



Babs (2013)

Sharon Farrelly

Being in the Police Force and then a Prison Officer at Wormwood Scrubs didn't stop Sharon's creative side. In fact, it pushed her to leave the public services altogether to study Fine Art and become a professional artist. Having originally studied art as a teen and worked as a fashion stylist, she feels she has come full circle. Her experiences have made her work stronger. She says it has been a wonderful experience and was the best decision she has ever made.

Sharon's paintings are influenced by British and American popular culture of the 60s and 70s and the golden period of Hollywood. Hammer Horror, Carry On films, Hanna Barbera Cartoons and British seaside postcard humour also have an influence.

Her paintings are partly autobiographical, her parents represented by Sid James and Barbara Windsor or Fred and Wilma Flintstone. She looks back fondly to growing up in the 70s and 80s and remembers a lot of humour in the family home. There is also a sinister edge to her paintings referencing her phobia of medical procedures stemming from childhood experiences of hospitals and the dentist as a child in the 1970s.

<http://www.sharonfarrelly.co.uk/>

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<http://newartwestmidlands.org/>