

To Hell and Back

An Artistic showing by *Edmund Haakonson*



November 2nd to November 28th inclusive, at Manifesto, 10043-102 Street.

by Marilyn Stecyk

Edmonton artist, Edmund Haakonson has a fascination with the 'state of being'; the communication of more than the physical presence. Each piece of his work shows how

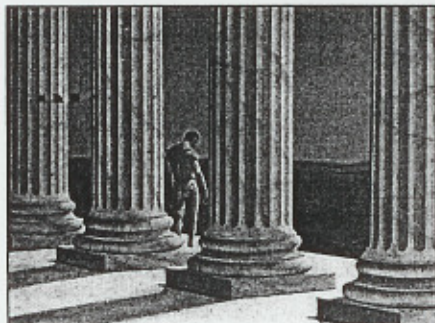
this talented young artist paints the shadows and other minute details of each of his subjects to the extent that you feel that he has captured a part of you. The part that you try to hide from the world. Ironic that I should have thought this about his work, since Haakonson says that, while painting, he was surprised to discover what his subconscious would slip in when he was not looking. He would unconsciously work into these paintings what he himself had consciously chosen to hide in his own life.



He doesn't try to hide his wonderful sense of humor though! Make sure that you check out one particular painting entitled

"Marie, you're not looking too good", (Although my personal favorite is "Palaces, Prisons".)

Historic reference dominates Haakonson's work with the same



authoritative display of power and wealth often depicted in those memorable subjective recordings. Not only does the artist draw out the spirit of his

main subject, he obviously loves the luxury and richness of fabric and accessories, as is evident in the 'life' that they are given.

Edmund Haakonson's talent greatly surpasses his age, as you would expect the author of these works to have many more years of life experience. But then, how many years does it take to go "To Hell And Back"?