
Art in Review

■ Nostalgic recollections of childhood.

Elinore Hollinshead

'Change of Heart'

Nancy Moore Fine Art
594 Broadway, near Houston Street
SoHo

Through Dec. 21

Memory, mythology and art of the past are key ingredients of Elinore Hollinshead's figurative work, expressed in densely painted canvases that incorporate collage, printed texts, photograms and other material. "Changes," the biggest work, covers five panels with nostalgic recollections of a childhood environment. The setting is woodsy; deer roam through it, a classical statue sits in a garden, a child's composition from 1965, "Animals at My Summer Home," is affixed to one panel. Sounds sentimental, but it is redeemed by Ms. Hollinshead's skill at combining textures, fragmented figurative elements and shifting patterns of light into an evocative composition.

Yet in other works there's a literary pretension that's off-putting. In the densely packed diptych "Pomegranate/Seed," for instance, ancient sculptures metamorphose into two self-portraits of the artist painting, surrounded by gesturing hands. In one, she holds a pome-

granate, symbol of fertility, and pomegranate seeds join other collaged bits, including shells, a wishbone, a branch and so on. But that's not all. The painting is so burdened with images and meanings that confusion reigns.

In simpler efforts, like the floral still life "Some Other Time," and "Winter Garden," a collage-painting of winter symbols actually set into a window frame, Ms. Hollinshead is far more effective.

GRACE GLUECK
