

arlington gallery ✨

arlington gallery
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Born To Be Bold

The first authorised solo exhibition of work by Gina Bold

Press Release

Private view: 8th February 2007, 6- 9pm
Exhibition: 9th February – 11th March 2007
Times: Wednesday–Sunday, 11am- 5pm

ENTRY: FREE
NEAR CAMDEN TUBE

Curated by Anna Lewis and Richard Seymour



The Arlington gallery is bringing together the work of self-taught painter and resident Novas Arts artist Gina Bold for her first authorised solo show. Her expressive work is littered with references of isolation, depression and abandonment in a canon of work that is strangely uplifting.

Depression and isolation are mental states that are on the increase in today's fragmented society, and has now overtaken unemployment as the biggest social problem in the UK.

It is this mental state of being that is emotively captured with great resonance within the work of the latest exhibition at the Arlington gallery.

'Born to Be Bold' features paintings and a collection of never seen before sculptures in a body of work that is impossible to place within a box. However, due to the use of bright primary colours inferences and similarities can be drawn between the work of 'Outsider Artists', and the visceral work of Bold's, thus, if we were to attempt to categorise her canon it would probably be there. The work is certainly informed by Bold's life experience that has the extreme Ups and Downs of living with mental health issues.

"Depression comes and goes. Bad spells could end up with days feeling unable to get up from bed or leave the house, the irrational fear combined with suicidal thoughts is impossible to explain. Good times feel like all is well with the world and I convince myself that I'll never feel down again. Experience tells me that the crash will come and it's only a matter of time."

Gina Bold

What the body of work as a whole shows, however, is a complete joy of life and a love and fascination of Art that is irresistible. Bold follows her every instinct and unashamedly takes her inspiration from any source that provokes her.

"In tiny indefinable ways I am changed by every life experience, what I think today might not be what I think tomorrow so my art changes direction depending on who I've just met and what I've just seen and felt. For me, it's not a question of 'I want to be an artist', I paint because I can't find another way to express myself. The paintings are just images that might communicate to other people that understand the emotion. If my work makes other people with similar problems feel less alone then I think I would have achieved something worthwhile."

'Born to be Bold' presents the work of an artist who has had to confront her mental health issues

and through her work has achieved catharsis and solace.

For more information contact:
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*The **arlington gallery** is part of **novas arts** a subsidiary of the Novas Group, where we aim to change lives through arts, enterprise and support.*

The Novas Group has developed a strong reputation for the delivery of quality housing and community-based services, and for new and innovative approaches to working with people who experience inequality, exclusion and discrimination.

More recently we are developing extensive work, learning, social enterprise and cultural services to support our core work and to match and stretch the diverse aspirations of the people we support.

***novas arts** is an evolving programme of creative expression for people of all backgrounds, ages, and abilities who seek to experience the transformative power of art. Through exhibitions, public art and educational programs we promote artistic exploration and appreciation; encourage community participation and growth; and provide opportunities for empowerment and social change.*

*Few social problems have had so visible a place on the urban landscape as homelessness and exclusion and **novas arts'** mantra is dedicated to exposing broad and diverse audiences to its themes. A goal for **novas arts** is to provide a creative forum for participants to express their feelings and use their experiences to create better understanding of the themes and issues involved. Another goal is to help generate compassion for people who truly need and want help to change their lives and engage with the world around them.*