphysics to examine how subjects might be repositioned through empathy and gesture, and scored by relationality into uniqueness, I hope to use the

'specificities of being female without reifying feminine experience or female lifestyles into a monolithic unity' from **Phenomenal woman: feminist metaphysics and the patterns of identity** by Christine Battersby.



*What is our place in the world?* bitumen paint and oil on canvas, 40x 40cm

Metaphysics is a branch of philosophy that deals with abstract concepts of being, knowing, identity, time and space. It is about the fundamental nature of reality. Feminist metaphysics is a much contested arena, which explores the cultural constructions of gender and selfhood.

These paintings start with the premise that gesture, and movement of the body create empathy, and a sense of bodily engagement which can explore different modes of being. If visual and aesthetics presentations can encapsulate ideas, and emotively present alternative realities for fluidity, this can change our sense of self and our relation to others and the world.