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RUPERT SHRIVE 'POST PAINTING'

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Rupert Shrive

Agent Morton



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Presents

Rupert Shrive 'POST PAINTING'

May 8th - 18th, 2008

at

The Old Truman Brewery, F Block, 1st Floor,
Ely's Yard, 15 Hanbury Street, London, E1 6QR

Curated by

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Front Cover
Flame, 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
170 x 83 x 10 cm

Back Cover
Torn Campbell's Soup Can (after Warhol), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
134 x 86 x 6 cm

POST PAINTING

Shrive's recent works are all three - dimensional paintings on paper - portrait heads presented as broken carapaces and iconoclastic revisions of familiar works by Picasso, Mondrian, Warhol and Johns. Sumptuously painted, intentionally damaged; they are psychologically arresting works, questioning accepted tenets of contemporary beauty and cultural interpretation.

The title 'Post Painting', refers to the unique technique Shrive uses to redraw or reform a painting as it nears completion. First, he paints in acrylic on brown paper - from life, memory or reference, then he takes the "finished" work and variously crushes, screws or rips it up, repeatedly reforming it in search of its ultimate incarnation.

By making two dimensions into three, Shrive effects an alchemy, turning painting into sculpture. The resulting reliefs erupt from a cyclical trinity of creation, destruction and recreation. It is a process fraught with risk that can end in triumphant success or miserable failure; the window of time available being so short that many paintings don't survive the treatment.

When applied to iconic works of contemporary art, this modus operandi becomes conceptually disruptive - when working from Warhol, the reappropriation of images is taken one step further. Twice removed from the original, they manifest as acerbic critiques on Pop Art's legacy. In the reckless reworkings of Mondrian, the austere and reductive aesthetic is violently undermined and order becomes chaos.

To some extent, Shrive's work mirrors Cubism, in that, instead of trying to bring many different viewpoints into one, they explode into many different viewpoints from one - something he tackles head - on in his compelling version of Picasso's "Desmoiselles d'Avignon".

Flame, 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
170 x 83 x 10 cm



Girl in Shades, 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
152 x 90 x 10 cm



Screwed up Crackhead , 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
155 x 72 x 8 cm



Torn Campbell's Soup Can (after Warhol), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
134 x 86 x 6 cm



Flag 1954 (after Johns), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
134 x 88 x 6 cm



Girl with flower, 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
125 x 85 x 7 cm



Green Geisha, 2007
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
160 x 110 x 5 cm



Elvis (after Warhol), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
148 x 84 x 8 cm





Yellow Diptych, 2007
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
98 x 73 x 3 cm (left)
100 x 74 x 3 cm (right)

Calavera, 2006
Acrylic on brown paper
123 x 94 x 3 cm



Syrinx, 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
83 x 86 x 5 cm



Desmoiselles d'Avignon (after Picasso), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
138 x 150 x 6 cm



Call Girl, 2007
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
64 x 88 x 3 cm



Pilot, 2007
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
117 x 125 x 5 cm



Red and Gold Head, 2007
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
102 x 70 x 5 cm



Geisha No. 6, 2007
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
165 x 100 x 5 cm



Mickey, (after Warhol, after Disney), 2007
Acrylic on brown paper
110 x 85 x 5 cm



Small Opalescent (green), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
48 x 32 x 6 cm





Small Red (left), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
59 x 40 x 4 cm



Small Red (right), 2008
Acrylic and varnish on brown paper
63 x 39 x 5 cm



Small Opalescent, 2008
Acrylic and varnish
on brown paper
53 x 30 x 6 cm



Small Head (Plastic), 2008
Acrylic and varnish
on PVA
51 x 31 x 5 cm



1965 born in Norfolk.

Lives in London and Paris.

Forthcoming exhibitions 2008:

One man exhibitions in Kiev and Paris.

Group exhibition 'Moscow World Fine Art fair', Orel gallery.

Recent One man exhibitions:

April 2008, Cat Street Gallery, Hong Kong.

May 2007, Scream, London.

March 2007, Glauco Cavaciuti, Milan.

Nov 2006, Rita Castellote, Madrid.

Group exhibitions:

March 2008, 'Art Paris', Orel gallery.

Jan 2008, Scream, London.

Oct 2007, 'East West ', Orel gallery, Paris.

June 2007, 'Summer Scream ', Scream, London.

Feb 2007, 'Art Madrid', Rita Castellote, Madrid.

Oct 2006, Group show, Scream, London.

Feb 2006, 'Art Madrid', Nikki Marquardt,
(Paris) and Val i 30, (Valencia).

July 2005, 'Study for the Coach and Horses'
(group portrait of 100 people), exhibited in situ.
(The Times and The Standard).

2000 - 2005, Artist in residence, the Coach and Horses,
Soho, London.

18th Feb 2004, The Times, article identifying the previously
anonymous subject of the famous 'Man with his Hand
on his Chest' in the Prado, Madrid, as a self portrait of
El Greco. (Published during the El Greco show at the
National Gallery, London).

March 2003, Garrick Milne prize, portrait of the actor
Peter Sallis, acquired for the Garrick club collection.

2002, National portrait gallery, BP award, portrait of the
painter Patrick Procktor.

June 2002, Zwemmer's, London, one man exhibition.
(The Times).

2001, Slade, life drawing masterclasses.

1995, ARCO Madrid, Val i 30 (Valencia).

1989 - 1997, Lived in Valencia and exhibited widely throughout
Spain, represented by Val i 30.

July 1989, The Economist, cover, 'The trouble with revolution'.

1984 - 1987, St. Martins school of art, London, BA (hons)
degree in fine art.

1983 - 1984, Norwich school of art.

Photography: Alberto Ricci

Curated by Serena Morton

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