

# Grapple

An Exhibition by **William Simson**  
2009

**...unaccomplished painters forget  
their shadows...**  
Leonardo da Vinci

I started this body of work with a further meditative investigation into spontaneous colour field painting. Working them up till an image appeared - something like cloud gazing.



When the earth appeared in painting 13! I decided to explore an idea of our stewardship of the earth. With a series of work - a model representing us holding the planet earth - our world. Layered on an abstract landscape ground inspired by the vast inhospitable dry interior of our country. The figure is grounded with a strong shadow. The shadow dark however not black, still transparent, still penetrable. Our dark side, our unknown; is our balance - penetrable.

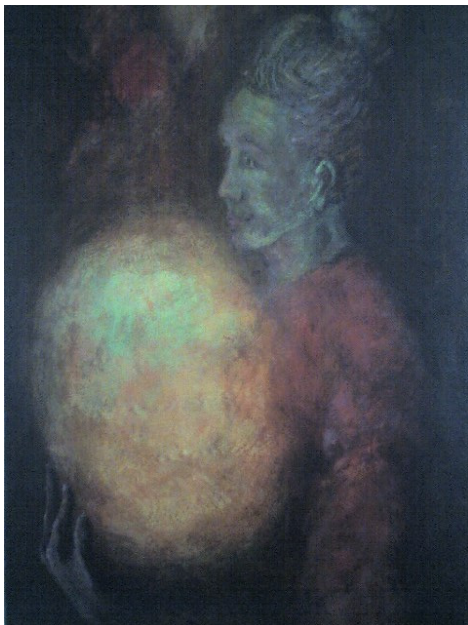
Can we save our living environment? Even if we haven't caused global warming - To survive - We need to maintain a liveable atmosphere. To use our higher intellect, to inherit the earth. We could integrate with the abundant energy and maintain our environment instead of choking ourselves. Can we think as creators not serfs? The earth is in our hands.

## 5.

**G**wion accidentally drinks of Ceridwens cauldron, a potion made for her son - a gift of wisdom. Fearing Ceridwens roth Gwion transforms himself into a hare but Ceridwen pursued in the form of a hound; he changed into a fish and she into an otter; he changed into a bird she into a hawk; lastly he became a grain of wheat and she pecked him up into her crop as a hen. He was reborn of her womb nine months later as the infant poet Taliesin.

Through his totemic associations with the different animals and plants – which represent a getting of knowledge – the poet is able to know what happened in the past and what will happen in times to come. Thus becoming chief bard story teller by prophecy and far memory.

From: Matthews, C&J, *Celto-Arthurian Legends*, Harper Collins 2002



Gestation of Prophecy

Acrylic on Linen  
106 x 76 cm

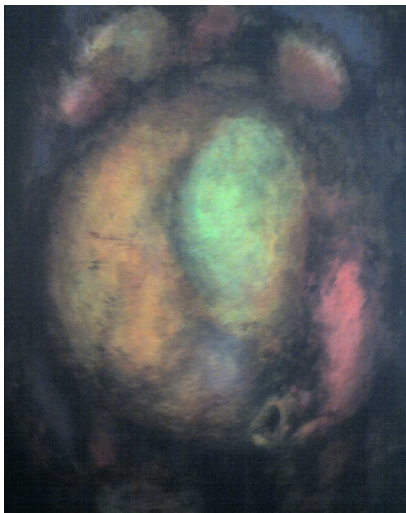
\$1650.00

## 6.

As a child my grandfather gave me the idea of story telling.

He told me a story of the **Heiferlump** – half elephant half wombat – an elusive smart individual animal that could not walk backwards and liked bright things. We would build igloo like traps of stone. Entice the creature with white crystals, found by splitting boulders. Our return trip during the next holidays would require a packed lunch. Stalking stealthily up dry creeks, to the tree fern hill, under which we'd find a trap. The Heiferlump had barged straight through; leaving a note – ha – scratched on a bit of shale, there was no sign of the crystal. Grandfather laughing, checking the next trap – you'll need to try harder than that – or – can't catch me.

The Heiferlump is my point of transcendent reality - a locus which is my mythical and actual at once - a place of initiation. Each individual has a different experience therein. However only my self is enabled by this – to know about what I find there.



Heiferlump

Acrylic on Linen  
106 x 76 cm

\$2200.00 Inc' frame

1.

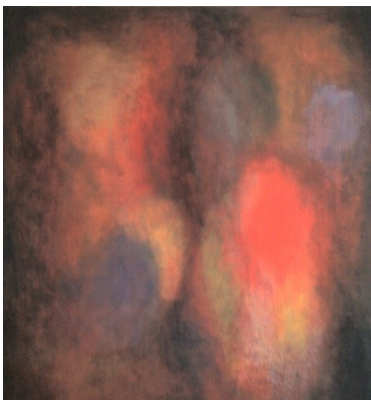


Leaving

Acrylic on linen  
51 x 51 cm

**\$ 880.00**

2.



