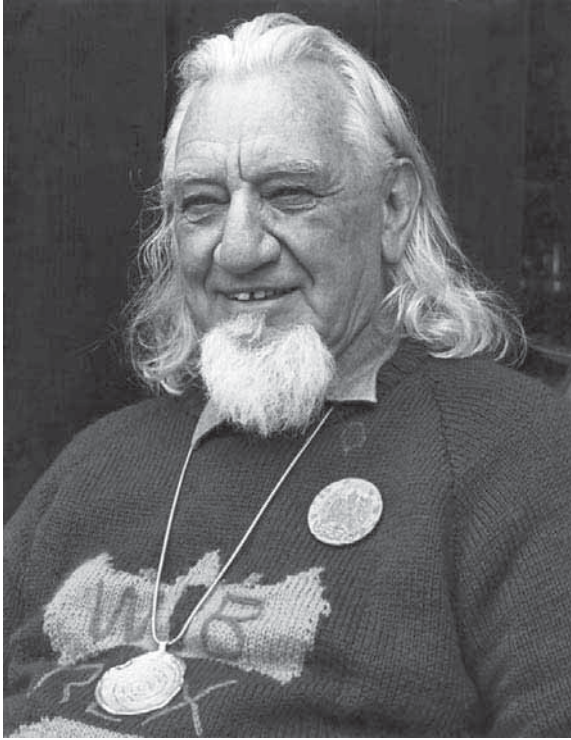


# Walter Battiss



The Walter Battiss signature is a Registered Trademark.



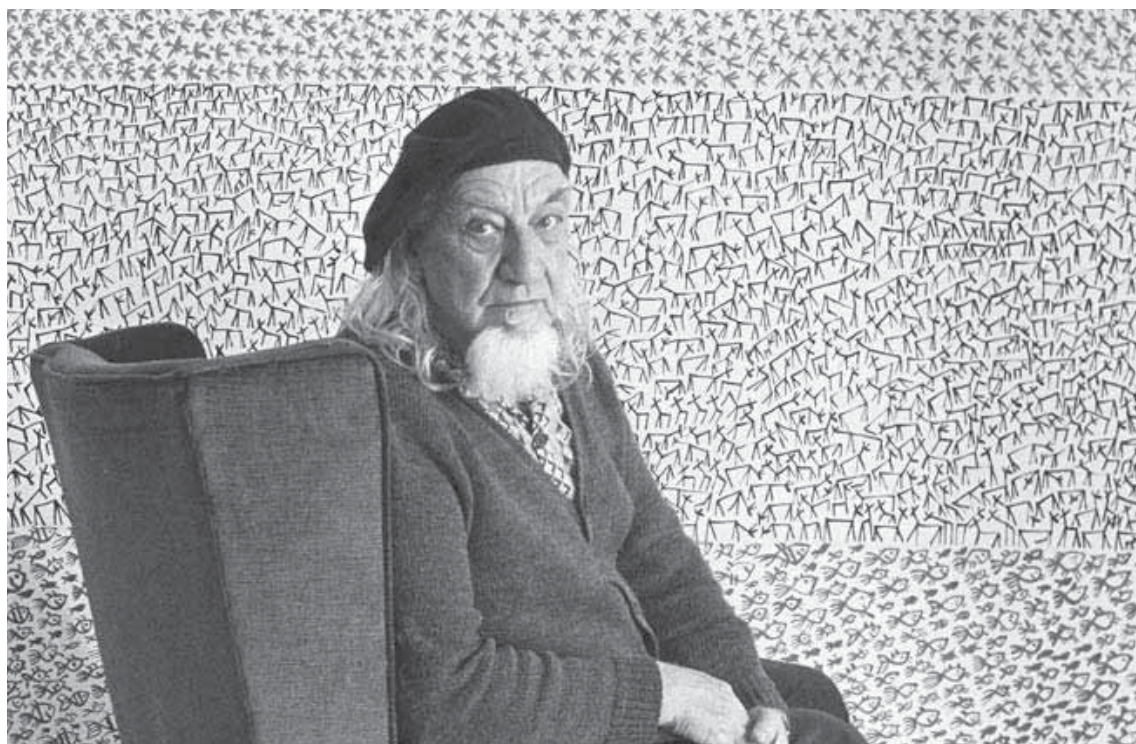
*"Life is sculptured time  
By living we make shapes in time...."*

## WALTER BATTISS

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"Some look upon my art as a fun thing, but the fun thing is only the surface of something much deeper....I found out that I cannot paint an agony picture....I am English, in a way, and so my emotions are deeper.... What will appear fun is pleasure: the pleasure of life. I think I'll leave it to the future-if they condemn me now for what seems to be fun or humour-I'll leave it to the future to discover that it's much more than that."

*Walter Battiss in front of his canvas depicting the sky, earth and the sea. This huge oil painting formed part of an exhibition held at the Hoffer Gallery, Pretoria, in 1978.*



## THE GENTLE ANARCHIST

Walter Battiss was born in Somerset East to an English Methodist family in 1906, and became one of South Africa's first and most important abstract painters. He first became interested in archaeology and primitive art as a young boy after moving to Koffiefontein in 1917, and drew and painted since childhood. In 1919 the Battiss family settled in Fauresmith where he completed his education, matriculating in 1923. In 1924 he became a clerk in the Magistrates Court in Rustenburg.

His formal art studies started in 1929 at the Wits Tech Art School (drawing and painting), followed by the Johannesburg Training College (a Teacher's Diploma) and etching lessons. Battiss continued his studies while working as a magistrate's clerk, and finally obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts at UNISA at the age of 35.

Battiss was a founding member of the New Group and was unique in that he had not studied overseas. In 1938 he visited Europe for the first time, and in

1939 he published his first book, 'The Amazing Bushman'. His interest in primitive rock art had a very profound impact on his ideas and he regarded San painting as an important art form. He was also influenced by Ndebele beadwork, pre-Islamic cultures and calligraphy.

He visited Greece in 1966-1968 and the Seychelles in 1972, which inspired his make-believe 'Fook Island', a dream world for which he created a map, imaginary people, plants and animals. He even created a history.

Battiss published nine books, wrote many articles and founded the periodical *De Arte*. He taught Pretoria Boys' High School students for 30 years at the Pretoria Art Centre, of which he was the principle from 1953 – 58.

He also taught at Unisa where he became Professor of Fine Art in 1964 and retired in 1971. Walter Battiss passed away in Port Shepstone, Natal in 1982.



