

CAREL MOISEIWITSCH



## Carel Moiseiwitsch / SIREN

1. (Gk Myth) any of several women, or creatures half woman and half bird, living on rocky isle to which they lured unwary seafarers with enchanting singing. 2. sweet singer. 3. dangerously fascinating woman, temptress, a tempting pursuit etc.; (attrib.) irresistably tempting, as of a siren . . . (ME., f.OF sereine, sirene f.LL. Sirena fem. f.L f. Gk Seiren)

— Concise Oxford Dictionary

According to psychoanalytic theory, we repress aspects of ourselves and others which we are unable to confront and accept. Ancient primitive cultures who worshipped the female principle of the Great Goddess provide aspects of women that our patriarchal christian culture represses, i.e. marginalizes, outlaws or denies. *Siren* is a search for visual representation of this repressed female energy and power, the shadow of the Virgin Mary.

This installation has a traditional format of guardians — four Demons — and attendants — twelve Sirens — flanking a central throne. Historically the Goddess is often represented by a bird or seat — the Primordial Lap. The Winged Throne depicted here is therefore a site of original female power and the whole piece posits an opportunity to behold and confront a primal force.

Note: The images in this issue present the four Demons and the twelve Sirens; the triptych of the central throne has not yet been photo-documented.









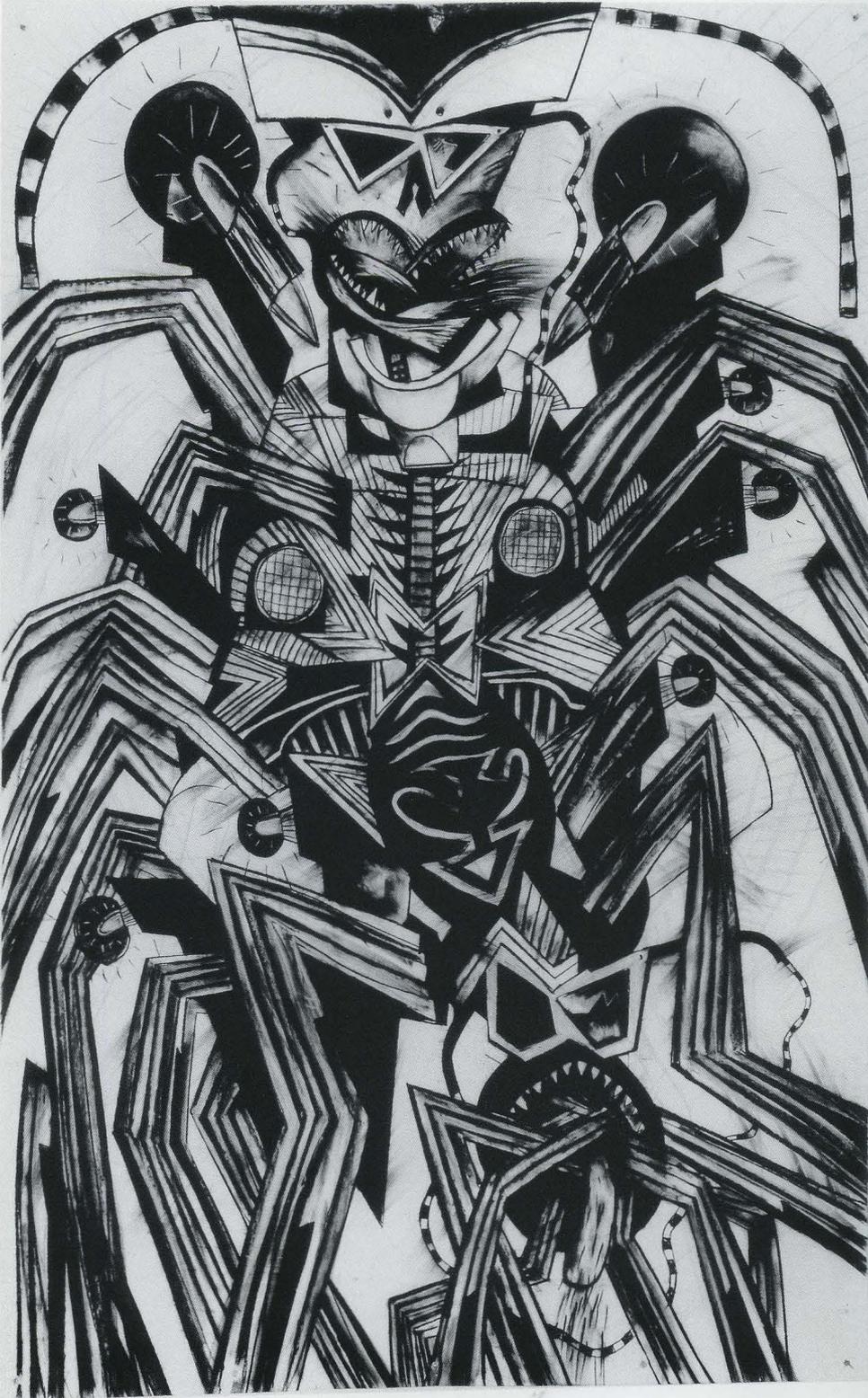
















## CAREL MOISEIWITSCH

### *Selected Exhibitions*

#### *Solo*

- 1991 Solo show scheduled at Open Space Gallery, Victoria.
- 1989 *Siren*, Vancouver Art Gallery.  
*Comic Relief*, Reko Muse Gallery, Olympia, Washington.  
*The Mountie Postcard Show*, Susan Whitney Gallery, Regina.
- 1988 *B/W Repro*, OR Gallery, Vancouver.  