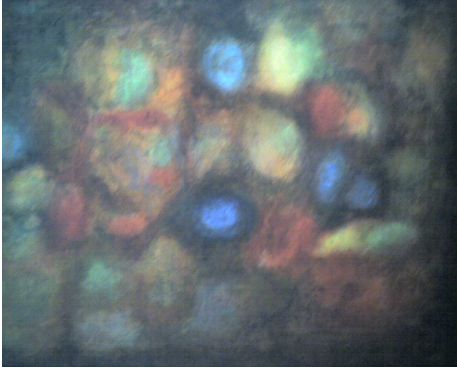
Conversation

Acrylic on linen  
51 x 51 cm

**\$ 880.00**

**3.**

Conscience



Acrylic on Linen  
96 x 121 cm

\$1650.00

**4.**

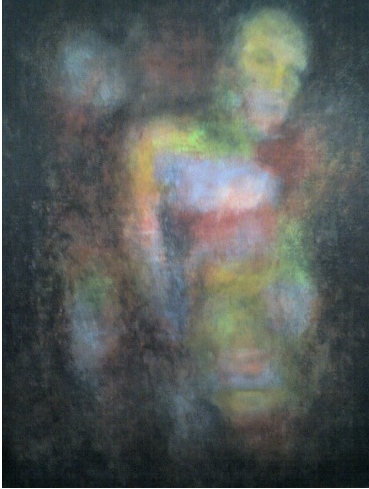
Possessive Giving



Acrylic on linen  
106 x 76 cm

\$1650.00

**7.**



Championship

Acrylic on Linen  
121 x 96cm

\$1800.00

**8.**



Potentiality of Life

Acrylic on Linen  
106 x 76 cm

\$1800.00



**9.**



Ganesh in Repose

Acrylic on Linen  
121 x 96 cm

\$1800.00

**10.**



Reflection

Acrylic on Linen

\$1650.00

**11.**



**Parts**

Acrylic on Linen  
76 x 106 cm  
\$1650.00

**12.**



Cat got your tongue

Acrylic on Linen  
\$ 1200.00



13.

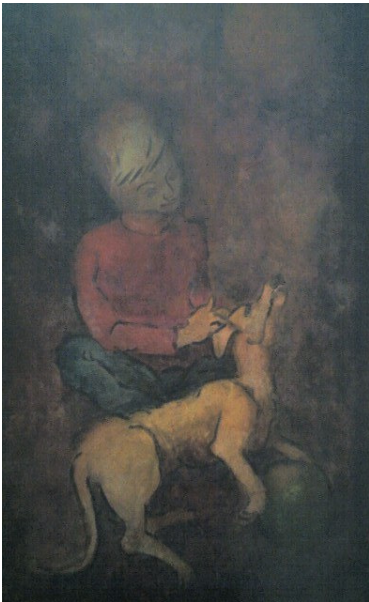


Gathering back at the end of time

Acrylic on Linen  
106 x 76

\$1800.00

14.



Happy days

Acrylic on Linen  
84 x 51 cm

\$ 1200.00

**15.**



Stewardship

Acrylic on Linen  
121 x 96 cm

\$ 1800.00

**16.**

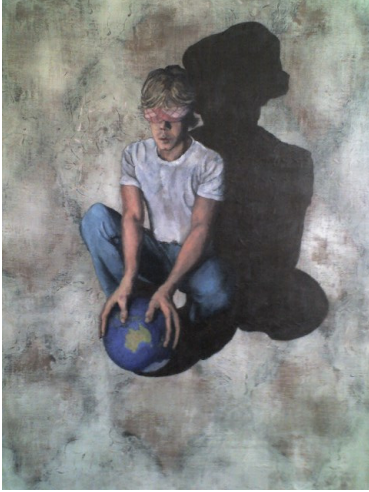


At the gates of knowledge

Acrylic on Linen  
121 x 96 cm

\$ 1800.00

**17.**



In our hands

Acrylic on Linen

\$ 1800.00

**18.**

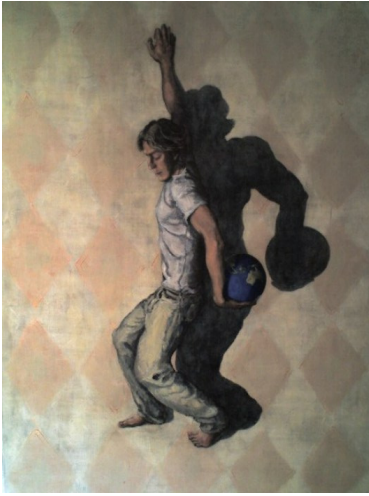


Concentration

Acrylic on Linen  
121 x 96 cm

\$ 1800.00

**19.**

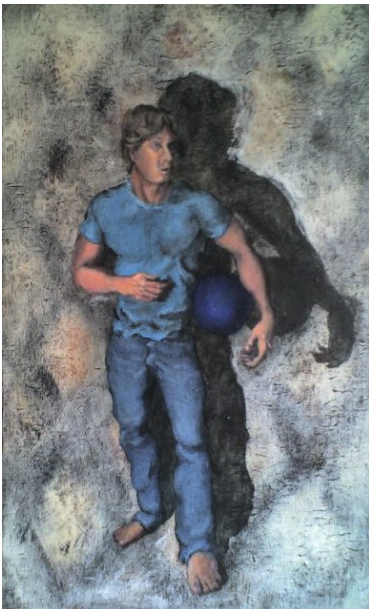


**Grapple**

Acrylic on Linen  
200 x 150 cm

**\$ 2400.00**

**20.**



**We let them melt**

Acrylic on Linen  
84 x 51 cm

**\$ 1200.00**

**21.**



Action required

Acrylic on Linen  
121 x 96 cm

\$ 1800.00

**22.**



Responsibility

Acrylic on Linen  
96 x 121 cm

\$ 1800.00

