

“Once upon a Time La Dolce Vita”

About the paintings by Hieron Pessers

By Philip Aguirre y Otegui

POISONOUS LIPS

It's Magic

It's Tragic

It's Poison....They called it LOVE

Starring Alexander Fox and Annelies Vermeer

“Poisonous Lips”, a painting dating back to 1984, is as good a starting point as any to get a better understanding of Hieron Pessers' work. In his paintings, Hieron Pessers puts human characters on stage the way a director directs his actors. The film he directs is a dark, sombre film about love and betrayal, seduction and temptation, loneliness.

Every painting Pessers made was prepared in minute detail. As on a film set, his intimates would pose for hundreds of photographs. Each gesture of the personae, each look in their eyes, was determined and directed by the director-painter. The personae are virtually puppets in the hands of the artist.

In this manner Hieron Pessers reveals an orchestrated reality whose denizens, having been assigned their parts, are time and again asked to play the 'big' scenes of life. They are actors playing a role that is fixed, one they cannot escape from. They flirt with glamour and put on show *la dolce vita* – but it remains just a game. They crave love but it remains an intense yearning. There is no fulfilment.

Philip Aguirre y Otegui