WB\_04\_01 - People Admiring a Sculpture

## CERTIFIED REPRODUCTIONS

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WB\_05\_01 - Marabaraba



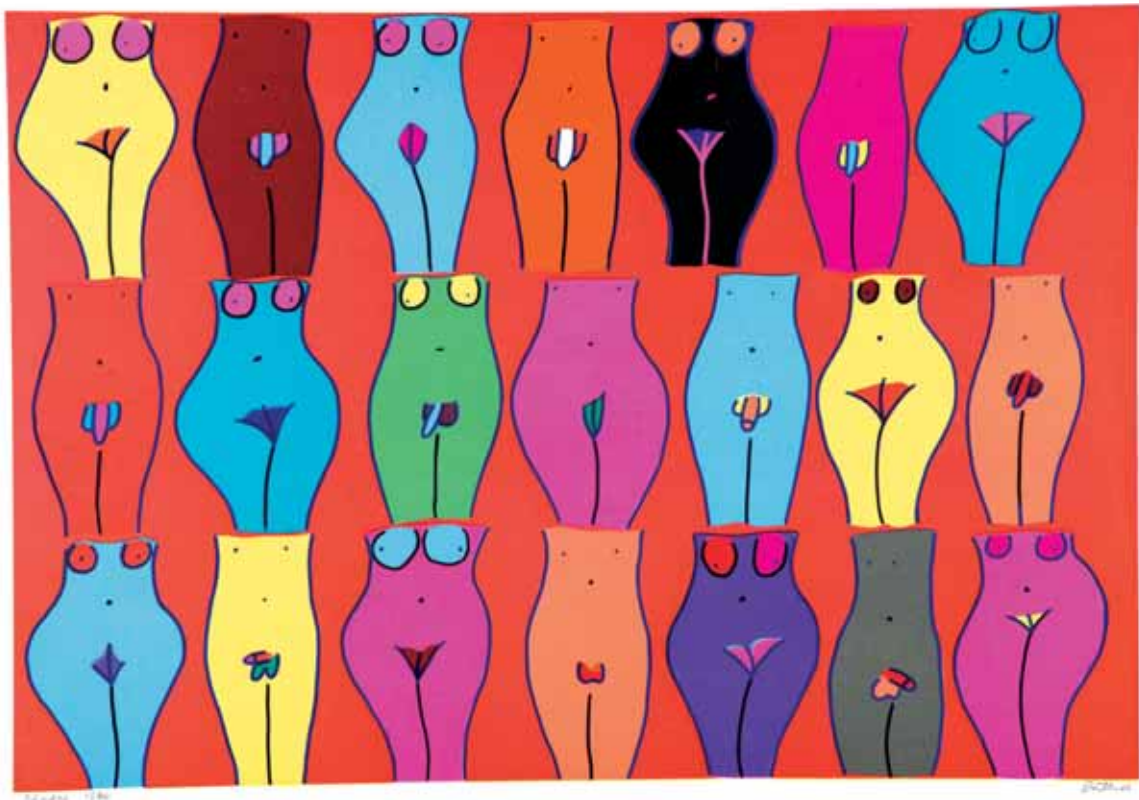
WB\_05\_02 - Neo-Marabaraba



WB\_05\_03 - Marabaraba 2



WB\_06\_01 - Females



WB\_06\_02 - Nudes





WB\_07\_01 - The Inventor - Walking feathers



WB\_07\_02 - Birds in a cage



WB\_08\_01 - Orgy 1



WB\_08\_02 - Orgy 2



WB\_08\_03 - Orgy 3





WB\_09\_01 - Orgy 4

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WB\_09\_02 - Orgy 5

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WB\_09\_03 - Orgy 6

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WB\_010\_01 - Bird on Foot



WB\_010\_02 - Two Heads



WB\_011\_01 - Double Blue Face



WB\_011\_02 - Moving Birds



WB\_011\_03 - Banana Boy

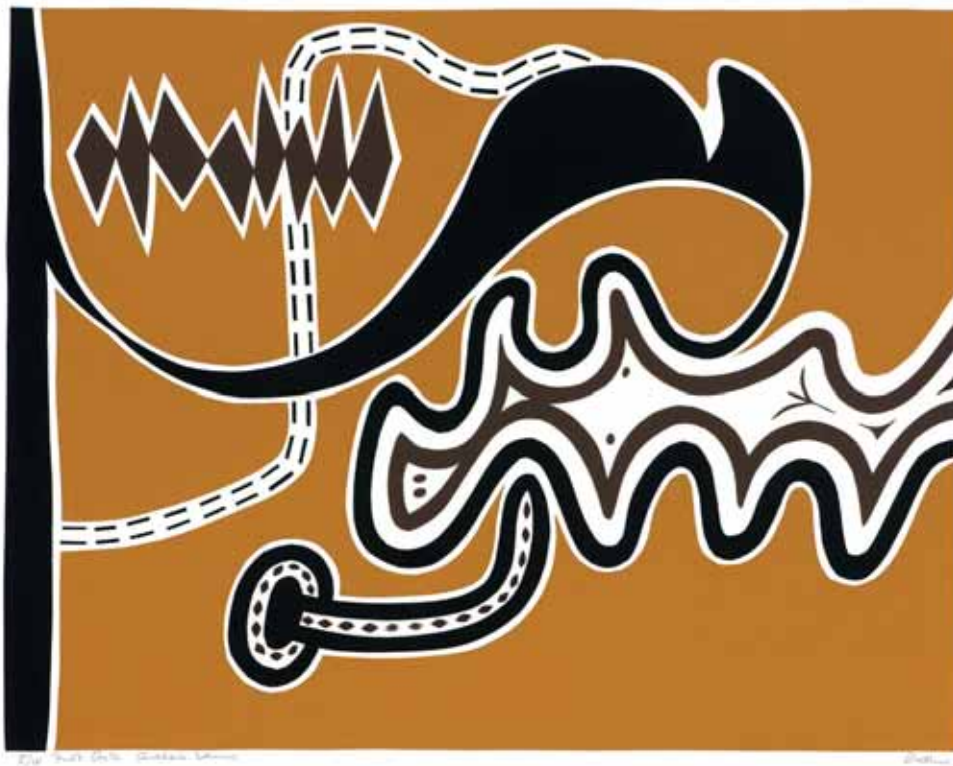


WB\_011\_04 - Sleeping Man





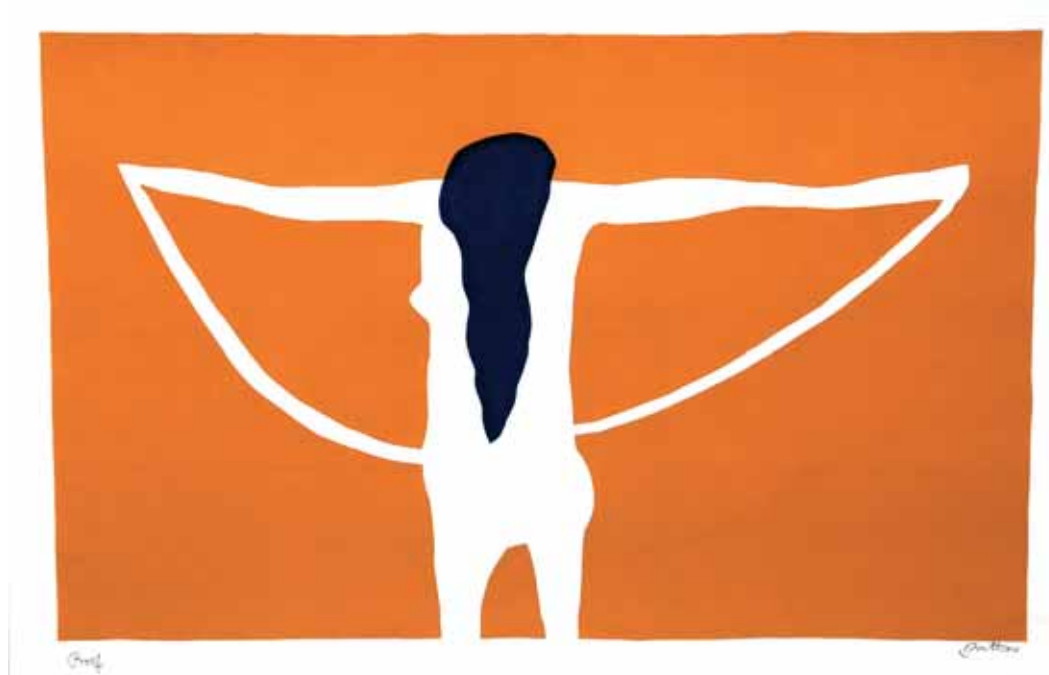
WB\_012\_01 - Mantis Dance



WB\_012\_02 - Kalahari



WB\_013\_01 - Man with Cat



WB\_013\_02 - Lady with Blue Hair







WB\_015\_01 - One Boy



WB\_015\_02 - Two Boys



WB\_015\_03 - Friends



WB\_015\_04 - Tree Bird Man



WB\_015\_05 - Boy Playing in Tree



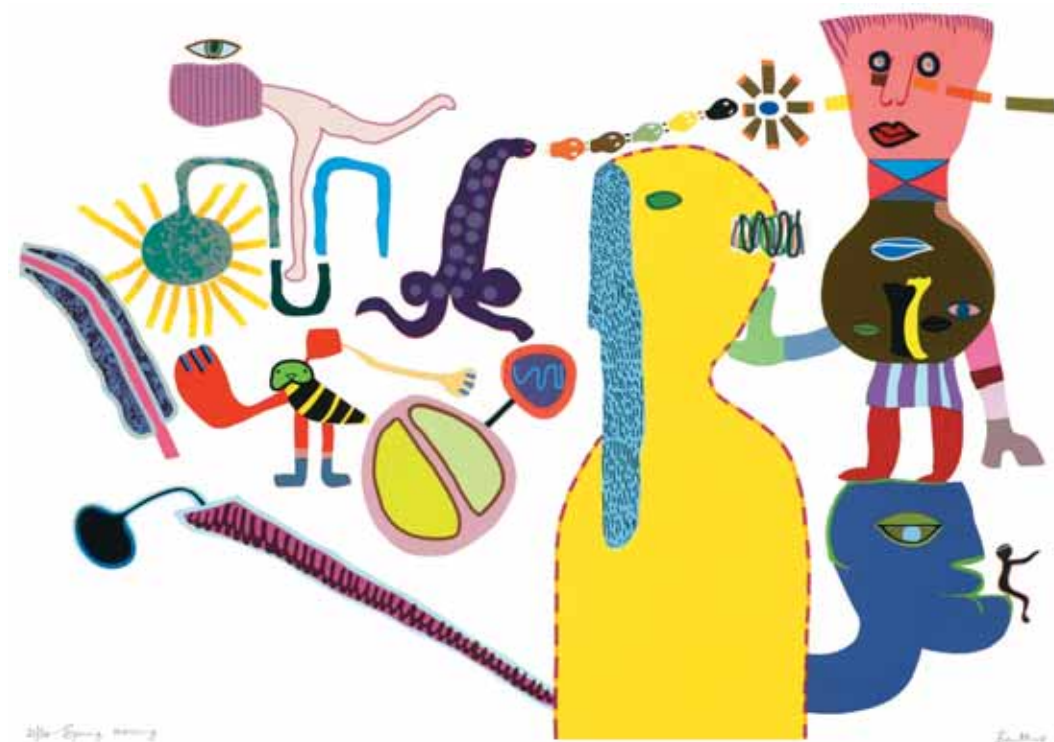
WB\_015\_06 - Five Boys in Tree and Three Rocks



