



Vernon 2009 linocut, ink and watercolour 45 x 38 cm edition 13



Dutch 2009 linocut, ink and watercolour 45 x 38 cm edition 13



Dusty Rhodes 2011 linocut, ink and watercolour 76 x 56 cm edition 23



Jacky 2009 linocut, ink and watercolour 76 x 56 cm edition 13

RONA GREEN



Our Frank 2010 linocut, ink and watercolour 28 x 38 cm edition 23



Qazaq 2011 acrylic on canvas 87 x 71 cm

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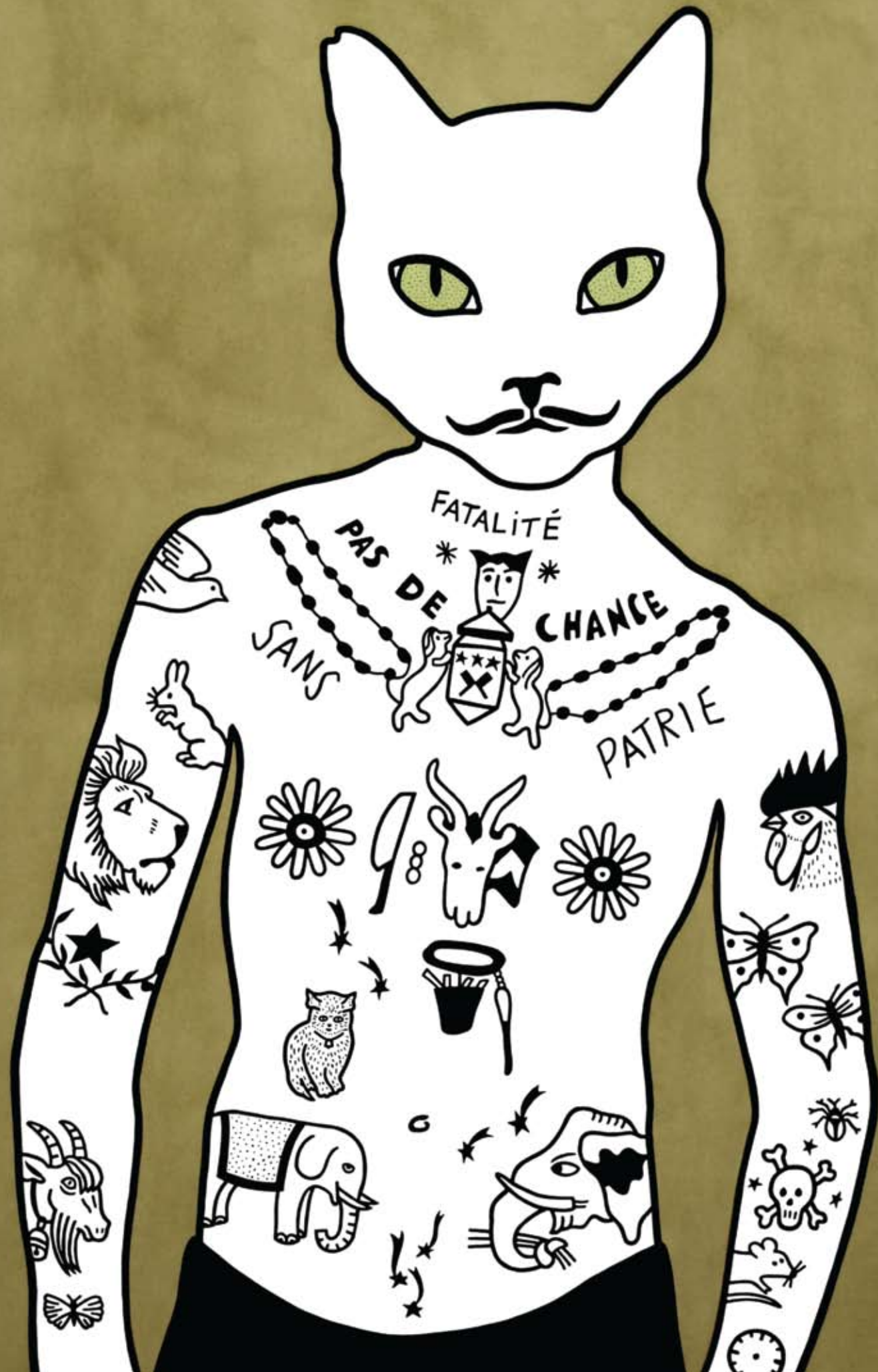
RONA GREEN

Fink yer'ard?

30 June - 24 July 2011

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES
SMITH STREET





Mr Correct 2011 acrylic on canvas triptych, each panel 76 x 76 cm

RONA GREEN *Fink yer'ard?*

'I swear I saw two of the characters from Rona Green's pictures inside the medical centre on Crown St in Wollongong.'

