

RL Fine Arts: Contemporary art project

Jeremy Penn

IMMORTAL IMMORTAL

We are excited to present the second show of Jeremy Penn with RL Fine Arts.

Kate on exotic Thai wood. Bardot on Fused Cast Acrylic. Jessica (Stam) within a 6 layered painting, Sharon Tate on birch panel, Bardot on the street! We each have 'our' Bardot, Kate, Britt, Sharon that we cherish. As Warhol so expertly divined, we love our 'stars' and proceeded to provide us with many Marilyns, Elizabeths, Jackies. To this day we are fascinated.

Jeremy Penn continues his and our fascination with these ideals of beauty, each and every one of them possessing an undefinable power over us. He explores the medium of painting on different surfaces, trying out textures and style. Penn likes to work out his indelible icons, such as Bardot, on various surfaces. The *Hot Lips Street* series places her iconic image on collages consisting of scraps of articles and pictures of Bardot from newspapers and magazines, but also advertisements from adult magazines, advertisements for revue shows, etc, that locate Bardot on the street of the bustling city. Bardot was St. Tropez, Cannes, Paris, French, she was direct, aggressive, of and among the people, but yet a goddess. On other works such as *Hot Lips Explosion*, *Hot Lips Chill*, Penn places the famous face on layers of acrylic fused together, each with pure paint pigments, and the work takes on a sculptural, reflected quality, like multiple films coming together in one, Bardot's sensual but tough image resonates on these hard surfaces.

In other works such as *Tate*, Penn remembers the stunning beauty of Sharon Tate, a life full of promise. History has forced us to remember only the sadness of the story, but Penn dispatches the bleak and restores her beauty and lovely innocence. The painting *Tate*, on birch wood panel is stunning, the paint seeming to flow generously on the wood. Britt Ekland, a Scandinavian beauty of the 1970's, mainly remembered as a Bond girl, but yet, released from the period and the film, we see a gamine loveliness and open eyed gaze. By all accounts she loves the painting *Immortal Beauty*.

When asked about *Bleu Exotique*, Penn responded about the physical beauty of Thai wood, and when he saw the wood, he just wanted to paint Kate Moss's face onto it. Kate's face, yes, the face that is constantly a source of inspiration for artists the world over. What is it about her face, or any of these faces? We like symmetry and order. The Fibonnaci sequence shows the symmetry in mathematics, where each number is the sum of the two preceding numbers, can also co-relate in nature, such as the leaves of an artichoke, the arrangement of leaves on a stem, the fruits of a pineapple. For Penn, Kate Moss has a face that is perfect - jaw shape, nose and distance between eyes, strong cheekbones, plane of forehead. As he says: "Kate Moss, for me, is the embodiment of divine proportion". Crystalline, the eyes of model Jessica Stam, is shimmeringly beautiful, not only because the inspiration is so striking, but the manner of the painting itself. Stam's eyes are powerful and penetrating. The painting is composed of 6 layers of acrylic each with their glaze, which are the coated in blue tinted crystal resin, and then finished with more layers of acrylic and glaze. The result is like an intensely gleaming blue jewel, or a blue stained glass window.

This desire to work on different surfaces shows the obsessive quality of Penn's musing on these muses. These faces, these eyes resonate, through movies and old film magazines. The artist Constable was famous for seeking the 'golden proportion' in all his landscapes. Penn is also seeking his golden proportion in these indelible images of women.

Please contact the gallery for further press or images: info@rlfinearts.com

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