

## SHOW & TELL VERONICA GOSLING



(From left: painting: 'Why are they Leaving?', Plates and mugs with glaze from Valauris in France, Charcoal drawing from the Time Series: 'NOW!')

**Veronica Gosling** went to school in America and England, worked as a journalist for a short while, married psychiatrist Robert Gosling, brought up 5 children, and published 5 novels before the family moved from London to the Forest of Dean where she took up sculpture, assemblage and pottery decoration. She started and ran an informal gallery, THE BARN AT HAY FARM, inviting other artists to show imaginative and experimental work. She now has GALLERY 36 in Exeter with similar emphasis but has added a sculpture garden.



Veronica with Bird in the garden

*(Images and text © Veronica Gosling)*

I often use animals to express my feelings, especially birds, and horses. It is easier this way to be objective! Like describing one's feelings in the 3rd person.



Section from a Screen

I very often use objects that I have found and that I like because of their texture and their shape and their history, but I then deflect my thoughts from all that and see them simply as forms / shapes, that fit into my visual vocabulary.



Blue Bird

I paint to ease disturbance in my mind. For instance when I had to move from a place I loved to a place I didn't know much about I did a whole series of paintings, one of which is "Why Are they leaving". Another was called "I can't find what it is I am looking for"

*(Images and text © Veronica Gosling)*



Horse and Rider



Do you want to go on?



Nightmare

My charcoal drawings were done after taking over a new space having rather brutally turned someone else out! I had not done many drawings before that, I was feeling territorial, and for some reason quite angry. I started my artwork after moving from London to the country. I used to be a writer. But suddenly I felt I had nothing to write about. I used to listen to conversations and write them down. Now I watch people and sketch their attitudes and movement.



Washing Line



Cat woman chair

I also often do drawings and assemblages when an idea really amuses me.

*(Images and text © Veronica Gosling)*

## TRANSFORMING THE EVERYDAY OBJECT

I have always needed to transform that which I see and do, and often the daily objects that I use, (or those that become defunct,) into either the written word or into some sort of artistic medium. My father was a writer and my mother a sculptress, although she never exploited her talents fully.



Sweet Charity - Lamp

I feel a bit like a sheepdog that is bred to herd sheep: I mean my breeding makes me quite obsessive about doing and making and recording.



Now I Am a Man - Lamp.

Title comes from Corinthians 13, 'When I was a child I thought as a child and spake as a child. Now I am a man I have put away these foolish things.'

*(Images and text © Veronica Gosling)*



Woman and Bird



Plates with glaze from Valauris in France

The downside of having no formal training is lack of technical knowledge and skill in the use of materials. Also I would never think of myself as a REAL artist, nor have the confidence I have noticed graduates from art schools often have. The most useful people to me have been people who tell me about materials and their strengths. I mean carpenters, blacksmiths, electricians, engineers etc., not to mention my sons and other long suffering friends who are brilliant with pulleys and have hung many odd things in trees for me.



Bicycles in a Tree

Veronica is participating in Exeter's Open Studios from 13th -21st September 2008 and can be contacted at: [gallery36exeter@gmail.com](mailto:gallery36exeter@gmail.com)  
Further details about Gallery36, opening hours, other artwork and prices can be found at [www.gallery36.co.uk](http://www.gallery36.co.uk)

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