

**Rafael Lanfranco**

b. 1976, Peru



**Yute in Retro Mechanical Legs**

Resin, Leather and metal Structure

H 51 x 20 x 27 cm

Unique Piece

The series, 'Yute and Tocuyo's Imaginarium', are of 2 small robots that are manufacturers of retro-futuristic machines, living in a cyberpunk world.

Inspired by 'The Ekeke', a traditional character from Peruvian folklore, the Lanfranco created steampunk versions of it into these 2 characters. Yute, the brains behind these mechanical inventions and Tocuyo, the brawns of the operation. The series sees the duo start a voyage of self-discovery building the most fantastic machines while on an existential search to find their creator.

Lanfranco's work revolves around the creation of characters that express psychological, mythological and archetypal emblematic narratives of his time, as well as his psychological processes. Thus, in the case of "Yute and Tocuyo's Imaginarium", the story is a metaphor of the long odyssey undertaken by the artist to find a sort of place in the world. His characters constantly ask themselves, "Why am I here?" "What is my purpose?" "What should I do?". Motivating its viewers to question their journey in life, their past, family influences, childhood and teenage experiences, their idea of the future; all of which the viewer has to put to test in their world, to reconstruct and readjust accordingly their actions which give sense and orientation to their lives.