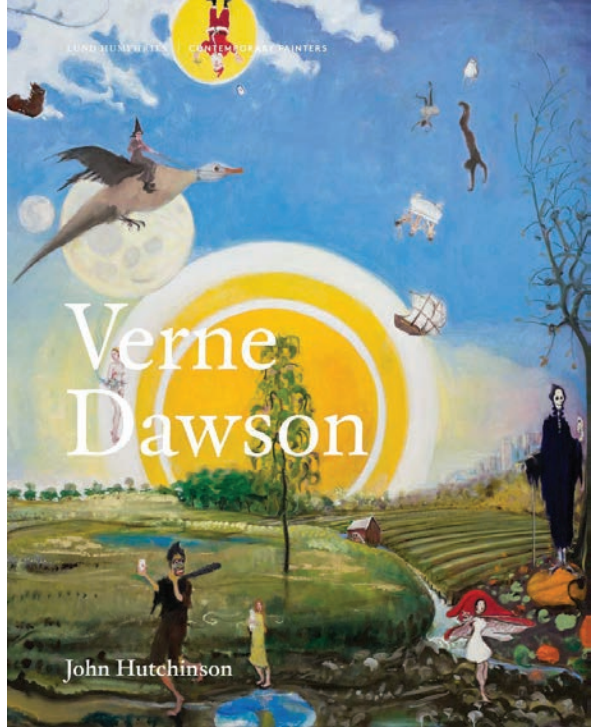


VERNE DAWSON BY JOHN HUTCHINSON

Ufuk ÇETİN*

The indirect paintings of author Dawson (b.1961) show a creator fascinated with storytelling. Seeking to contextualize Dawson's imaging, John Hutchinson's survey of the artist's work thus far provides fascinating insight into a posh body of labor. Dawson's individual paintings defy modern art-world trends and shun categorization, revealing a creator attuned to ideas and values that stimulate a clever creative vision. Wise to by a variety of interests and influences, from fairy tales to nineteenth century yankee landscape, Dawson's works and numerous canvases square measure intriguing and stimulating. Extremely individual, author Dawson's visionary body of labor can create a crucial addition to the modern Painters Series and to modern art libraries normally. The Author John Hutchinson was erst Director of the Stephen A. Douglas Hyde Gallery, Trinity faculty, Dublin. He has written a substantial range of catalog essays and different publications, each for the Stephen A. Douglas Hyde



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Gallery. His work expresses a long-held interest in charting the continuities of human nature and culture and the perpetuation of methods of timekeeping through oral and visual traditions. Delving into popular culture his paintings often explore mathematical and astronomical signs in folklore, calendars and astrology. Despite a preoccupation with symbolic reference, Dawson's visual language does not attempt to idealise his subject matter. Rather, his painting style is self-effacing and grounded in the vernacular, offering careful consideration of narrative through composition and detail.

Dawson's interest in the past is, in part, an effort to show the continuity of ancient, even prehistoric culture in the present, often revealed in symbols and tales relating to the telling of time, marked by a persistent and common use of numbers in attributes of myth and popular culture, holidays and festivals. In his work, time collapses as past, present and future are represented in oil paintings that obey a non-linear chronology; often they stand simultaneously as a visualising of the past and as a perception of the present from an imagined future, where the natural and man-made retain a more balanced co-existence. Some of the works' imagery springs from the artist's imagination, while in others we see unmediated observations of intimates: a self-portrait, or a portrait of the artist's wife beside a stream. Characteristically, these works present an exploration of the continuities of nature and civilisation, and a belief in the enduring vitality of beauty and painting as a primary form of visceral and visual communication.

Born in 1955, Verne Dawson divides his time between New York and North Carolina. In recent years he has been the subject of monographic shows at Galleria Il Capricorno, Venice, Italy, Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin, Le Consortium, Dijon, Camden Arts Centre, London and Kunsthalle, Zurich. Dawson's work has been featured in significant international exhibitions such as 2011 Yokohama Triennial, the 2010 Whitney Biennial, the 2006 Lyon Biennial, and has been presented in shows at venues such as Palais de Tokyo, Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, and Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris.

REFERENCES

Hutchinson, J. (2019). Verne Dawson. London: Lund Humphries