

RL Fine Arts

Roberto Custodio Your Royal Highness

Exhibition: November 9 to December 31, 2012
Opening reception: November 9 6:30 to 8:30pm

RL Fine Arts is pleased to present the third solo show of Brazilian artist Roberto Custodio. His collage, mixed media works redefine collage and create extraordinary expressions of imagination and technical finesse.

In the new show, he has created a series of mesmerising, powerful women - Queen, Empress, Duchess, Courtesan, etc. Working with the smallest of images cut out from magazines he transports the viewer into a fantastical and magical world of his imagination, where we are astonished by his mastery of the art of make believe. These elegant and regal ladies are inspired by Roberto's love of the past, who, even though they 'evoke' particular periods, are very contemporary in style and emotion.



Portrait of a Queen, 2012, collage, mixed media, 72.5 x 52.5 cm

With our avarice for sampling pieces of music, images, videos and then creating different works, our culture is continually referencing and commenting on the works of others, both past and present. Appropriation is in command! Fully incorporating the art of the found or sampled image, we are constantly delighted by Roberto's meticulous technique of cutting and repositioning the tiniest image, forcing change between signifier and signified. The artist has cleverly filtered and used the ephemeral nature of the magazine printed image, to create a bold, romantic vision that is respectful of the past and yet grounded in the present.

Roberto Custodio is a self-taught artist, a native of Sao Paulo, Brazil, where he still resides.

At an early age Roberto was interested in creating art, drawing and painting throughout his childhood. He was naturally drawn to artists such as the Dutch master Jan Van Eyck and the Italian genius, Botticelli, for whom sensual beauty was of utmost importance. Roberto never followed this early interest in art into a traditional art training. Instead, later on, while continuing to draw and paint, he developed an interest in fashion photography. In 1989 he started to work as an art director for a model agency in Sao Paulo, where he worked for 10 years. At that time he started to incorporate his art style into the photographs, adding new dimensions to the images through collage, watercolor pencil and India ink.

For more information and visuals please contact Peter Louis at RL Fine Arts.