

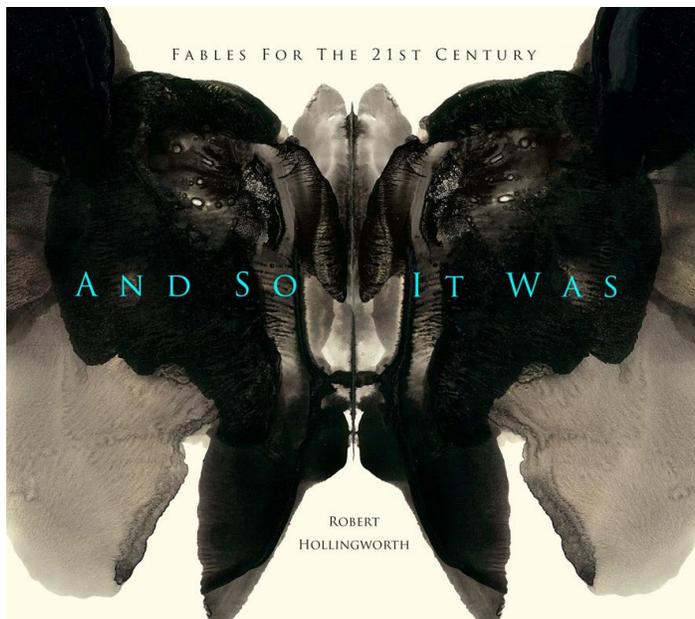
And So It Was – Fables for the 21st Century

Hardback (40 copies only & softcover in limited release) 2013

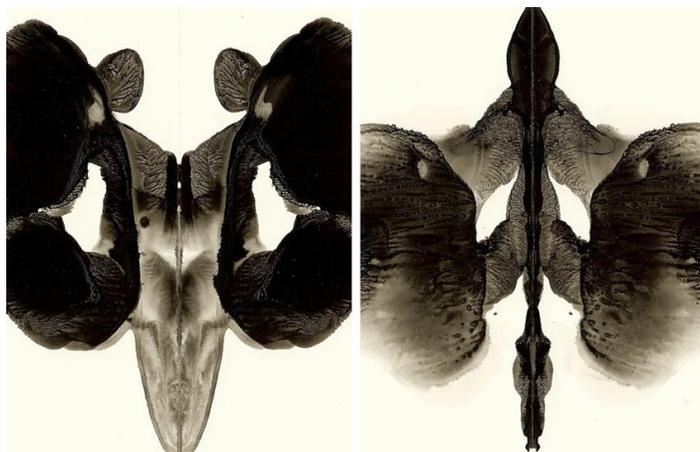
Fifty-two stories, one for each week of the year, each story exactly 365 word long and all divided into the four seasons.

These fables dwell in the mercurial realms of the human psyche. Underlying them is a sense of things not quite right and a dalliance with subtle fears and uncertainties rife in the modern world.

This is a book of stories filled with paradox, enigma and gently poignant ruminations on modern life.



Cover



Illustrations (detail)

“Digital technology is transforming everything and nowhere is it more obvious than in the book world. We see more pragmatic publishing decisions, less books published and less books sold as more readers turn to ebooks.

My work, *And So It Was – Fables for the 21st century*, languished for five years. Several publishers expressed an interest in it: “Wow. What a fabulous idea. I can see the book already. And the blots look so skeletal and human.” (Ian Syson, Vulgar Press). But no publisher was prepared to risk the financial outlay.

Finally, I realised that if the project was to find its proper form, I should produce it entirely myself as artist and author: concept, design, artwork, editing, illustrations, texts and supervision of the printing. And so it was that this limited edition “artist’s book” finally reached completion.

Is there a future for books? I wanted this work to be beautiful in feel and appearance. I wanted each copy to be personally numbered and signed. Perhaps one direction for books is to offer the reader more than just reading pleasure.

Seven signed, numbered and boxed books were purchased by state libraries around Australia.