WB\_016\_01 Impandula Bird



WB\_016\_02 - Career Bird



WB\_017\_01 - Spring Morning



WB\_017\_02 - Flying Angels

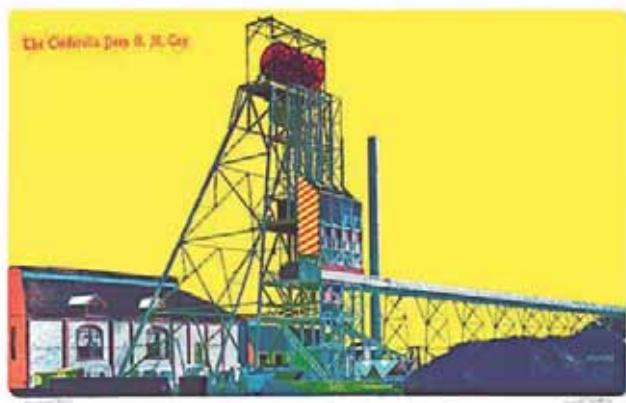




WB\_018\_01 - Luipaards Vlei, GM



WB\_018\_02 - Belfast Coal Mine



WB\_018\_03 - Cinderella Deep, GM



WB\_018\_04 - Cyanide Works-Angelo and Driefontein, GM



WB\_018\_05 - The Jumpers Deep, GM



WB\_018\_06 - New Comet, GM



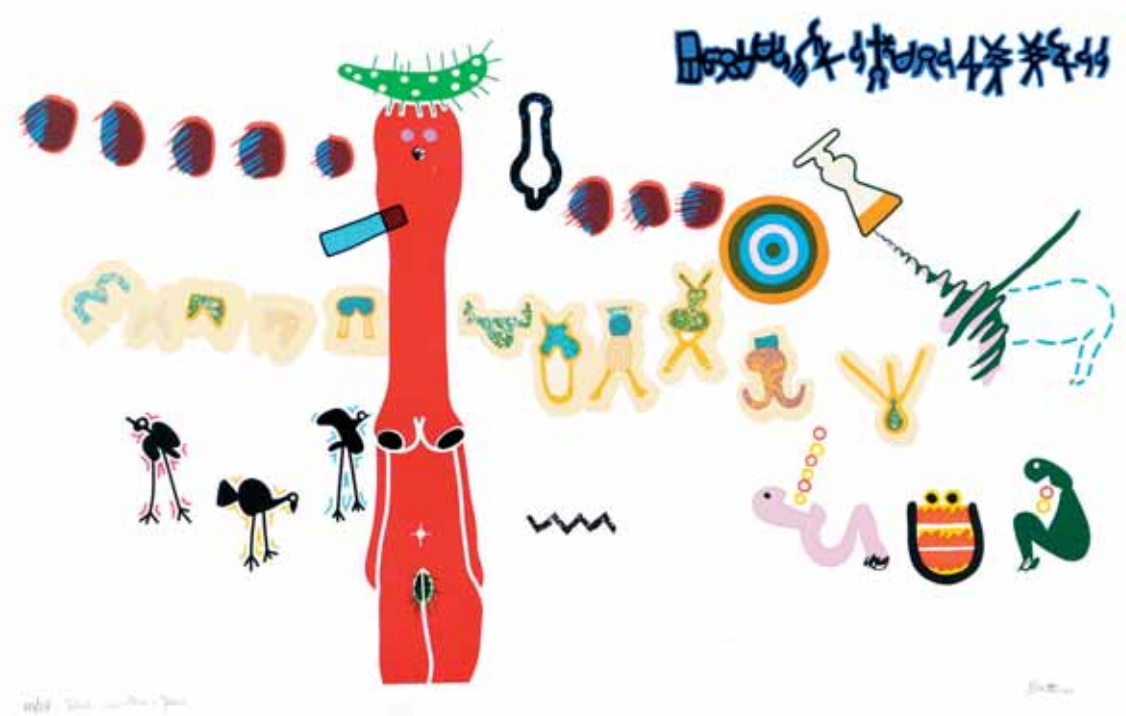
WB\_019\_01 - Island God



WB\_019\_02 - Butterfly Boy



WB\_020\_01 - Fook Island



WB\_020\_02 - Flesh in the Pan





WB\_021\_01 - Birth of a new Nation



WB\_021\_02 - Rock Climber



WB\_021\_03 - Coins of Fook Island



WB\_021\_04 - Don't drop Stones



28/30 Mascho

W. Balthus



WB\_023\_01 - The Island Gods



WB\_023\_02 - Man with Birds



WB\_023\_03 - Running Man

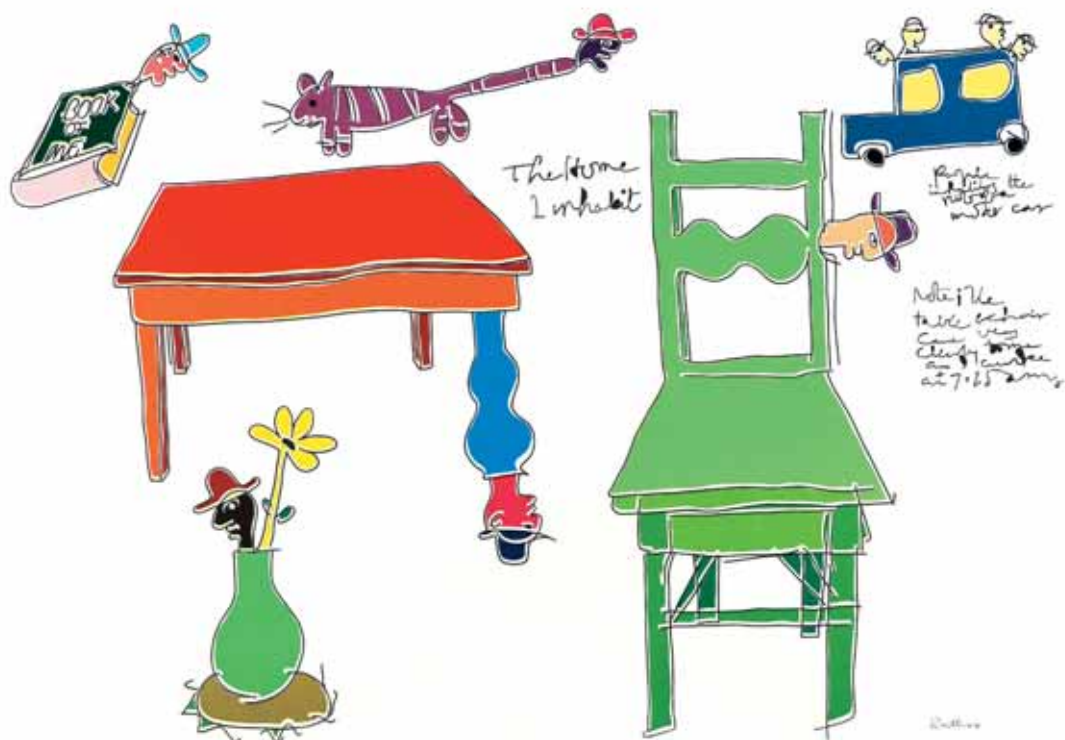


WB\_023\_04 - Guinea Fowl





WB\_024\_01 - Child Playing



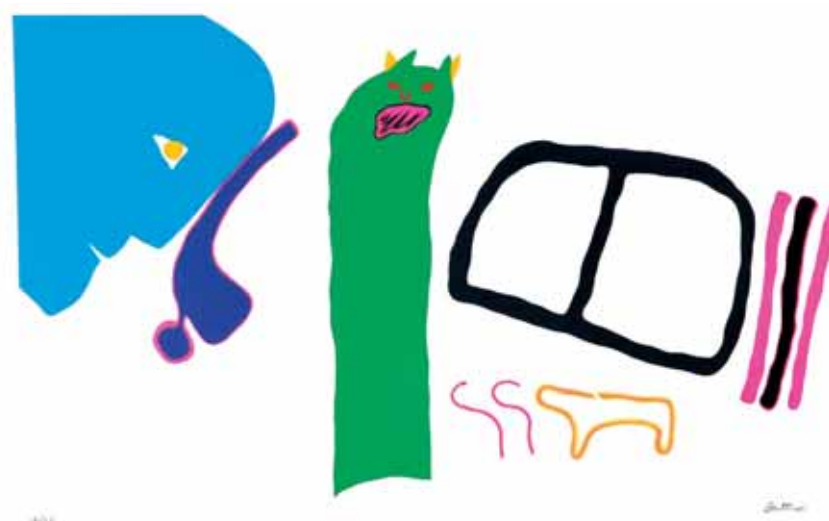
WB\_024\_02 - The Home I Inhabit



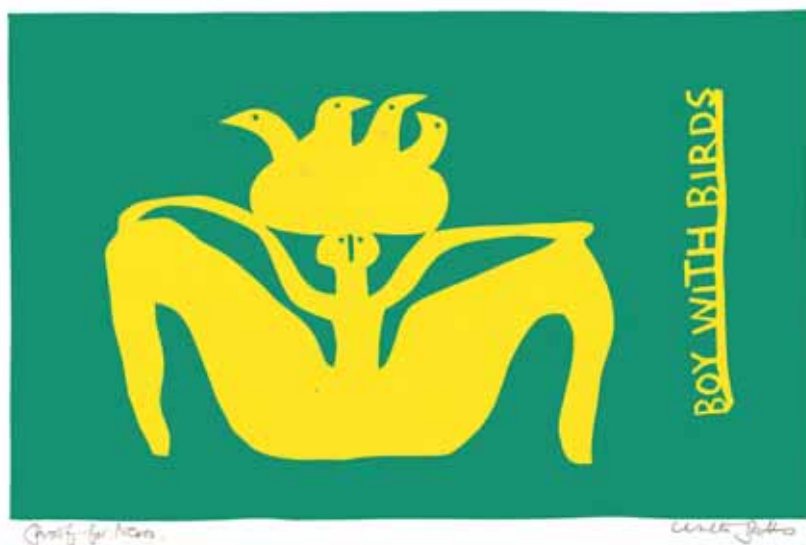
WB\_025\_01 - Bird with Blue Head



WB\_025\_02 - Mother and child



WB\_025\_03 - Face and Green Cat



WB\_026\_01 - Boy with Birds



WB\_026\_02 - Seychelles



WB\_026\_03 - The Sculptor





WB\_027\_01 - Bird on Nose - Green



WB\_027\_02 - Untitled "Yellow Figure"



WB\_027\_03 - Bird on Nose - Red



WB\_027\_04 - Something like an Elephant



WB\_028\_01 - A Rare Plant



WB\_028\_02 - Desert



WB\_028\_03 - Acrobats



WB\_029\_01 - Untitled "Man"



