

## **JUNKMAIL FROM THE PALACE: A NOTE ON THE COLLAGES OF CARY LOREN**

By John Sinclair

The mental world of Cary Loren is a wondrous place, as this brilliant series of collages inspired by the tales and imagery of *The Thousand and One Nights* amply attests. Each work in the series is meticulously crafted to reflect the passage which inspired it and the imaginative gyrations set off inside the artist's bulging cranium. At the same time each collage compels our contemplation without reference to the text from which it has sprung, presenting a rich, incongruous and frequently puzzling concatenation of images that both baffle and delight. The colorations are rich and bright or dark and foreboding as the collage may demand. For the literary minded like this writer, the pieces are best viewed in the light of the titles and appended snippets of text from the *1001 Nights*, but viewed as simply junkmail from the palace each collage offers a particular thrill and entertains without fail. Palace or not, it's hard to turn away from these splendid creations.

—Detroit  
April 17, 2017

© 2017 John Sinclair. All Rights Reserved.