

# GEORGE AND JØRGEN

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## **Helen Lee**

2<sup>nd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July 2011, Private View: Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July

George and Jørgen are pleased to present a solo exhibition of artist Helen Lee. Divided into landscapes and portraits, the autobiographical paintings have been selected from the past ten years and depict episodes from her life.

Helen Lee embraces the language of skewed perspective, wobbly lines and childlike characters normally associated with ‘outsider’ or ‘naive’ art; which totally contradicts the level of technical sophistication in the work. Helen’s high awareness of and confidence in the materials are hidden beneath gutsy and emotive subjects: “Helen Lee is a resourceful painter whose work hovers close to caricature but has a weight and presence that the term might not fully convey” Mel Gooding, Arts Review.

Looking at Helen’s portraiture is like peeking through a dirty window into a space alive with action and mayhem. At once familiar yet utterly unknown like newly woken-from dreams, the works are layered beneath a fog which evokes a strong sense of intrigue and uneasy danger.

The landscapes have a haunting, spooky ambience too but are rooted in a reality: they are a response to her travels across the world. Helen manages to describe the actual physicality of the place: the heat, light and space with atmospheric abstraction.

Helen Lee left the Royal College of Art in 1978; prizes include a John Moores Painting Prize, Royal Scottish Academy Student Award, Adam Bruce Thompson Award, Anne Redpath Award, Latimer Award, Sports Council Prize and the Alexander Flynn Bequest.

For more information and images please contact:

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