WB\_029\_02 - Nothing, Thinking about Nothing





WB\_030\_01 - Girl and Bird



WB\_030\_02 - Girl and Bird 2



WB\_31\_01 - Island of Love



WB\_31\_02 - Pink light Bulb



WB\_31\_03 - Our Mother wishes we were Twins



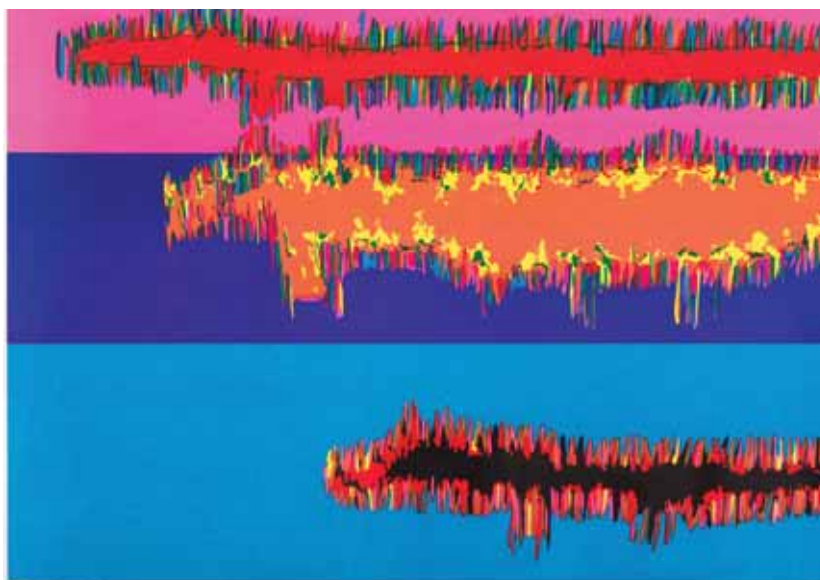
WB\_31\_04 - Streams



WB\_032\_01 - Limpopo

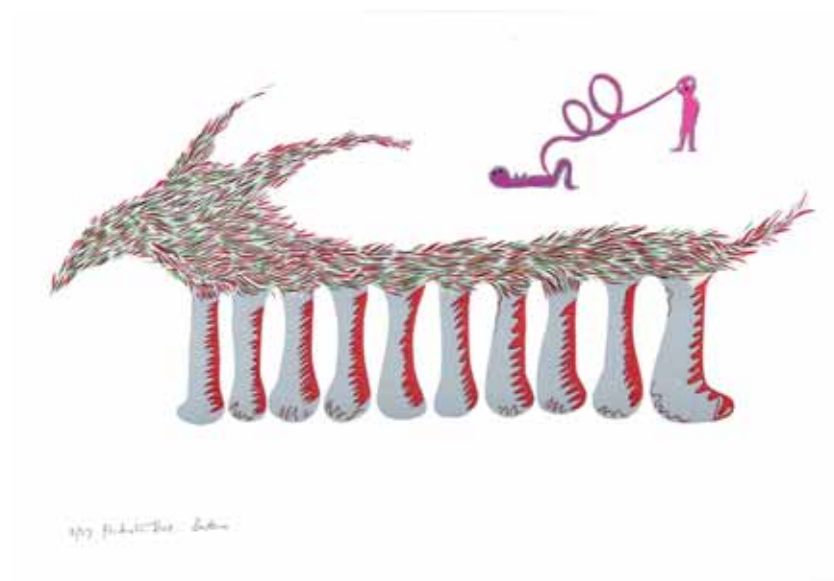


WB\_032\_02 - Man from Space

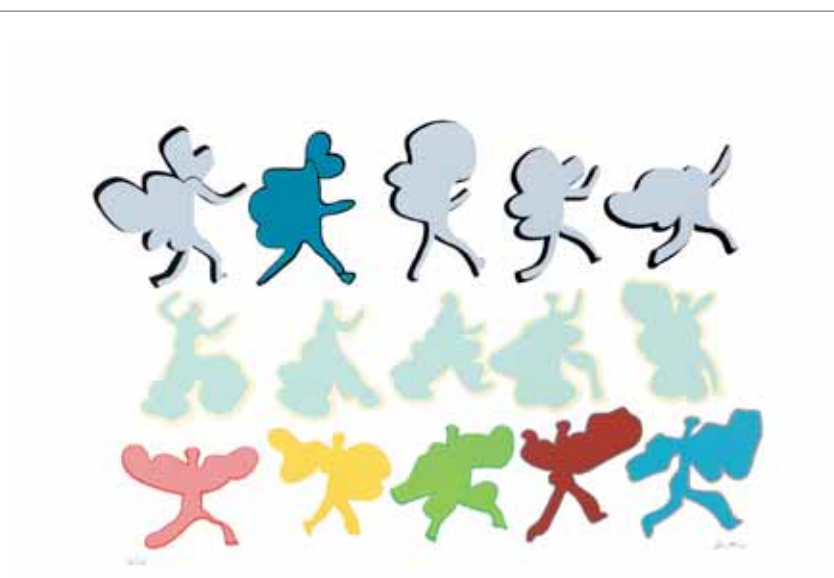


WB\_032\_03 - Three Pet Animals

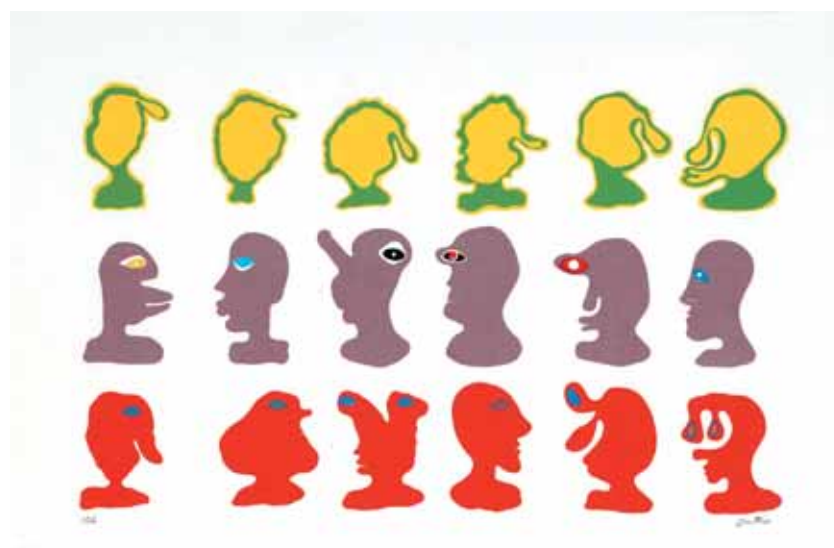




WB\_033\_01 - Fantastic Beast



WB\_033\_02 - Invented Figures



