

## Judy Williams / SEA DOOR REWARD

*Sea Door Reward is, in a sense a sequel to Judy Williams' A Search for the True Cedar (The Capilano Review, No. 8/9). Like its predecessor, its images relate to a theme which in turn gives form to Judy's response to the natural phenomena and personalities that fate brings her at Refuge Cove. Sea Door Reward was exhibited at the Pender Street Gallery in November, 1976.*

In this series I used kelp forms to wrap people up together, and that's the kind of thing that happens to you around kelp when you're in the water and, of course, it's incredibly beautiful. I also used fog as a splashing/wrapping device in a number of paintings, and its edges are sometimes tattered like the kelp. But fog also stands for a miasmic feeling, an unknown quality. In one of my paintings it cut a person in two and that person was half-gone. And the funny thing was that it was only when I finished the work that I realized that I had cut his head off and that I had done that subconsciously. Sometimes people think that painters work all that clever stuff out beforehand, but I never seem to completely, and yet what I do instinctively turns out often to be true. The person whose head I cut off had made a decision to leave the cove and so that fog shows truly that he was no longer there.

Sometimes my paintings reveal too much of what I am and too much of what I feel about others that I really know. Sometimes I can't face the revelations that I make, yet I must paint as I do. And my friends ask me about things that I paint, like, "What did you mean when you put this hole in my foot? Does that mean ..... about my character?"

Although I don't see this series as over, I'm almost at the point where I would like to do something *ungimmicky* with the landscape.

— JUDY WILLIAMS.

TWO IMAGES FROM *SEA DOOR REWARD*

*Firehouse Punch* (details), 1976-7,  
watercolour, 40" x 25".

*Photography: Tod Greenaway*





