Buddhist Paintings, Prints and Poetry
by Richard Wehrman
Buddha
Manjusri Bodhisattva
3.25” X 5.0”
Acrylic on panel
Road-Kill Bodhisattva
18” X 28”
Acrylic on canvas
Billions and Billions listen for a Bell

Bright lights blind.
Each pebble bound in blacktop
leaps forward
out of shadow.
Brakes and blood
slide forward;
Lovers leap into the arms
of liberation.
So hard,
so hard,
impossible I say:
Steel, fur and bone
held tight in brilliant red
Embrace.
Bodhidharma
3” x 7”
Wood engraving
For forty years,
no one blinks.
No one gains anything.
At last,
Nothing is attained,
at all.
Open Window. Three A.M.

So many bones
gnawed night after night;
Homes pillaged,
lives ground into dust.
Years ago,
the Moon broke through the window
of my destruction.
Now my only relief,
this Emptiness
where the night wind
blows.
Demon Sitting in Zazen
10” X 13”
Etching and aquatint
The Elephant and the Blind Men
10” X 13”
Wood Engraving
Once a king gathered five blind men around an elephant, and asked them what it was.

The first felt the point of the tusk and said it was something like a spear. The second touched an ear and said that no, an elephant was more like a fan. Another touched the trunk and said that he disagreed. An elephant was clearly like a thick vine. The next, who had touched a leg, laughed. “Friends,” he said, ‘you are mistaken. An elephant is like a tree trunk.” The fifth who grasped the tail said that was impossible. From his own personal experience he could attest to the fact that an elephant was almost exactly like a rope.

So too we only know partial aspects of Reality and take the small bit we know for the whole.

Retold from a story from ancient India by Rafe Martin
shhhh...

Feng-kan and his Tiger are fast asleep, dreaming of Dragons and Butterflies.

Perhaps a sharp stick will wake them up...

Who will roar loudest, do you think?

Feng-kan and his Tiger
Feng-kan and his Tiger
4” X 7”
Wood Engraving
When I read *Shambhala Sun* or *Tricycle*, I wonder who these people are.

They admit to an occasional random thought, but it’s clear they are enlightened, or at least able to dwell constantly in clear and empty space.

Or those *Yoga Journal* people—Where everyone is thin, composed and bends in all directions.

Or *Fortune*, where everyone’s a millionaire, a captain of success.

So where, I ask, is the magazine for Failure?

For thirty years of falling and recalling, “Be Here Now”?

For the continual recovering from the storming—from the endless repairing of the ship and broken sails?

For this thick and heavy body barely bending?

For the immense gratitude in meeting once again, next weeks payroll, next months rent.
Giclée archival prints on heavyweight 100% rag paper are available of the color images in this brochure. Also, in very limited availability are limited edition prints of the wood engravings, which are hand printed on a Vandercook proof press. All prints are signed and numbered in limited editions by the artist. Prices available upon request.

Left:
Light and Shadow
4” x 4”
Wood engraving

Merlinwood Books

Copyright ©2012 by Richard Wehrman

richard@merlinwood.net

www.richardwehrman.com

585-657-7910

P.O. Box 146   East Bloomfield, NY   14443

Text for The Elephant and the Blind Men
Copyright © 2009 by Rafe Martin