



William Brown 1953-2008

A collection of unseen drawings & works on paper

17 April – 31 May 2014

Supported by paintings & silkscreen, lino & wood cuts

Drawing for William Brown was an integral part of his daily practice. In fact, he felt it to be an essential part of an artist's life. He called it his thinking process.

William documented what most people ignore or fail to notice. He looked at the world around him like an explorer and an ethnographer. He was a storyteller who created a world of magic, drawing on and transforming everyday objects and experiences. He did this by attaching a story or creating a fictitious history to them. His cast of players who regularly performed in his different works were - bear, puffin, beaver, moose, were-wolf (the French Loup Garou), horse (Trojan Horse and the Mari Lwyd, a man dressed in a white sheet festooned with bells and ribbons and wearing a horse's skull). He drew from folk-lore, mythology and legends and the locations and settings were the places he visited - North Africa, Libya, the Barbary Coast, Northern Canada and the hills of Glamorgan, Wales.

William's drawing tools were whatever was at hand e.g. graphite stick, charcoal, a child's thick Woody coloured pencil or a dipping pen and ink. He worked on discarded papers, card, fine Ingres and Fabriano watercolour paper. His paintings, whether very large or small, were full of glorious vibrant colour. His work was eloquent and playful, child like and feisty.

"Drawn with the vigour and dash of a Picasso and painted in colours to make Matisse pale, the visual onslaught of his imagery was unstoppable."

Laura Gascoigne, art critic, *From Under The Bed* 2009, The Art Shop.

"William Brown triumphantly achieved Picasso's ambition of drawing like a child." Laura Gascoigne, *The Independent* July 2008.

William Brown was born in 1953 in Toronto, Canada and died in Glamorgan, South Wales in 2008.



Untitled charcoal on paper



Untitled mixed media on paper



Untitled mixed media on paper

THE ART SHOP

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