WB\_033\_03 - Invented Heads



WB\_034\_01 - Upundulu Bird



WB\_034\_02 - Man Alive



WB\_034\_03 - Horse fucking a Butterfly



WB\_035\_01 - Cat in Mouth



WB\_035\_02 - Four Excessive Females

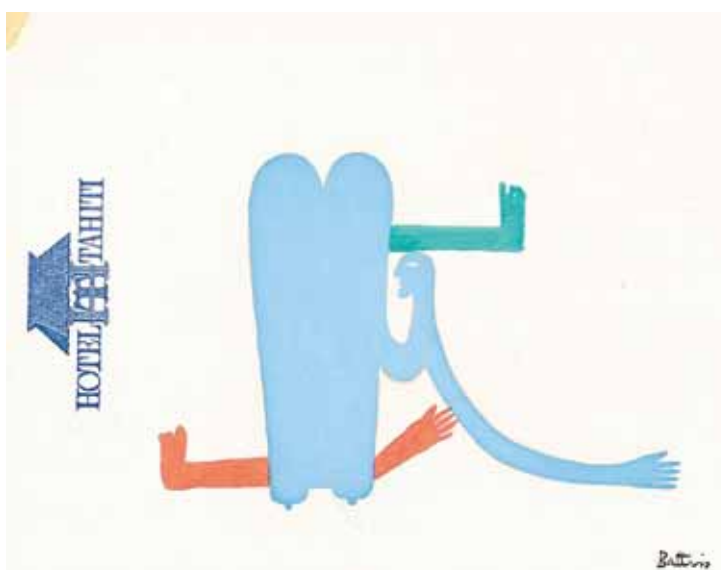


WB\_035\_03 - Blue Nude

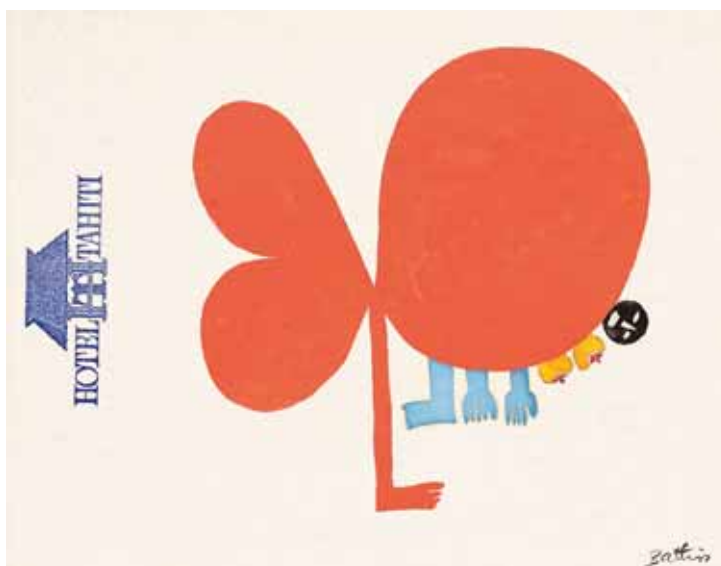


WB\_035\_04 - Homage to Picasso

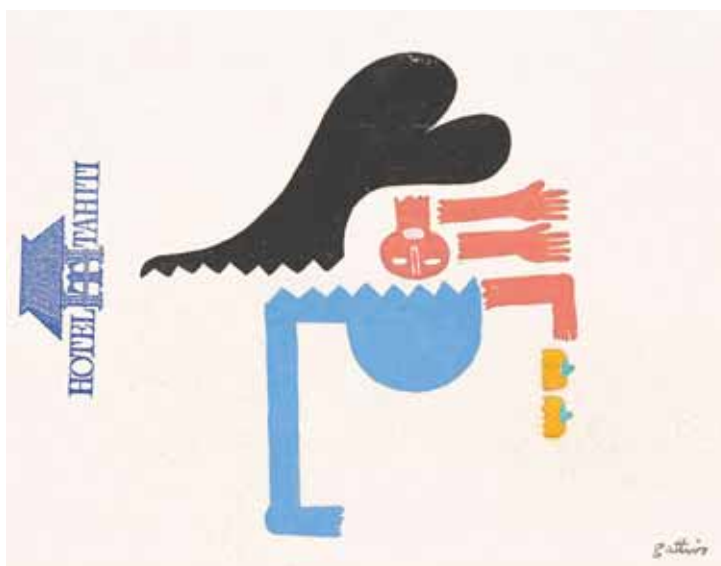




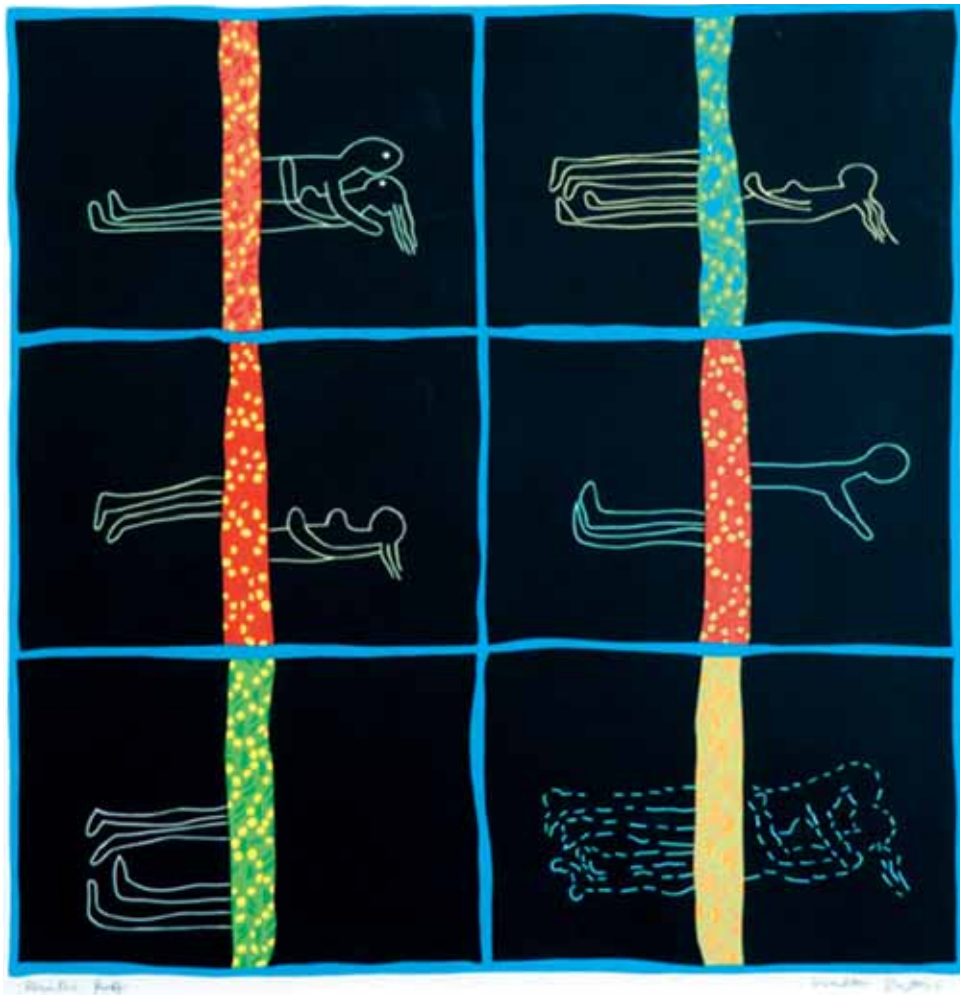
WB\_036\_01 - Hotel Tahiti 1



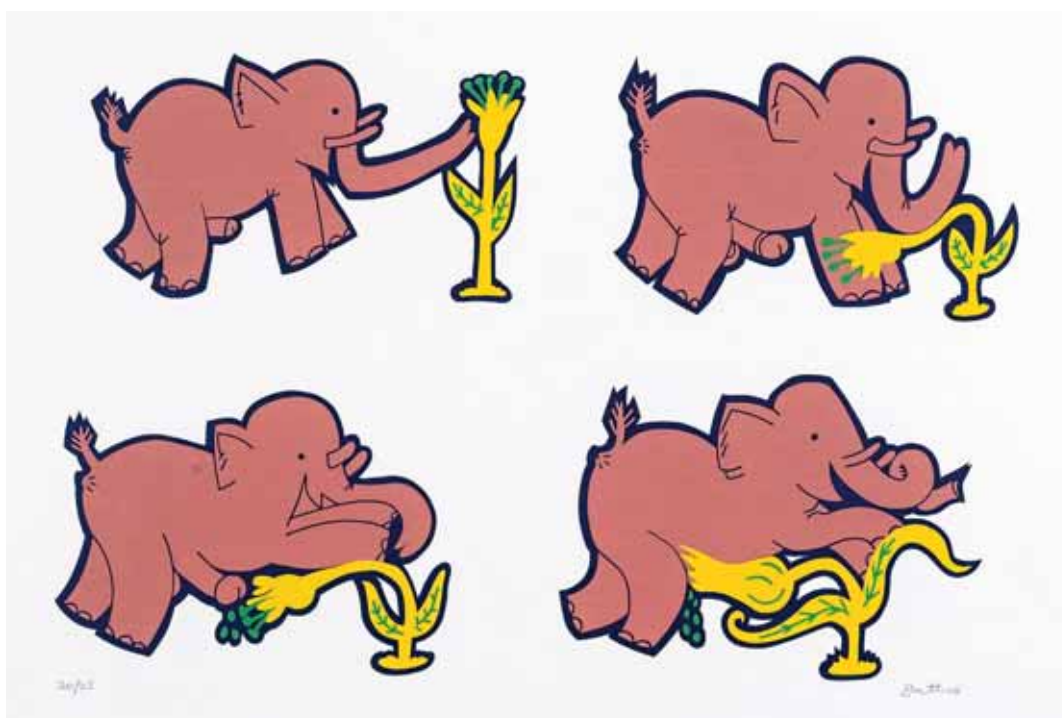
WB\_036 \_02 - Hotel Tahiti 2



