

***In The Garden of Eve: Artifact of Creation* - oil paintings from Keith Howard**

Edith Langley Barrett Fine Art Gallery at Utica College – April 9th – May 9th, 2008



These works become a 21st century prototype of a global artisan workshop made possible through the advancements of digital photography and Internet communications. The art in *In the Garden of Eve: Artifacts of Creation* carry forward the tradition of storytelling and narratives from the field of printmaking while the act of collaboration becomes a new story in the long history of artisan creativity. Howard has collaborated with two individuals in the development of this series of paintings. The first is art school model Ms. Michelle C. Long. Michelle creatively interprets the 'Eve' in each painting. The second contributor is Mr. Xiang Ming Lin, a highly skilled copy artist from China.

In the Garden of Eve Artifacts of Creation is a modern interpretation of the well known biblical creation story. The suite of paintings is meant to interpret the Eve story and reveal the telltale signs that the origins of these oil paintings are in fact, digitally manipulated photographs. All images are original works of Howard beginning with the panoramic landscapes photographed during his travels around the globe and created using Adobe Photoshop's Photomerge. The final digital images were emailed to China, where Mr. Xiang Ming Lin created faithful oil painting reproductions.

Pan oceanic and cross cultural communication engaged and use of digital technology as tools in service to this collaboration between artists. Within this innovative work we see one of the artisan traditions of printmaking, that of the Master Printer making original prints for painters, become reversed in its sense of order. Now the 'Master Painter' is the artisan making original oil paintings for the Printmaker creating this new genre global artisan workshop.

For more information please visit:

http://www.utica.edu/academic/as/fine_arts/gallery/exhibits/howard.cfm



Keith Howard