

DEFINE

HELEN GORY



BACKWOODS GALLERY

DEFINE

HELEN GORY

29.07.22 ~ 14.08.22



BACKWOODS GALLERY





‘These distortions and missing bits and pieces, floating in mid air,
are expressions of seeing beauty in who we are, as we are.
Finding the connections are our strengths.’

(Helen Gory)





HELEN GORY

DEFINE

29.07.22 ~ 14.08.22

Tracing the limits of what remains within and what must stay outside, Gory's latest solo exhibition at Collingwood's Backwoods Gallery brings together a series of large-scale works interweaving drawing, oil painting and collage. Define continues the artist's ongoing exploration of the disconnectedness that permeates contemporary human relationships.

Pared back, the exhibition contains only six works- The Vessel, Peek A Boo, Grasp, To Lend a Hand, To Have and To Hold and Tear Drops of Blood - which have been refined and defined allegorically and metaphorically. Each artwork title is a clue to a story which, says Gory, 'is relevant if the viewer wants it to be.' In this way, the works unfold to multiple interpretations, allowing Gory to create a dialogue with her viewers.

With historical references to Dadaism and Symbolism, the use of vintage imagery and black ink creates a visceral aesthetic. Thick gold pigment abounds, a colour symbolic of both tragedy and hope. Each of the works depict limits that have been breached, misunderstandings and misinterpretations. A human clinging to his last vestiges of dignity by smoking a cigarette while the golden hand of hope looms large like a carrot and stick. Society isn't there when you need it most. A vessel holding flowers is broken, scratched, scarred.

Define is an exhibition that embraces ambiguity and contradiction. It is richly layered, and rich with meaning.

BACKWOODS GALLERY

THE VESSEL

2022

OIL ON CANVAS

102 x 128 cm



TEARDROPS

2022

OIL, CHARCOAL
AND GRAPHITE
ON COTTON RAG PAPER

138 x 96 cm



PEEK A BOO

2022

GOLD OIL PIGMENT
AND GICLEE PRINT COLLAGE
ON COTTON RAG PAPER

138 x 96 CM



TO HAVE AND TO HOLD

2022

GOLD OIL PIGMENT
AND GICLEE PRINT COLLAGE
ON COTTON RAG PAPER

138 x 96 cm



GRASP

2022

GOLD OIL PIGMENT
AND GICLEE PRINT COLLAGE
ON COTTON RAG PAPER

138 x 96 cm



TO LEND A HAND

2022

GOLD OIL PIGMENT, INDIAN INK
AND GICLEE PRINT COLLAGE
ON COTTON RAG PAPER

138 x 96 cm





CERAMICS



NAVIRE

2022

BISQUE FIRED RAKU CLAY
WITH CHARCOAL UNDERGLAZE

38 x 22 x 23 cm





PLANTER #01

2022

BISQUE FIRED RAKU CLAY
WITH WHITE PIGMENT UNDERGLAZE

42 x 12 x 13 CM





PLANTER #02

2022

BISQUE FIRED RAKU CLAY
WITH WHITE PIGMENT UNDERGLAZE

42 x 12 x 13 CM





ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

HELEN GORY

www.helengoryart.com
[@helengoryart](#)



HELEN GORY

b. 1955, (Melbourne, Australia)

Helen Gory is a Naarm/Melbourne-based artist working across various mediums including collage, painting, and charcoal drawing. She has had solo exhibitions in Melbourne and New York and was the founder and owner of the renowned Helen Gory Galerie, where she championed some of Australia's brightest new talent.

Drawing on a lifetime's study of the Dada and Surrealist movements of the early twentieth century, Gory's main medium is collage. Through her practice she explores themes of disconnectedness in human relationships, memory and repetition, as well as an ongoing fascination with the interior worlds of women. Each of her works stand alone as evocative, almost-filmic episodes as well as being part of broader narratives, at once deeply personal and universal.

Alongside her solo practice, Gory works on various cross-disciplinary collaborations with musicians, filmmakers, and poets. Gory is represented by Backwoods Gallery in Melbourne.





HELEN GORY

b. 1955, (Melbourne, Australia)

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Stepping Stones, Backwoods Gallery Melbourne
- 2019 Walking North Out of The Shadow, Printmaker Gallery, Melbourne
- 2019 In my Room, Backwoods Gallery, Melbourne
- 2017 Golden Repair, Chapman and Bailey Gallery, Melbourne
- 2014 Helen Gory Collage, Greenwich Village, New York City
- 2014 Through These Paper Walls, JCP Studios, Melbourne

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 Cut Paste Create, Walker Street Gallery, Melbourne

MEDIA

- 2018 'In My Room', The Finkelstein Files
- 2017 'Golden Repair', The Finkelstein Files
- 2016 'Australian Homes: Helen Gory', The Design File
Glue, documentary by Valentin Mayer-Eichberger
- 2014 'Profile: Helen Gory', Artists Profile Magazine: Issue 26
'The Guts and The Gory', The Finkelstein Files
'Through These Paper Walls', Art Almanac
- 2013 "A Weekend with Helen Gory", Inside Out Magazine '
- 2004 The Gory Brand', Art Collector Magazine

COLLECTIONS

Private Collections Australia and Internationally



BACKWOODS GALLERY

25 Easey Street Collingwood
Victoria Australia

info@backwoods.gallery
+61 3 9041 3606

<http://backwoods.gallery>

Published: 2022 Backwoods Gallery PTY LTD

Artist & Studio Photography : David MacArthur - Parallax Photography

Design, Portrait (p. 21) & Artwork Photography : Byron Bowman Kehoe

Copyright © Backwoods Gallery 2022 All Rights Reserved for Australia and the world

Published 2022

All rights reserved. Except under the conditions described in the Copyright Act 1968 of Australia, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise), without the prior written permission of Backwoods Gallery.



@BACKWOODS.GALLERY

