



Victims of circumstance, victims of ourselves
by Deborah Groome Toland

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of MASTER OF FINE
ARTS

Montana State University

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Abstract:

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VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANCE, VICTIMS OF OURSELVES

by

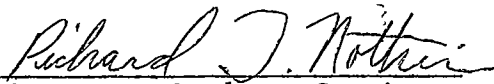
Deborah Groome Toland


A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree


of

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Approved:


Chairperson, Graduate Committee


Head, Major Department


Graduate Dean

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Bozeman, Montana.

June, 1981

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

My art is about the human condition and my view of human experiences. We are victims of life, it often seems, either through circumstances or by illusions created in our minds. Caught in predicaments, our humanness surfaces, and it is this struggle that is the primary concern of my work.

I am trying to represent a feeling or psychological state; the situation and figures in my work are often used as metaphors. The drama becomes a symbolic representation of an emotion or inner condition. There is an exaggerated sense of drama or melodrama throughout the work, which increases the potency of the scene and promotes self-consciousness in the viewer. In creating scenes where the figures look out at the viewer, it is my intent that the viewer becomes aware of his own observation. Many scenes depict fragments of an implied narrative creating a mystery open to the viewer's interpretation. The use of light and shadow support the melodrama and increase the level of fantasy and mystery. Each isolated scene, beyond describing a condition, asks the viewer for his involvement in the drama, while making him self-conscious in the process. My work is often satirical. This satire co-exists with an empathy for the situations created.

Applying one form of reality to another creates new contexts along with different psychological interpretations. It is through varied

associations that a new psychological response is drawn from the viewer.

Some ideas are derived from the clay itself. It is a plastic media which has sensuality and influences the ideas as well as the forms.

Clay lends itself readily to textures and the appearance of other materials.

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SLIDES

<u>Title</u>	<u>Size</u>
#1 Meltdown	12" x 20" x 3"
#2 Reveal Conceal	27" x 14" x 2"
#3 Cafeteria on the Island	15" x 11"
#4 From Viet Nam to Baltimore	18" x 18"
#5 Inside-Out	24" x 12" x 10½"
#6 Bon Nuit Paris	25" x 27" x 10½"
#7 My Mother thanks you, My Father thanks you, My Sister thanks you and I thank you	18" x 16" x 26"
#8 The Interegation	20" x 14"
#9 The Visit	18" x 16"
#10 12 Sketches from Notebook	8" x 10"

4

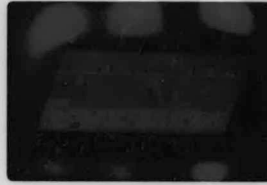
18" x 18"



Deborah Toland

3 MADE IN U.S.A.

Cafeteria on the Island



15" x 11"

Deborah Toland

2

27" x 14" x 2"



Deborah Toland

5

24" x 12" x 10 1/2"



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6

25" x 27" x 10 1/2"



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7

18" x 16" x 26"



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8

20" x 14"



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9

18" x 16"



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10

8" x 10"



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1

12" x 30" x 3"



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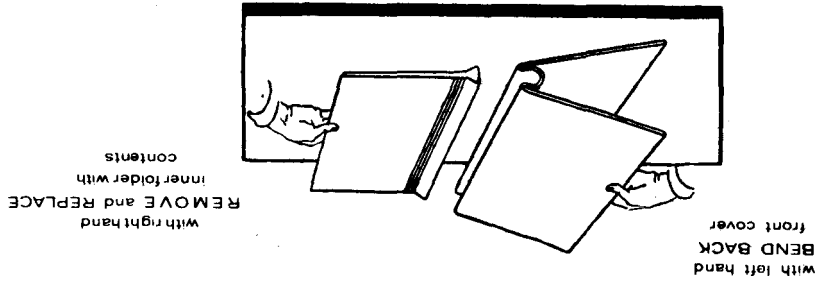








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