

Sweet Dream Baby

Linda Powell - February 2007

I grew up with a lot of turmoil and a lot of animals. Perhaps that's why I learned to love animals and why I live in the calm assurance today that I am no more or less than the creatures around me.

I could make art about angst and ancient human baggage, but that seems too easy. In life and in art, I challenge myself to rise to a higher plain of love and joy. I express this through artworks which have featured animals since I picked up a pencil at eight years old.

I question the premise that we are so different. Why do we humans separate and isolate ourselves from most other animals? Why do we delude ourselves with a fantasy of superiority? Why do we set different standards or dignity, respect and even survival for our species than for others? Why don't we celebrate our similarities with other the living beings that inhabit this earth?

These serious questions came to my mind while making these sculptures but, in reality, my intent was simpler. These works were made specifically for the walls of Snow City and the pleasure of its patrons. I meet friends here for breakfast, fresh from sweet dreams and content to be in loving human company. My hope is that others who come here will look up and smile at the beast who shares their table. And then perhaps smile at people nearby, happy to be in a safe, warm and nourishing place with their extended animal family.

Linda Powell lives in Bootlegger's Cove with Walter (a man) and Roxy (a dog who wears clothes,) and is a neighbor and friend of Snow City. She received a BFA from UAA and works for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company.