

REBECCA HOSSACK

ART GALLERY

Unvarnished

RANTING AND RAMBLING ROUND THE FRINGES OF THE ARTWORLD WITH ARTHUR BERMAN



And so finally, after a quick bus ride I reach the **Rebecca Hossack Gallery** in Conway Street which, I now discover, has a permanent coffee bar installed in the middle of the ground floor gallery. It's certainly a novel idea and I'm tempted to take a refreshment break but first I climb the spiral staircase to the first floor where I'm confronted by what I take to be a giant komodo lizard. Beyond this magnificent beast are some parrots, various primates and an anteater, all of which are constructed from old bits of metal salvaged from the scrapyards by the artist **Iain Nutting**. The idea of patching together bits of junk to form animal-shaped sculptures may sound terribly corny and kitsch but the artist has such a wonderful eye for gauging just the right element to use to suggest the precise shape of a skull, curve of a muscle or weight of a limb that the overall results are really quite spectacular. On the other hand, if you happen to quite like the kitsch and curious then it's worth heading over to the other **Rebecca Hossack Gallery** in Charlotte Street where **Nancy Josephson's** sparkly antelope-head candle holders would provide the ideal present for someone who already has a couple of **QE2** toy corgis.

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