

Helen Norton Exhibition New Collectables Gallery October 25 1995

Once upon a time there was a man.....

I have been working on a series of paintings that refer to the frustrations and dilemmas we face as a creative and complex species on a contemporary world scale. The difficulties we are having as we discover that we are not infallible or totally in control of our future on the earth because of our supposed intellectual superiority over other life forces and species. And the insult and disempowerment we face as we see our leaders in whatever form they take, whether it be religious or political, abuse and manipulate our vulnerability and continue to disempower us as individuals. All our guidelines for being good little human beans are outdated and inappropriate in the NEW WORLD as the backyard fences are kicked down between all our former cultural boundaries. We all carry our multi-cultural baggage around and use the "nice arty farty" stuff and traditions as a pretty face and politically correct shop front for the "nasties" and intollerances that unfortunately come as part of the accessories of political and religious movements. It all started out basically with good intentions for humankind and his spirituality but the mortal intervention along the way by the power hungry fairy trussers and senile old men injected it all with little sadistic, manipulative fine print and clauses that has led to the flat feeling we have as we try to understand "righteousness" in our contracts and rules to follow as humans in a disintegrating society.

We've lost the plot!

Perhaps we need to look to our similarities rather than our differences as a species in our bid to survive the transition period while we "blend our bloods" to a lovely strong hybrid survivor.

How are we to keep faith? Is God a duck shooter after all ?

Helen Norton 1995

Artist Helen Norton has been based in Broome for the past 10 years holding regular exhibitions in Broome, Perth, Darwin and Sydney. She has developed her own distinctive style which ranges from figurative expressionism, to landscape. A distinctive quality in her work is the use of colour and haptic form to portray a wide range of subject matter. Generally there is a heavy emphasis on a narrative throughout her exhibitions.

She will also be exhibiting a continuation of her current theme in a series of work in Sydney in October 1995 at the Arthouse Gallery in Rushcutters Bay.