



**Happy Day's Are Here Again** Oil on wood 14" x 18"

What are their options? The old saying, "Misery loves company," must be true.

## David Bowers

I believe that human nature hasn't really changed in five thousand years of recorded history. The people, places and costumes change but man's emotions and patterns of behavior are largely predictable. I was struck by this observation of the human journey while studying art history. The cultural patterns that humans create, the power structures, religious, economic and political are repeated throughout history. Most people react on raw emotion instead of reason. This is why many conflicts can drag on for centuries without resolution.

Man's dominance over women for much of history has led to a constant jousting match between the sexes. Throughout history there have been women who have planned to seize knowledge, economic and political power by using their intellect and sexual talents to gain access to these realms largely dominated by men. My art documents observations on humans and the strange world we have created.

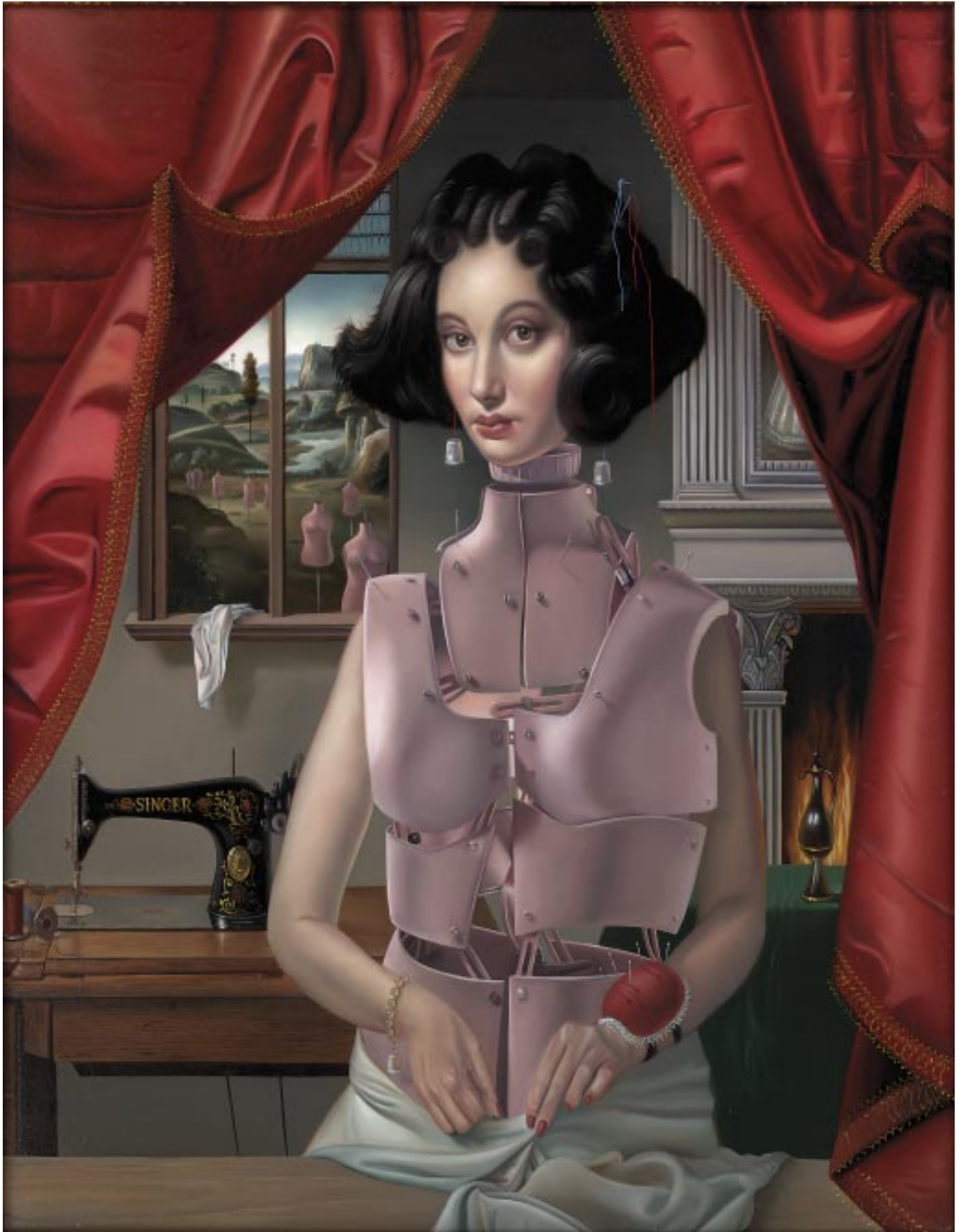
Man's ability to create beauty is balanced unfortunately by his ability to destroy. How we interact with each other and the environment that we

are collectively destroying greatly disturbs me. The silver lining of this dark cloud is that mankind can change his actions and has the ability to readjust our priorities.

I grew up in Key West, Florida, where the environment was of paramount importance. The ocean, the wind and the sun dominated the small fragile islands that make up the Florida Keys. Hurricanes and lesser storms seemed more intense and people paid more attention to them than in other parts of the country. When I left Florida to attend art school in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, I saw the effects that heavy industry had on the environment and the people raised in large cities. Environmental factors and how they affect humans are an underlying theme in many of my paintings.

When I observe human emotions and how they help create acceptable patterns of behavior I am watching how cultures are formed. Many people never think outside of their own culture nor do they understand the value structure of others. This ethnocentric attitude can lead to constant conflicts and the wars that have plagued mankind for most of our history.

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**Fragmented Homemaker** Oil on masonite 17" x 15"  
The keeper of hearth and home feels torn apart in our increasingly plastic world.



**The Sacrifice** Oil on linen over wood 19.25" x 11"



**Waiting for Spring** (above) Oil on linen 18" x 12"

From the beginning of civilization, all societies have been based on agriculture. In ancient times the Goddess of Fertility was offered sacrifices to bring forth a good growing season. The goddess took many forms in many different societies. No matter what society, without the blessing of the goddess, failed crops and starvation were soon to follow.

**Quest for Immortality** (right) Oil on wood 14" x 12"

Here a young artist wants to create a monument that will document her existence and that of her beloved dog. As her creative energy flows into the stone she works feverishly because the end is near. She lives in a dying desolate world.