



The Elusive Prey

By M. Harrison-Priestman

A retrospective exhibition by artist and lecturer

M. Harrison-Priestman

**of paintings, drawings and
sculpture.**

Opening April

RSVP

2024

My Painting Philosophy – The Elusive Prey

I never explain my work or give definitive concrete literal prisons when an audience encounters my daubs and sculptures. As I firmly believe I am in the business of visual communication and the work of art must stand up on its own two feet or fail and fall flat on it's arse. But roughly speaking I can say that painting might said to be informed by two kinds of approach. On the one hand, painting as objective study and as a training in observation, and the other hand, painting as an explorative process. It must be emphasised that these are anything but mutually exclusive. It is important to avoid assumptions of any kind, particularly where they take the form of stylistic idiosyncrasy or preconceptions about appearances. The ability to see forms in space, and to translate these in two-dimensional terms, and to see a blank canvas/sheet of paper as an active component in the work, is a crucial factor in this.

I am not concerned with illustration or the slickness of hand, but in creating a presence, unlocking the illusions in life and our limited perceptions of it. Pruning away all the unnecessary appendages and seductions that pollute our orbits, minds, vitality and sense of self; until we are left with just energy and nothing else, the very essence of our existence and understanding. Cleansing the internal pollution and confusion, until a moment of personal philosophical clarity is achieved or found. When you come to think of it, painting's are just made up of different mineral's like ourselve's. Firstly ground into mediums and then applied to a support, whether it be a canvas, paper etc. But they are more than that, the very soul of the practitioner somehow travels through his body, down his arm, into the brush and onto the support, impregnating the picture plane with his unique vital energy, his living presence, captured within a 2-dimensional space. Painting is a intellectual process, an exciting magical journey of self-discovery and revelation. For some like myself it is a life long passion that will forever entertain and constantly challenge the practitioner to do better in the search for that elusive prey; a complete visual statement, revealing the presence of reality.



