WB\_036\_03 - Hotel Tahiti 3



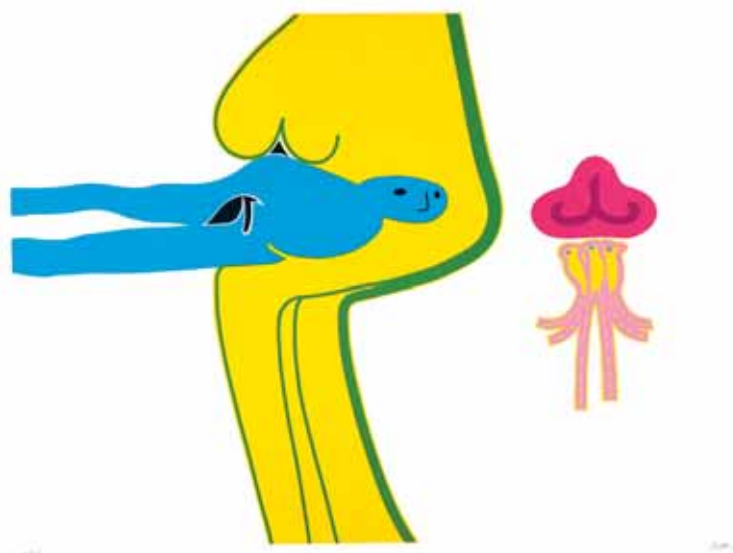
WB\_037\_01 - Censorship



WB\_037\_02 - Baby Elephant with Flowers



WB\_038\_01 - Rhodes



WB\_038\_02 - Goddess



WB\_038\_03 - Blue Buck

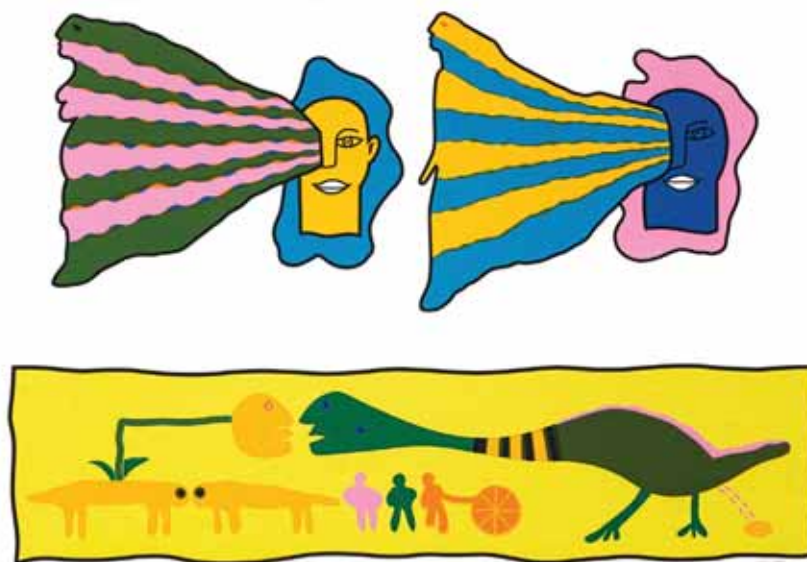




WB\_039\_01 - Skipping Girl



WB\_039\_02 - Dancer in White



WB\_039\_03 - Golden Egg



WB\_040\_01 - Figures and Characters



WB\_040\_02 - The Sleeper



WB\_040\_03 - Figures above Waterfall



WB\_041\_01 - Red Nude



WB\_041\_02 - Guinea Fowl

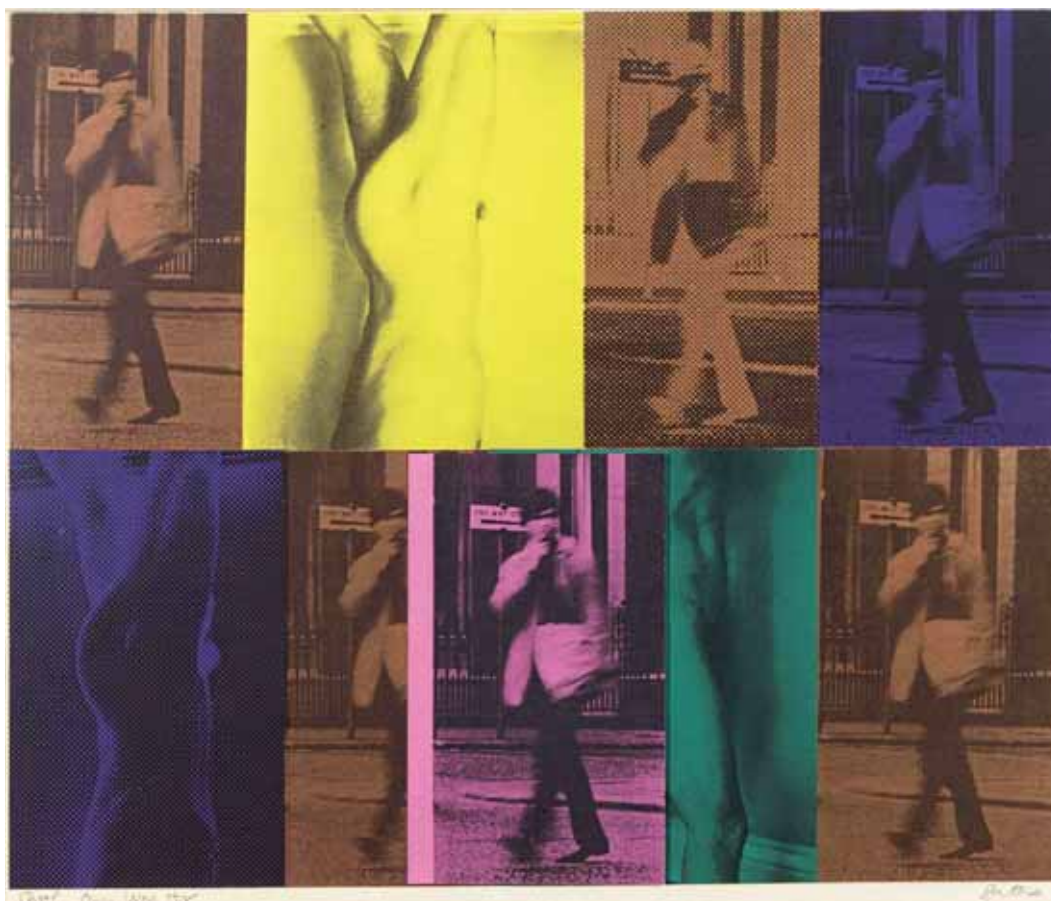


