

In celebration of
Richard Stone's Exhibition.
Cato Room, Wesley College,
October 19th, 1993.

"DO NOT FEAR THE CAMERA".

*Do not be afraid of the camera
Though it pierces you,
Exposing you as you are,
Not always as you want to be.*

*Do not fear the camera
Whose all-seeing eye searches with indifferent orb.*

*Do not fear the camera,
That mirror in which we see ourselves:
The camera is the artist's eye,
Vital extension of himself
By which form, shade, colour juxtapose in kaleidoscopic myriad
Interpreting his visions.*

*Do not fear the camera
Surreal shapes develop in red-lighted rooms
Where darker purposes are revealed,
Where fluid hands conjure magic,*

*Making manifest eternal moments,
Resurrecting things forgotten,
To linger in the mind.
Zooming in, moving to sharp focus
The artist works his celluloid canvas
Fixing all in perpetuity.
Through his magnascope
With global view
He blends creative substance
Imprinting his soul on Time's continuum;
Spellbound by the stillness
Of silent forms,
He makes beauty of his own.*

*Do not fear the camera:
She is the artist's lover, caressed and cared for,
Kept fondly,
Mutual touch confirms their bond;
In light, their inspiration formed,
In darkness no words are spoken as they conceive,
Producing memories in present time.*

*Do not be afraid of the camera:
The hand which holds the camera holds you,
Sensitive to multi-faceted things
Unfolding you to yourself.
Remember: the camera bares the artist
And he, too, naked, faces us, and himself.*

October '93