

Rachel Lumsden

# Igniting Penguins

A Manifesto for Painting

SCHEIDEGGER & SPIESS

# Table of Contents

Foreword 8

PROLOGUE 10

Light doing overtime – A slide carousel

- 1 CAN I PAINT A TREE WITH BIRDS? 16  
The whiff of cowpat / *Malerisch* versus painterly /  
Anti-painting painting / Painting as installation /  
What makes an artist? / Beauty, question mark /  
Subject matter matters / What's proper painting? /  
So can I paint a tree with birds?
- 2 PIETER SENDS HIS REGARDS –  
ABOUT BELONGING 38  
The blazing hot moment / Club chairs at the painters'  
guild / Uncle Walter
- 3 THE GALLERY – A CRASH COURSE IN  
DEALING WITH THE AUXILIARY FORCE 46  
Henry / Bianca / Heidi / Johann / Sand grain and  
mother of pearl
- 4 ART BEASTIES – A BESTIARY  
OF ART DECIDERS 64  
The Constant Gardeners / Classes of belonging /  
The Lip-Glosser / The Secret Sippers / The Tired  
Counts / The Trojan Horse
- 5 EVERYDAY WOMAN AND HERO MAN –  
GENDER ROLES IN THE ART INDUSTRY 84  
The hero's tale / The three nuts for Cinderella /  
What is success? / Grand Old Dame / The Hero's Tale  
meets the Three Nuts – Interference currents both  
bad and good / And the Little Painter?

- 6 EVERYONE LOVES A HERO'S TALE – TWO INTERESTING WAYS OF GETTING LOST 102
- 7 RACHEL WASN'T HAPPY – AN EVERYDAY CASE STUDY 108  
Big Yachts and little dinghies/“So, move over, darling”: Women's quota or trickle down?
- 8 TO HAVE A VOICE 120  
Speaking up/The language thing/Are you experienced?/Igniting penguins/Writing down
- 9 TEACHING AND TO BE TAUGHT – THE PING-PONG OF ART EDUCATION 130  
“The British can't paint”/The Royal Academy and HRT, darlings!/The deceitful bones of Richard III and angels with pencils/Painting crap/Don't try, DO IT/From the horse's mouth/The curious case of the painter-lecturer
- 10 COVID ASKS THE QUESTION – “ART, WHAT'S IT FOR?” 156
- 11 PAINTING! 162  
Matter and representation – the quantum-physical fold/Craft/Immersion and the continuum/Almost there/Time out of time/Woe Corona/A lonely business/Note to self
- Acknowledgements 178