*No Hanging Around*, University of Regina.
- 1987 *Biko*, Non-Commercial Window, Vancouver.  
*Fugitive*, UBC Fine Arts Gallery, Vancouver.
- 1986 *Heroix*, The Front Gallery, Vancouver.  
*Comic Relief*, Partisan Gallery, Toronto.
- 1985 *Comic Relief*, Pitt Gallery, Vancouver.  
*Terra Incognita*, Joliffe Studios, Swindon, U.K.

#### *Group*

- 1987 *Amnesty Show*, UBC SUB Gallery, Vancouver.  
*The Casual Casual Cultural Exchange*, Toronto Artists' Resource Centre and Fetish Gallery, Montreal; Galerie Donguy, Paris.
- 1986 *Les Banalistes*, The Front Gallery, Vancouver.  
*Le 23e Salon Internationale de la Caricature*, Montreal.  
*Dog Days*, Pitt Gallery, Vancouver.  
*Political Art*, Surrey Art Gallery, Surrey, B.C.

*Selected Articles/Reviews*

Coley, Byron. Review. *Forced Exposure* 15(1989): 121.

Gilbert, Gerry. "Carel Moiseiwitsch." *Vanguard* (November 1987): 31.

Laurence, Robin. "Carel Moiseiwitsch." *Canadian Art* (Winter 1987): 91.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Images of Female Sexual Power." *Georgia Straight* 25 August-1 September 1989: 17.

Lippard, Lucy. "Activist Art News." *Up Front: A Journal of Activist Art* 14/15 (Winter/Spring 1987-1988): 80-81.

Michael-Dault, Gary. "Casual Casual Cultural Exchange." *Vanguard* (Summer 1987): 36.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Savage Pencils." *Canadian Art* (Winter 1988): 71-75.

Orser, Brenda. "Les Banalistes." *Vanguard* (Summer 1987): 45.

Owen, Holly. "Art That Illuminates You." *Kinesis* (September 1989): 15.

Shein, Brian. Interview with Carel Moiseiwitsch. *Casual Casual* 18(1986): np.

Carel Moiseiwitsch

*Siren* 1989

Pastel on paper with metal grommets

Seventeen elements:

14 panels, 84" x 52" each

Triptych, 120" x 144" overall

Courtesy the artist

Photography: Ted Clarke/Weekes Photo