

# Helen Werner Cox

## The Tea Party

A collaboration between artist and model leads to the unexpected. The impetus for this painting was my long friendship with Darwin, who initially worked with me in the garden. We discovered other shared interests, including a joy in the theatrical and an attraction to the macabre.

Darwin loves to dress up and host tea parties with his like-minded friends, which inspired the subject of this painting. The outfit is his; one he wears often. Humpty Dumpty is constructed from paper maché and alludes both to the current political situation and a past Halloween Wonderland the two of us created. The tea set, cups, and table belonged to my grandmother and date back to the early 1900's, the era Darwin has a deep affinity for.

Of several poses we tried, this was most dynamic. The viewer is absorbed in the action through the triangle formed by eye contact—as the viewer looks at Darwin, he contemplates Humpty, who stares back at the viewer. But! I was not even aware of this until Darwin pointed it out. It is the surprise element which evolved from the artist-model interaction.

## Some Biographical Information:

<b>Education</b>	2013-2016	California State University, Long Beach, MFA
	1986-1988	Lesley College, Cambridge, M.Ed.
	1973-1979	Boston University School of Fine Arts, BFA (Magna Cum Laude)

## Recent Exhibits

2020	Briggs Art Gallery, Long Beach, CA. <i>Living Things</i> .
2019	Irvine Fine Arts Center, Irvine, CA. <i>All Media 2019</i> .
2019	Long Beach Island Foundation of the Arts and Sciences, NJ. <i>Works on Paper</i> .
2019	Barrett Art Center, Poughkeepsie, NY. <i>Gender in the Balance</i> .
2019	Pasadena Museum of History, Pasadena, CA.
2019	Dab Art, Ventura, CA. <i>Online Exhibition</i> .
2019	Merry Go Round Museum, Sandusky, OH. 2017 – on-going.

<b>Collections</b>	2017	Merry Go Round Museum, Sandusky, OH
	2016	Running Horse Studio Collection, Irwindale, CA
	2016, 2015	Bradbury Art Museum, AR

## Awards

2017	<i>Dr. Jason Penry Sponsorship, Delta National Small Prints Exhibition, Bradbury Art Museum</i>
2016	<i>First Place, Made in California Juried Exhibition, City of Brea Art Gallery</i>
2016	<i>Donor's Choice Honorable Mention, Ink &amp; Clay; Kellogg Art Gallery</i>
2016	<i>Windes Corporate Gallery Award, Long Beach, CA</i>
2016	<i>Les Christensen Purchase Award, Delta National Small Prints Exhibition, Bradbury Art Museum</i>
2015	<i>President's Purchase Award, Delta National Small Prints Exhibition, Bradbury Art Museum</i>
2011	<i>Silver in the Round: International Woodcarver of the Year, Sussex, England</i>