

Jo Lamb – Project Gallery Arundel

ABRIDGED CV

Training: Byam Shaw London, Camberwell College(London University) Goldsmiths College(London University).

Exhibitions include: Whitechapel Art Gallery, London; Watatu Gallery, Nairobi; Brighton Museum; Easton Rooms, Rye; Courcoux & Courrcoux, Stockbridge; Zimmer Stewart, Arundel; Star Gallery + St. Anne’s Gallery, Lewes; Numerous London Art Fairs. Currently developing work for potential shows in London and New York.

Work in Public Collections: Worldwide Fund for Nature; United Nations Environment Programme; Television Trust for the Environment; Eastbourne, Worthing and Southlands Hospital Trusts.

Collectors include: The Craver Foundation; Greta Scacchi; The Karlsen Foundation; Dr Derek Blinco; Dr Edwards; Liz Gordon from the Aquarium; Edward Mawby of Bliss and Company; many buyers through St. Anne’s Gallery both here and overseas.

Design clients include: WWF; Wildscreen Natural History Film Festival, Bristol; Oxford University Press; BBC Worldwide; Greenpeace; East Sussex Farmers’ Market; The Art Group, London; United Nations Environment Programme.

Design label: The Feral Housewife - several collections of greeting cards distributed in shops and galleries in the South East.

STATEMENT

Like a bird in a cage or a prisoner in a cell, Lamb’s work has a wild inner life imperfectly masked by a seemingly restrained exterior. Her paintings tell stories that shift between boundaries: nostalgia that reveals wistfulness; light humour that exposes dark irony; and a childlike, even outsider style that hides a formally trained and deeply considered approach to form, colour and subject matter.

I feel that each painting I make is a small part of me. Everybody has a tidy, self-conscious and well-maintained outer appearance – the best and safest part of us we hope others see from afar. But far more interesting, of course, is our messy insides – the part that sometimes not even our closest friends and family can truly access. Of course we don’t really want to spill that inner gore out on the floor, but I hope my art – seemingly pretty on the outside but with an accessible inner core – gets close to revealing that need for both control and release we all sometimes feel.

My upcoming show for Project Gallery, exhibiting jointly with the hugely talented Chris Milton, examines myths and fairytales. Whilst not a new theme, it remains a fertile ground for art precisely because it asks questions about human desires and needs of both the audience and the artist. Showing work in conjunction with Chris gives me a welcome opportunity to show a bit more of my inner wildness than usual.