

REVOLUTION IS SLOW



"The Second Test"

by Helen Norton

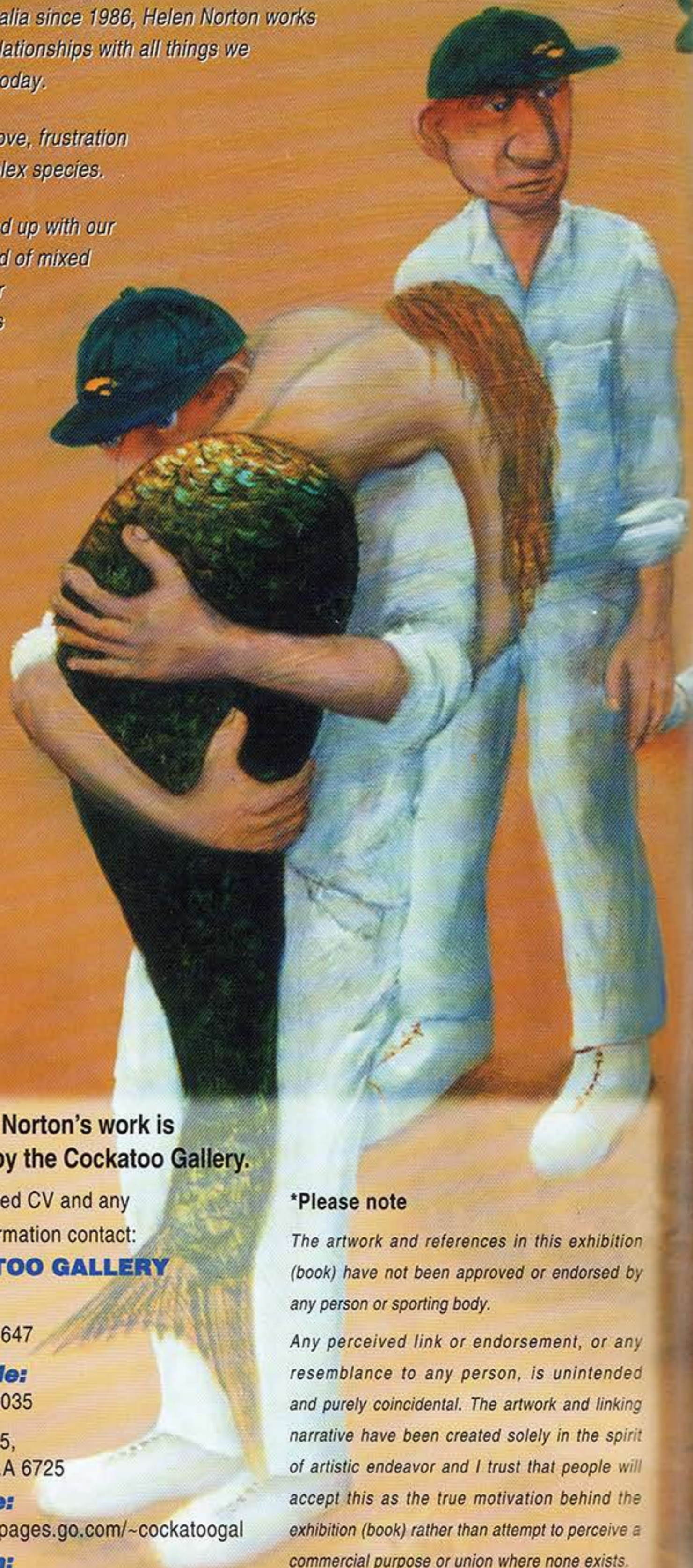
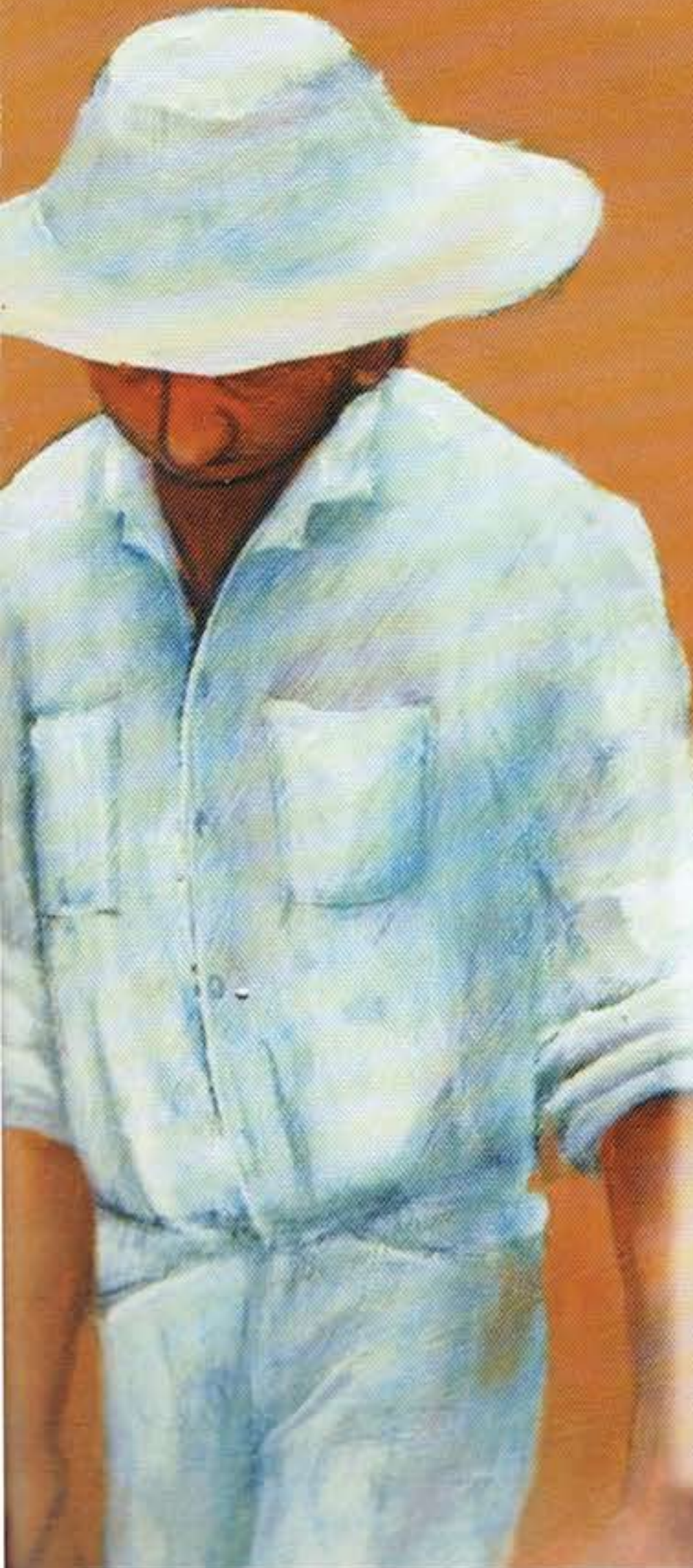
Helen Norton