*I imagine this midnight moment's forest:
Something else is alive
Beside the clock's loneliness
And this blank page where my fingers move.¹*

Dear Rona,

I swear I saw two of the characters from your pictures inside the medical centre on Crown St in Wollongong. It was bustling, they were faux-tuff, her name was something like Debbie but she probably wanted to be Yolanda. I don't know what his name was, but apart from his tattooed and pierced face, he had a pink stroller he was pushing their two kids around in.

I had an earache. Someone had scribbled all over the front of the Illawarra Mercury, the local rag. On the front page was a picture of the disgraced general manager who led the now sacked council. Someone had given him horns, a scar on his face and a black eye in biro.

I'm not sure if I have ever told you but I have two cats, one is called Brian Damage and the other Daryl Somers. Daryl has run away to live with people over the road who give him three meals a day as opposed to my dismal two. I only feed him from the can; they feed him fresh fish, chicken and prawns mixed with rice. For a while we used to see him outside their house flaunting his new found cuisine covered freedom – part vagabond, part food snob – almost like he was teasing us.

The good news is that Brian has really come out of his shell so much so he is like a new cat. He talks to people and sits on the front step. He has some crazy new friends: giant man-ladies, the limping man who walks around the block constantly mumbling to himself, recovering and not recovering ice addicts. Brian has adopted Daryl's vibrant, sunny personality, he was always his hero but Daryl was crushing him inside.

Tattooing is really popular now, every footballer has one. It's weird – why do you think people get pictures of things like carp or Japanese scenes on their arms. Have they even been to Japan? Do you think Japanese fish ever want to get tattoos of people? Of Australians? Maybe cats want to get pictures of their owners on their chest? What does it have to do with football? Makes me think of your cats, dogs, ducks and rabbits. All the time.

Do you know that poem about the thought-fox? It visits the poet late at night. Its sleeky movements inscribe themselves on his mind – 'with a sudden sharp hot stink of fox/it enters the dark hole of the head.' It's a poem about the creative impulse and there's a good reason to choose an animal like that.

I am thinking of getting Daryl Somers face tattooed on my chest – God I miss him.

Cheers!
Glenn

Glenn Barkley
Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art,
Sydney, 2011

¹Ted Hughes *The Thought-Fox*



Maestro 2011 linocut and ink 55 x 38 cm edition 23



B.B. 2011 linocut, ink and watercolour 26 x 19 cm edition 23

SELECTED BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS

Born 1972, Geelong, Australia
Lives and works in Melbourne
1992-95 Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art), La Trobe University, Bendigo, VIC
1998 Graduate Diploma in Visual Arts, Victorian College of the Arts, Melbourne

RECENT SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2011 'Fink yer'ard?', Australian Galleries, Smith Street, Melbourne
'Losers & Winners', Solander Works on Paper Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand
- 2010 'Hold Fast', The Art Vault, Mildura, VIC
'Rona Green: Prints and Poppets 2000 – 2010', Deakin University Art Gallery, Melbourne
'12 Crack Men', Switchback Gallery, Monash University, Gippsland Campus, Churchill, VIC
- 2009 'Flashy Tasty', Solander Works on Paper Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand
'Obliquity', Latrobe Regional Gallery, Morwell, VIC
'Unleashed', KidSpace, Albury Art Gallery, Albury, NSW

AWARDS

- 2009 Acquired, Geelong Acquisitive Print Awards, Geelong, VIC
- 2008 Acquired, Fremantle Print Award, Fremantle, WA
- 2006 Silk Cut Award Grand Prize, Melbourne
- 2004 Acquired, National Works on Paper Award, Mornington, VIC
Swan Hill Print Acquisitive Award, Swan Hill, VIC
- 2003 Geelong Print Prize, Geelong, VIC
- 2002 Fleming Muntz Albury Art Prize, Albury, NSW
- 1999 Rena Ellen Jones Memorial Print Award, Warrnambool, VIC

COLLECTIONS

- Albury Regional Art Gallery, Albury, NSW
- Arjo Wiggins / Canson Australia Pty Ltd, Melbourne
- Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide
- Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Burnie, TAS
- Chiang Mai Contemporary Art Museum, Chiang Mai, Thailand
- City of Yarra, Melbourne
- Geelong Gallery, Geelong, VIC
- Grafton Regional Gallery, Grafton, NSW
- Ipswich Art Gallery, Ipswich, QLD
- Latrobe Regional Gallery, Morwell, VIC
- Little Collection, WA
- Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Mornington, VIC
- National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
- Royal Perth Hospital, Perth
- Silk Cut Foundation, Melbourne
- Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, Swan Hill, VIC
- Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Toowoomba, QLD
- Tweed River Regional Art Gallery, Murwillumbah, NSW
- Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, Wagga Wagga, NSW
- Warrnambool Art Gallery, Warrnambool, VIC

www.ronagreen.com

Cover: *Baby Bailey Durden* 2011 linocut, ink and watercolour 76 x 56 cm edition 23
Image, far left: *The Surgeon* 2010 linocut, ink and watercolour 108 x 76 cm edition 17