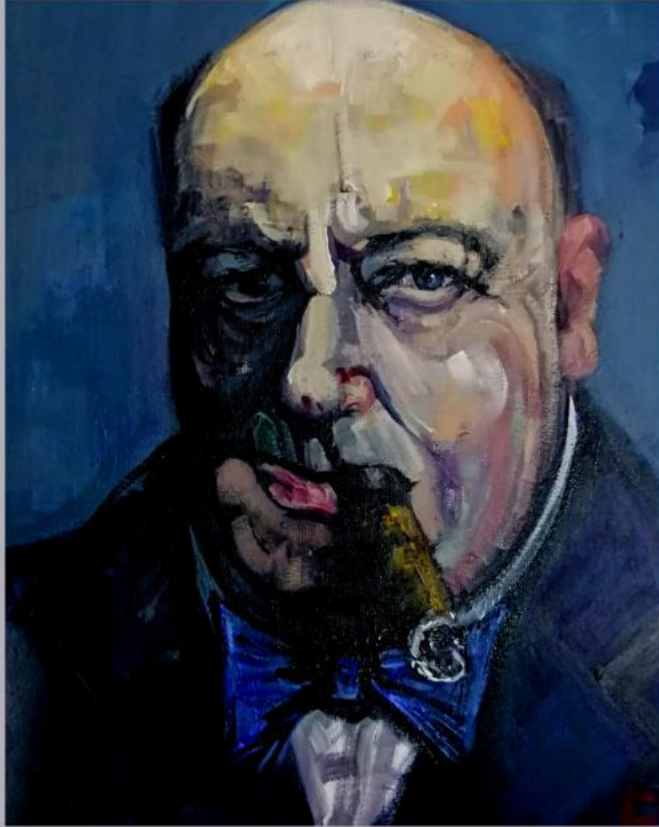




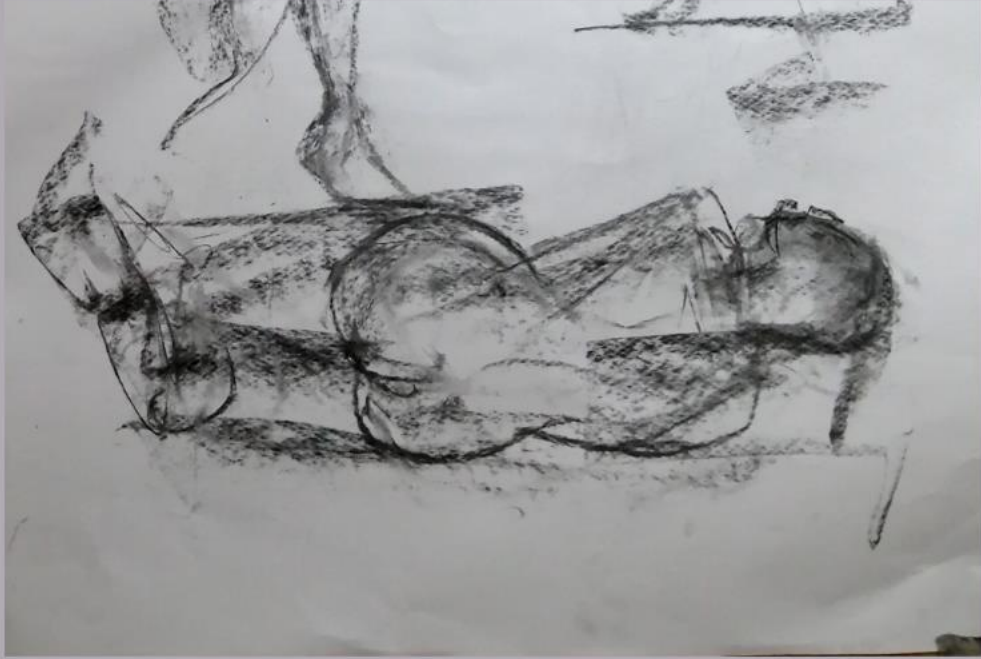










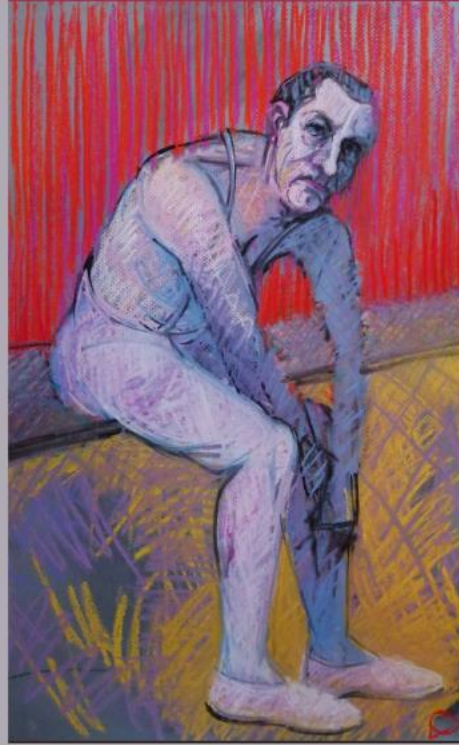


