Born in Melbourne in 1961, living in the North West of Australia since 1986, Helen Norton works with all mediums to express the human condition and the relationships with all things we encounter as we travel through complex times in the world today.

Norton addresses the issues of spiritual confusion, power, love, frustration and constant reassessment we face as a creative and complex species.

Our quest for power and our curiosity for science, gets mixed up with our ethereal demands, as we trip and stumble into the new world of mixed cultures and beliefs, sometimes refusing to really accept our mortality and our similarity to all men and women regardless of race. "We forget our compassion, which is a natural human asset, and ignore the fact that we are all in the same boat and trying to balance on the same ball."

Helen Norton has exhibited in over 50 exhibitions nationally and internationally. Her work is in corporate, private and public collections in Australia and overseas as well as being used in many publications.



All Helen Norton's work is handled by the Cockatoo Gallery.

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*Please note

The artwork and references in this exhibition (book) have not been approved or endorsed by any person or sporting body.

Any perceived link or endorsement, or any resemblance to any person, is unintended and purely coincidental. The artwork and linking narrative have been created solely in the spirit of artistic endeavor and I trust that people will accept this as the true motivation behind the exhibition (book) rather than attempt to perceive a commercial purpose or union where none exists.

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FORWARD

I have developed this catalogue as an extension to the paintings. It has always been more than a little frustrating being a narrative artist. I am also a person of my country, I suppose a reporter of the human condition, call it what you will:- nosey parker, opinionated person next door, social commentator, loud mouth, whatever you like. Labels are unimportant to me. At times I am glad of not interfering with the viewers of my pictures. And at times I wish I could explain so much more than the paint will give away. I often find myself telling the stories a thousand times by mouth long after the actual painting is done. My work generally has something to say It does not wish to sit in a corner behaving itself and fitting in with the curtains. I gave up trying to be a nice normal artist years ago. It is not me. If that was what art held for me I would not pursue it other than to enamel my fridge in bright blue and slap some yellow daisies upon it to hide the kids texta masterpieces. (Excuse my future references to "discipline"). Creativity cuts loose occasionally.

I am not going to claim to be an intellectual or artistic virtuoso. I will not compete with the world of what is classed as good art or good literature. The pursuit of the craft is not what primarily interests me. The "craft" of painting and writing are just my tools of expression.

MOTIVE

We need to see the patterns of discontent in our world as coming from only a single source.

"Our inability and fear of facing cold hard truth's about our own behaviour."

To stop squabbling in the gutter about each little issue that annoys us in our society.

To stop passing the buck. To see the connection of all of our discontents and the inter-relationship to a source. We have constructed our world. It is ours to change. To face the truth about ourselves.

We are insecure!

Fear and insecurity has led us into the creation of "BIG SYSTEMS" to protect us.

I criticise the system intensely yet I will take responsibility for being a part of it, and here I suggest we all do. So that we can then begin to restructure it. Those areas and players in the System that I may fire shots at within, need to take responsibility for their part in maintaining the anger and fear of the people. This is a report from the attitude of many people. These people do not have a voice. They have a right to...