WB\_041\_03 - Tokkelos



WB\_041\_04 - Coco de Mer

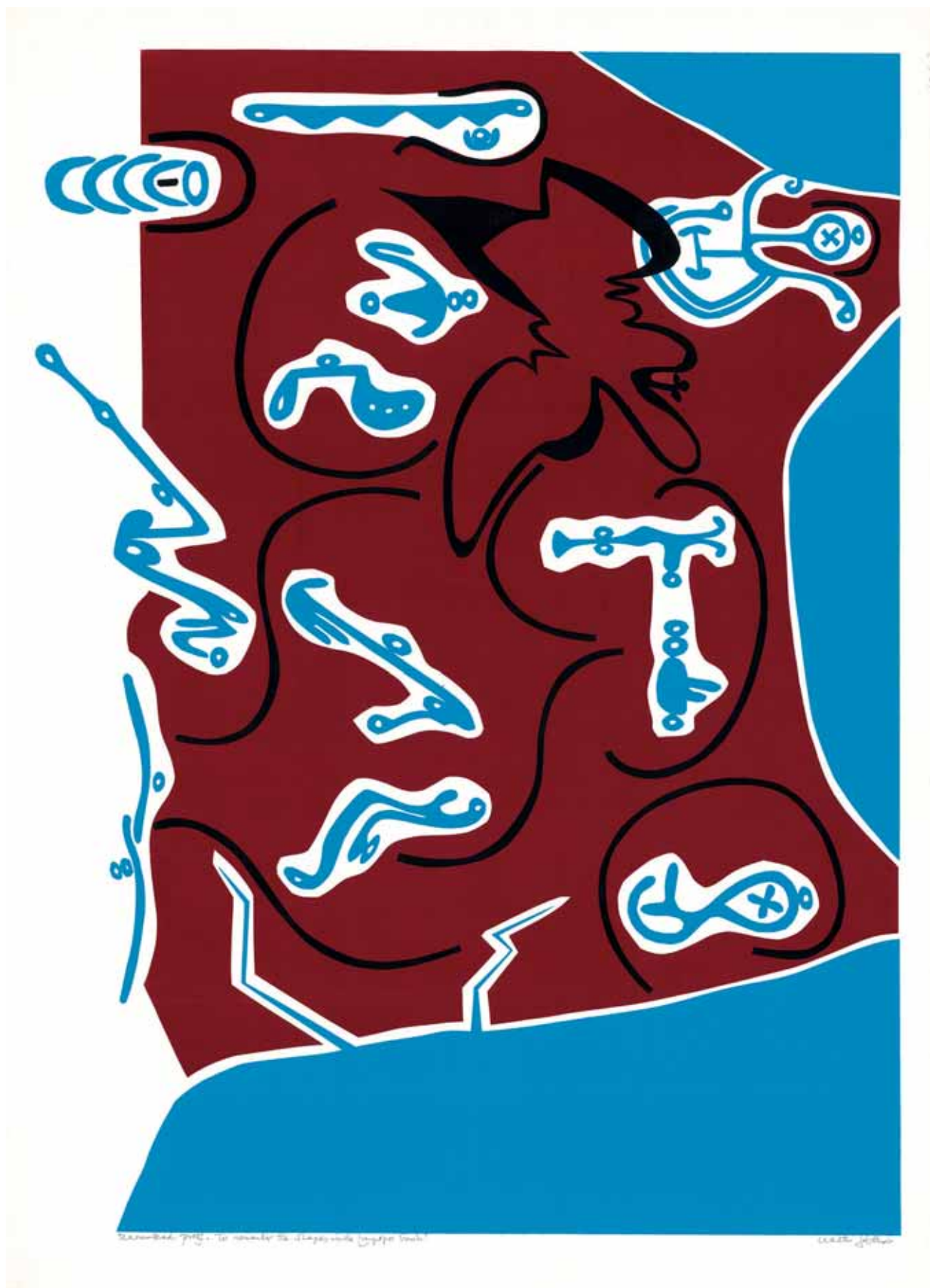


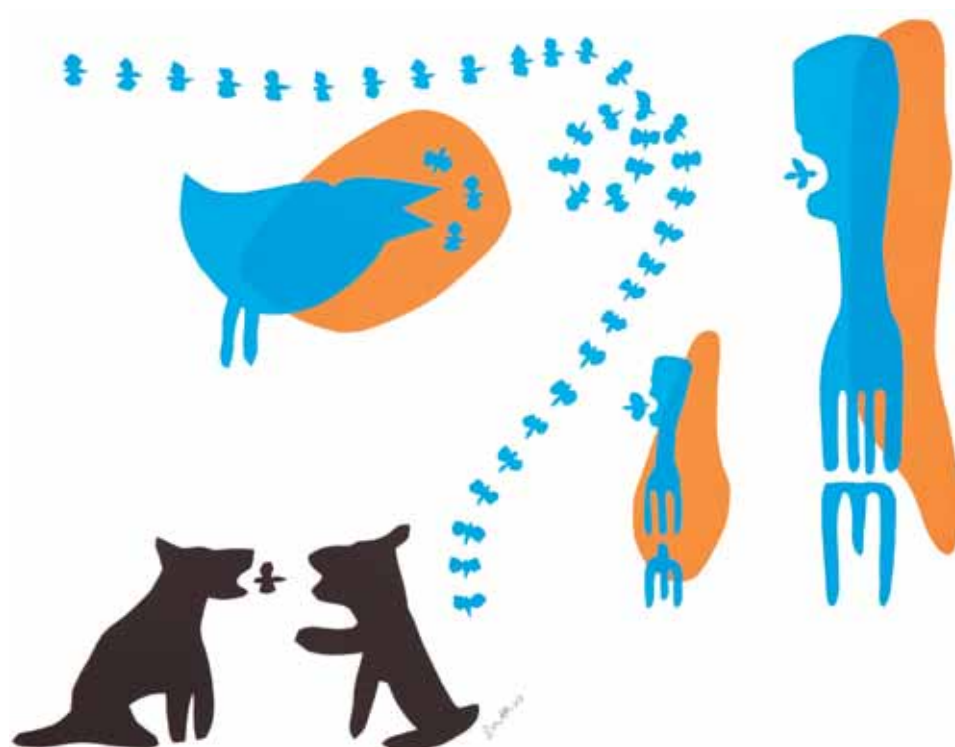


WB\_042\_01 - One Way Street, London



WB\_042\_02 - Rock Artist





WB\_044\_01 - Flies"



WB\_044\_02 - Flying Objects





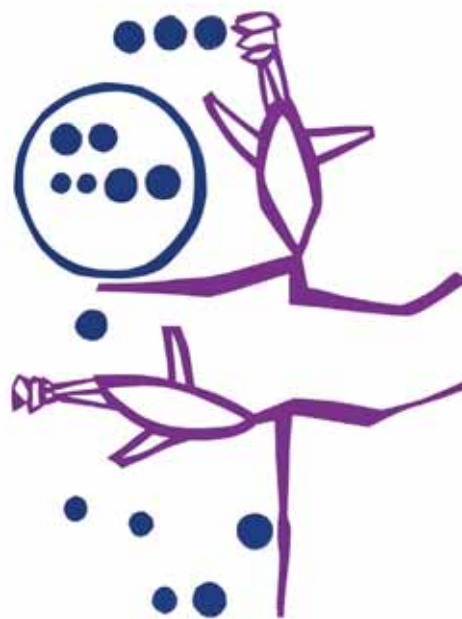
WB\_045\_01 - Red Figure on Blue Background



WB\_045\_02 - Coloured Birds



WB\_045\_03 - Surfer



WB\_045\_04 - Figures



WB\_046\_01 - 3 Figures



WB\_046\_02 - Bird Flight



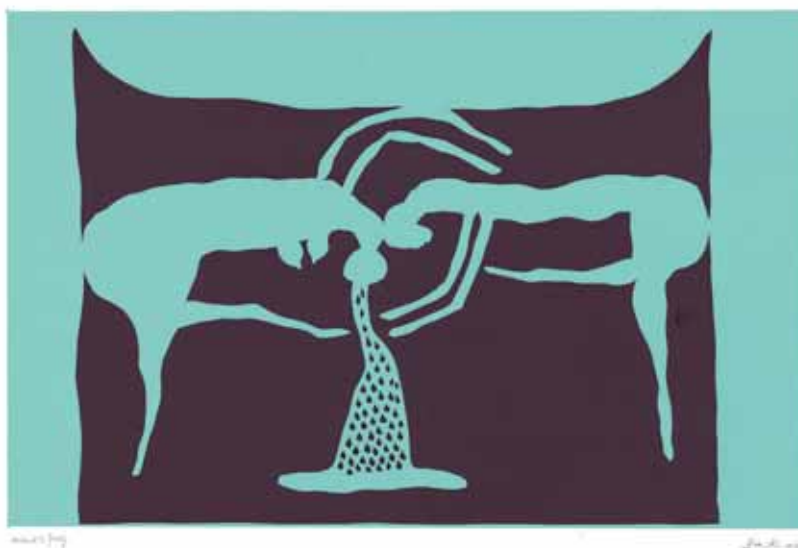
WB\_046\_03 - "Shapes"