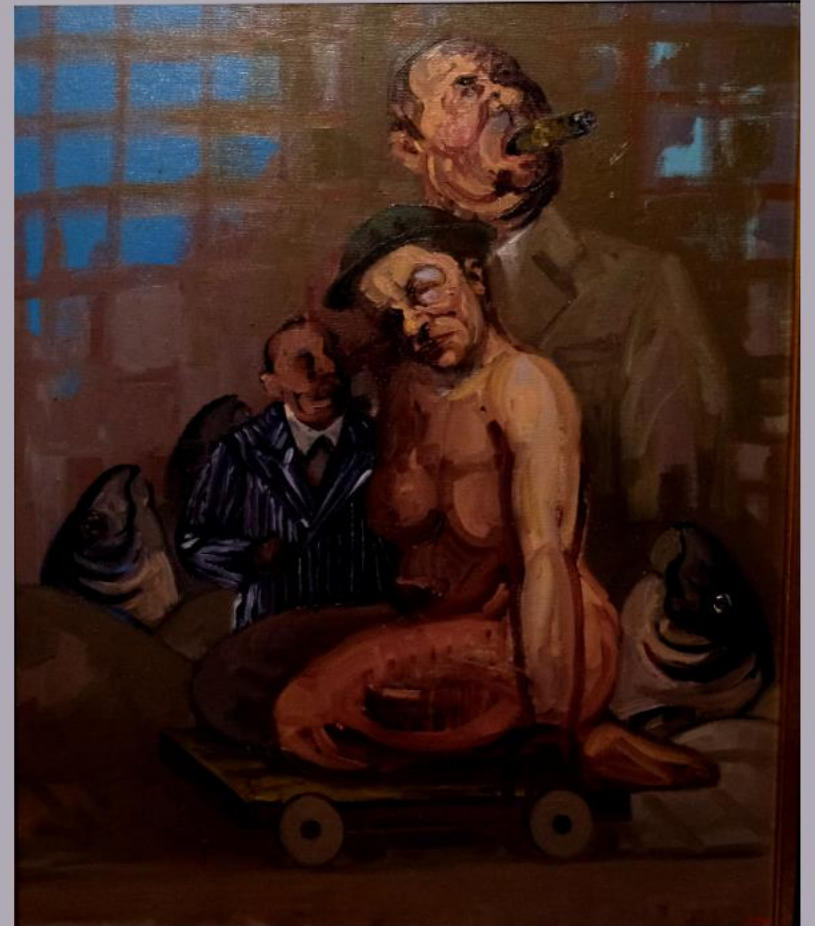




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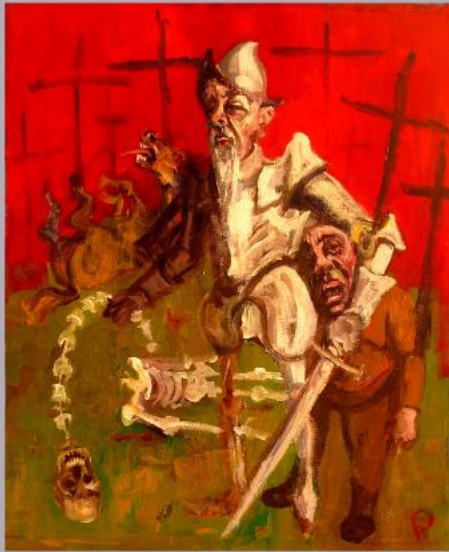






