

15:08 Page 131

Looking Out (for Each other), mixed media, 30 x 24 in.

was painted. Everything is organized around the initial drawing."

No matter how complex the treatment of a subject or how busy it is Leblond never sacrifices her sense of line. Her subjects are almost always centered in the middle of the canvas, like a logo, which may be a vestige of her studies in illustration

Her pictorial language is precise and simple without being heavy handed.

"I'm not interested in painting perfection, when you see mis-steps or mistakes they are part of the process and my goal is not to approach reality as closely as possible, but to create a work of art that is alive and real."

In order to be able to paint continuously Leblond prepares up to eight canvasses a week at the same time and then works on two pictures at a time, in rotation. The pause this produces in fin-

ishing each work allows her to better evaluate where she is within the piece and make the changes she wants to achieve the effects she desires.

Once the canvas is primed she sketches her subject on it and then she goes to work with acrylics and watercolour inks. If her trait of centering her subject matter comes from illustration, then her use of watercolour inks comes from that field as well, where they are widely