WB\_046\_04 - Shepherd



WB\_047\_01 - "Bushman Art"



WB\_047\_02 - "Bushman Dance"



WB\_047\_03 - Water Dogs





WB\_048\_01 - Untitled



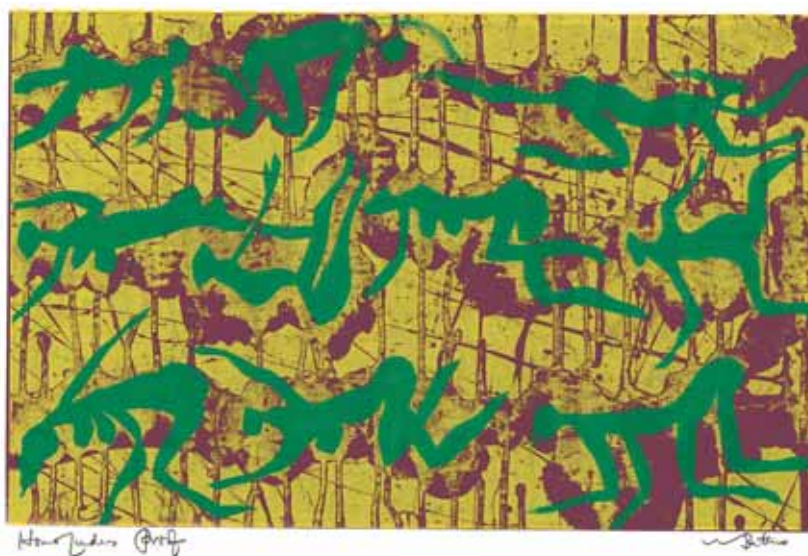
WB\_048\_02 - "Mr. Icarus, I presume"



WB\_048\_03 - Water and Open Air



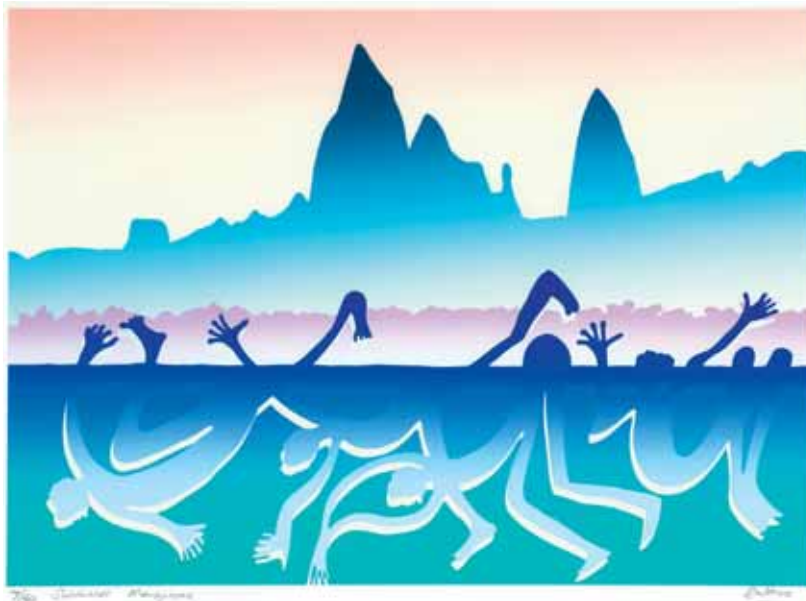
WB\_049\_01 - Magic Sticks



WB\_049\_02 - Homoludens



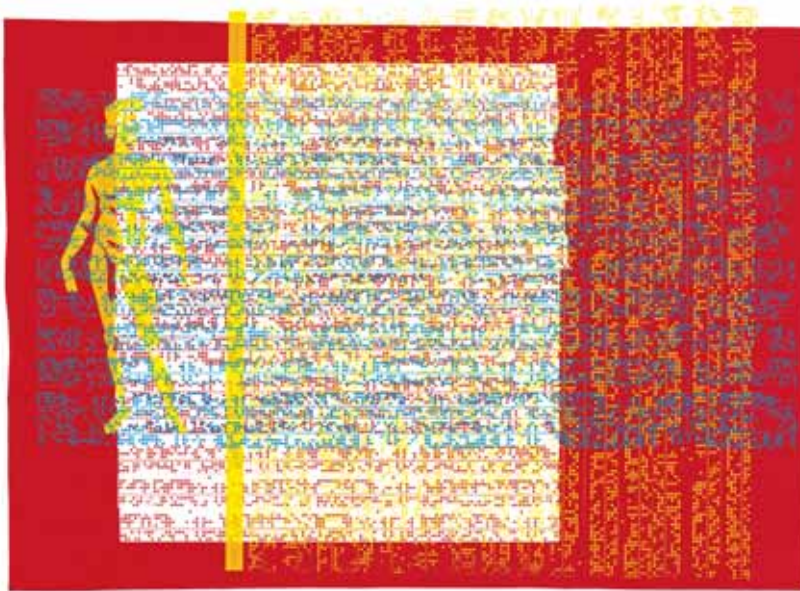
WB\_049\_03 - Untitled



WB\_050\_01 - Swimmers Marquessas



WB\_050\_02 - Legends



WB\_050\_03 - Red and Yellow



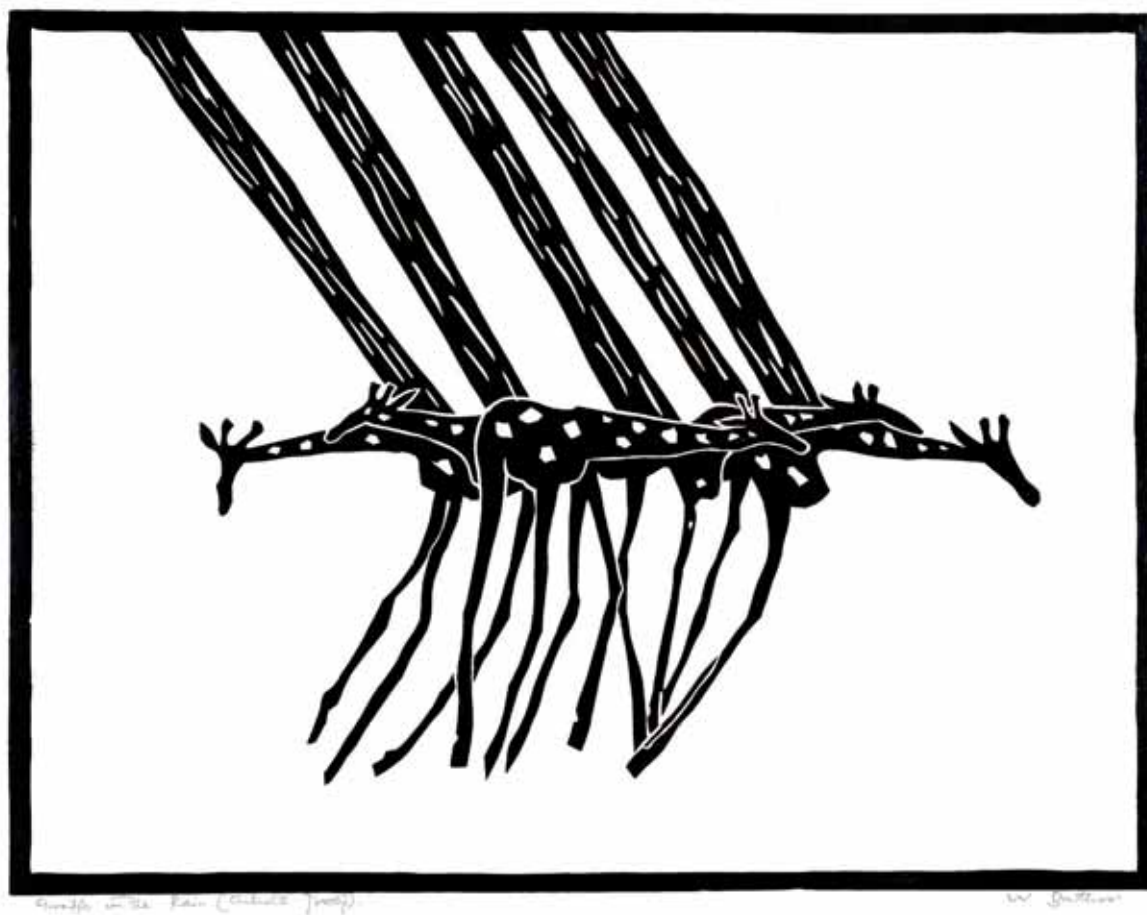


2/30 Dancing Girls

Peter Dinklage













WB\_055\_01 - The Apple



WB\_055\_02 - Garden Sketch



