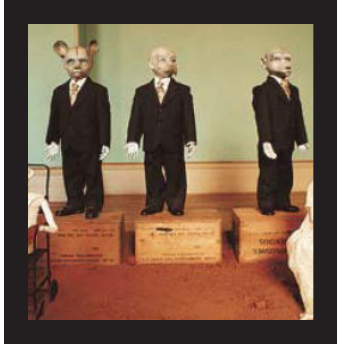


# JANE ALEXANDER : SURVEYS

## (from the Cape of Good Hope)



Jane Alexander makes sculptures that mix human and animal characteristics. These mysterious creatures cross the boundaries between human society and the animal world.

## Part Animal, Part Human

Jane Alexander creates sculptures of **hybrids** – figures that combine the features of two different things (such as humans and animals). For example, in *Corporal* (2008), Alexander combines the body of a man with the face of a dog.



Jane Alexander, *Corporal*, 2008

Are the figures creepy?  
Funny? Both?

What do you think it would be like to be part animal?

Do you think they are humans with animal features, or animals with human features?

## Environment and Objects

**Context**, or the environment that surrounds a work of art, is important to Alexander's work. She takes photographs of the same figures in several places and with different clothes and objects in order to change the way people see them.



Jane Alexander, *Harbinger with rainbow*, 2004

Can you find a sculpture you see in one of the photographs?

Which sculptures do you see the most?

How does the environment affect the way you feel about the sculptures?

## Interactions and Emotions

Alexander's creatures are carefully **posed**, or put in specific positions, so that they appear to interact with one another. In *Bom Boys*, Alexander poses the figures so that they stand close together, but do not look at each other.

Do you think the figures are strangers? Friends? Family?

Do they seem happy? Lonely? Playful? Sad?

Make up a story about some of the figures. What are they doing?



Jane Alexander, *Bom Boys*, 1998

\*Vocabulary words are in bold and listed with definitions on the back cover.

# VOCABULARY

**HYBRID:** a single object composed of different or incongruous elements

**CONTEXT:** the environment or set of circumstances that shapes how we see a particular work of art

**POSE:** to place something in a specific position, often in order to suggest a relationship with objects around it, or, to define its relation to the objects/ things around it

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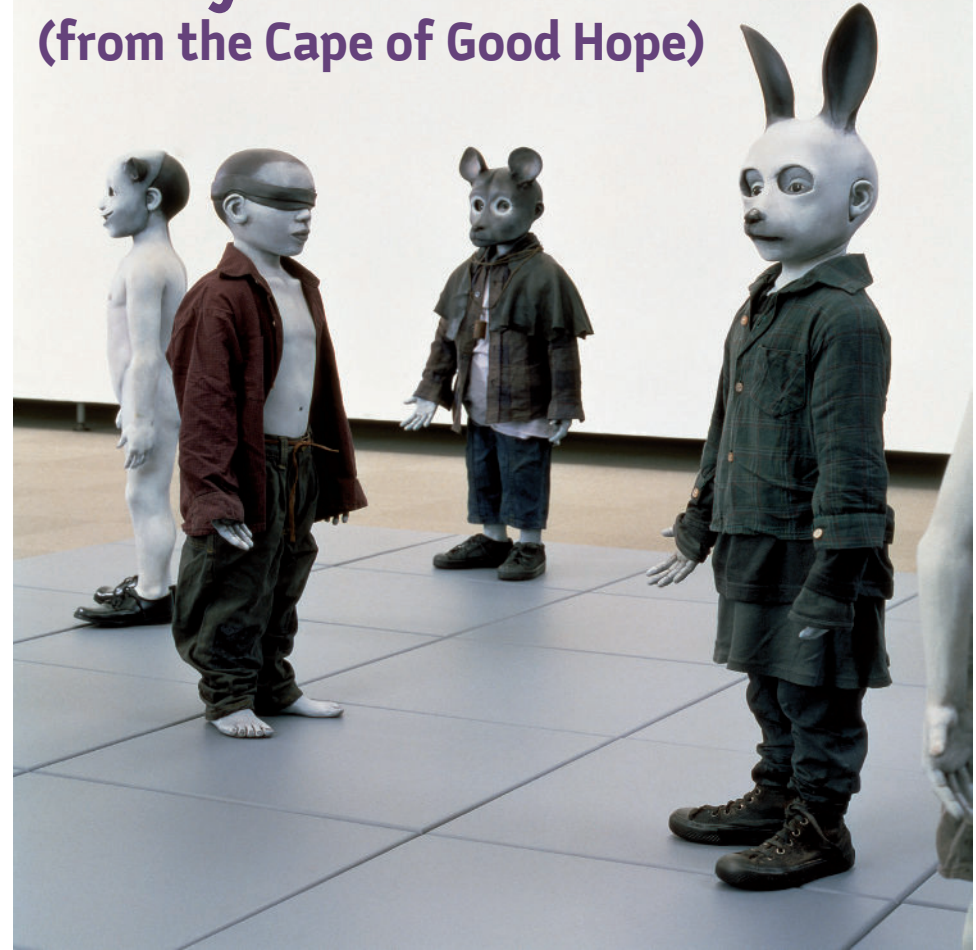
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## Jane Alexander Surveys (from the Cape of Good Hope)



## family guide