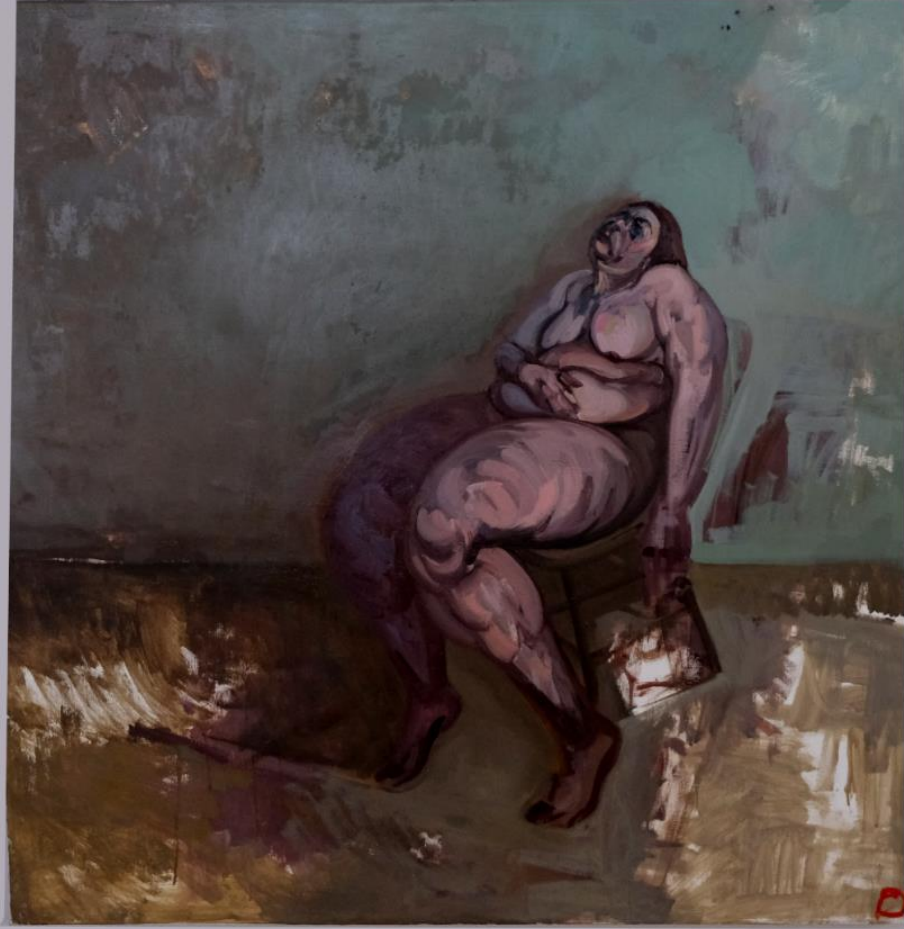




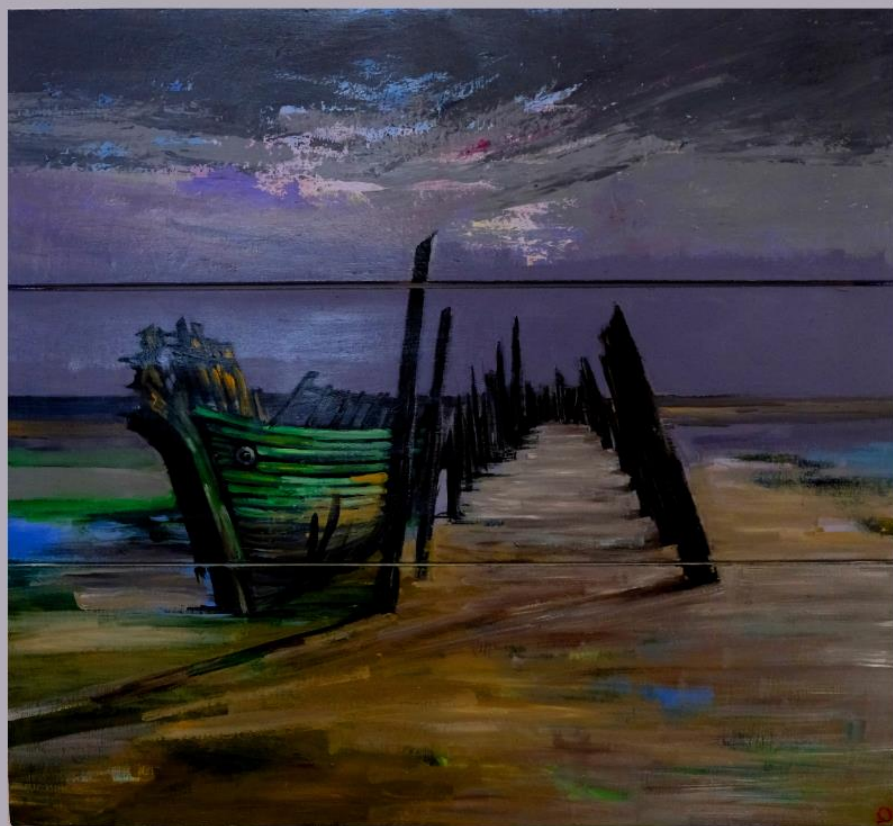






























































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