

PRESS RELEASE

THE ANGEL AND THE SNAKE

HELEN NORTON – 2002

Helen enjoys her position as an artist and visual story-maker and the rewards she gets out of seeing people empowered to take control of their lives. Turning modest lives into big lives full of meaning, joy and the celebration of usefulness.

As a generalist, optimist and idealistic person Helen Norton has faith in the individuals of the world doing their little bit towards growing up as a “world together”. She believes that each individual committing seemingly small acts of worldly good in our own backyards amongst the local neighbourhood and families, will be responsible for “saving the world” from itself and its journey of self destruction, thus debunking the helpless cop-out attitude of waiting for a saviour to fix it all up for us.

Whilst emphasizing a sort of visual psychology, Norton uses the pictorial as a story-telling device to hopefully more firmly implant the messages into our minds, sewing beautiful colourful threads of imagery into as many households as possible.

Whether it is a light and humorous beach scene of a man receiving an insight, or a deeply serious meaningful work exploring the Pierrot-like tragedy of human condition. Norton often studies our ironic and amusing placement in the paradoxical web of logic and emotion that we struggle with on a daily basis.

Norton believes in the creative visual image as a tool to remove you from a train of destructive or negative thought by re-inventing your reality for a moment, sometimes just long enough to give you a solution. We all understand the modern day problem of “brain gridlock” all too well.

In her exhibitions Helen Norton addresses the issues of spiritual confusion, power, love, frustration and the constant re-assessment we face as a creative and complex species.

Released by Annette Allison – Tel: 0408 051 597

Email: annette@net2000.com.au

Helen Norton is an extraordinary person. Her talent as an artist has taken her on many adventures. From operating an earth moving business in Broome, Western Australia, to luxuriating aboard the QE 11 as she sailed across the oceans of the world, to working as a cook on the Nullarbor Plain or professionally shark fishing off the coast of Ceduna, Helen Norton is always on the move, and now shares life with her two sons, painting full-time on a pacific island paradise.

From her studio on the island of Efate in Vanuatu, Helen now creates powerful images reflecting today’s attitudes and her visions for a perfect world.

On October 15, Kelly Toepfer Art in conjunction with Barry Stern Gallery will present Helen’s latest exhibition *The Angel & The Snake*.

This is an exhibition that is confronting, inspiring, thoughtful and thought provoking, decorative, exciting and inquisitive, and will attract a wide range of art enthusiasts. Helen Norton’s last Sydney exhibition in 2000 was a sell out.

Over 40 paintings will be exhibited and each has a story of its own. Helen Norton is an excellent storyteller, whether through her art, her poetry, or the articles and books she writes about her unique approach to the life we all lead.

Where: Barry Stern Gallery, 19 Glenmore Road Paddington NSW

When: Opening October 15 – continuing until October 24