

On Paper

Volume 2 Number 3
January-February 1998

Elena Sisto, *Tin Man* (1997), a five-color lithograph and woodcut in an edition of 25 plus three artist's proofs. It measures 32x31 in. (bleed) and was printed on Rives BFK paper by Andrew Mockler at Jungle Press Editions, New York. Appropriate to his calling, this Tin Man, taken from L. Frank Baum's *Wizard of Oz*, is made as a woodcut, with the rough edges of jigsawed plywood still visible beneath the lithograph drawing in the red and silver ground. Baum's Tin Woodman was whitewashed by Hollywood; the original, more violent, story was of a woodcutter who, enchanted by the Wicked Witch of the East, accidentally cut off each of his limbs in turn and then, finally, his torso, heart and all. Replaced bit by bit by tin parts, he eventually rusted until rescued by Dorothy. Here he is shown in a puzzled looking bust-length portrait, with the prelinguistic phrases "ahh, huh, no, wow" appearing in a yellow speech bubble at the top. With his poignant expression and confused and stammering attempts at speech, this Tin Man seems baffled by inarticulable emotion. Price: \$850. Published by Jungle Press Editions, New York.