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ARTIS Gallery

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In the 14th century it was the province of medieval nobility to commission *Books of Hours*, celebrated books of parchment or vellum, extravagantly illuminated with each hand painted page depicting the lives of saints and in company of suitably edifying text or prayer. These *Books of Hours* were to be opened only at the eight canonical hours of the day, Matins, Vespers etc; and where an appropriate prayer or psalm might be recited and contemplated.

The conceit of Ray Ching's newest book, *FABLED LANDS*, is to mimic these fabulous and treasured volumes by offering paintings, fables and stories told, many of them autobiographical and where you might open at just any page you please.

The artist has taken from 50 years of studio work those paintings and drawings that have especially interested him and has made each of the more than 500 pages of this stunning book a thing to be treasured.

In keeping with the spirit of those medieval books published before Caxton's moveable type, Ray Ching has written out FABLED LANDS entirely by hand and in his now familiar script.

EABLED LANDS is published as a limited edition of just 150 numbered copies, each signed by the artist.

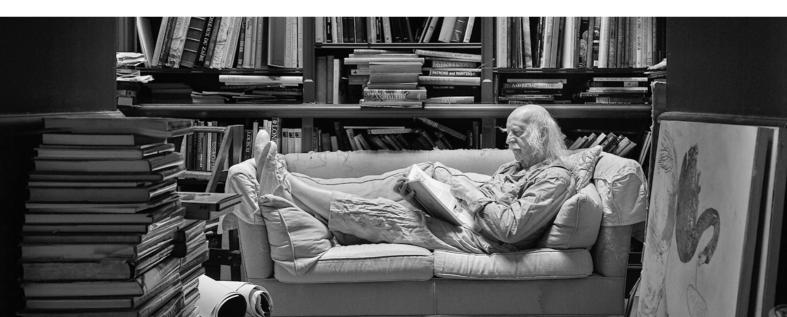




Raymond Ching is a New Zealander whose paintings are widely celebrated for their life-like realism.

He paints from studios at times in New Zealand and Australia, and presently works from a rambling 17th Century house in the west country of England of which he says, "both artist and house have seen better days..."

Books documenting his paintings include: The Bird Paintings, 1978, Studies & sketches of a Bird Painter, 1981, The Art of Raymond Ching, 1981, Wild Portraits, 1988, Ray Harris Ching, Journey of an Artist, 1990, Voice from the Wilderness, 1994, Aesop's Kiwi Fables, 2012, Dawn Chorus, 2014, Aesop's Outback Fables, 2018.







Fabled Lands is a new limited edition book by Ray Ching. Containing the artist's own selection of paintings and drawings spanning more than 50 years, and accompanied by his hand-scripted commentaries, this magnificent book is **limited to 150 copies**, each with its own individually numbered and signed bookplate.

For any enquiries please contact the Gallery.

CONTEMPORARY NEW ZEALAND ART



