

GAZELLI ART HOUSE

Sequin Pop

PHILIP COLBERT

Preview:

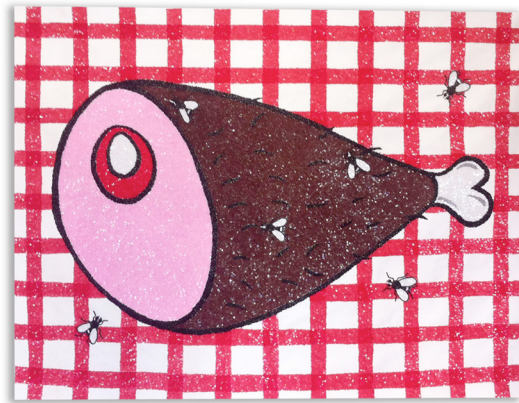
16/09/2014

Exhibition Dates:

17/09 - 21/09/2014

Location:

Gazelli Art House
39 Dover Street
London W1



To coincide with London Fashion Week A/W 2014, Gazelli Art House will present the new body of works on canvas by established Pop Art designer Philip Colbert. Known for his outlandish clothing designs adored by Lady Gaga and Cara Delevingne, Colbert promotes the concept of 'wearable art', a synthesis of fashion and art that is explored in his first gallery show. In this bold new series of work, Colbert continues his dialogue with Pop Art, reimagining his approach to image making by substituting needle and thread for paintbrush, and sequins for paint.

Though his technique is anchored in traditional folk art, Colbert's strong use of colours and abstraction of iconic imagery place his work within a dialogue with contemporary artists. Like his Pop Art predecessors, he employs aspects of mass culture and removes them from their context to create a provocative, satirical language of his own.

Colbert conceives the 1950s American kitchen aesthetic as the foundation of 'Pop' and layers it with his own playful response to icons and symbols associated with fine art, such as meat imagery, prominent in the work of Soutine and Bacon. In doing so, he creates a dialogue with established ideas and works of the past. He ironically pastiches this imagery, playing on the notion that their repetition and overuse over the years have rendered them symbols of popular culture.

Once described by Andre Leon Talley as the "godchild of Andy Warhol", Colbert's work thrives on the motto of Pop Art, as established by Richard Hamilton: "Pop Art is: Popular, Young, Witty, Sexy, Gimmicky, Big Business, Brand Conscious, Accessible, Universal."

His sequin 'paintings' are created in "the ultimate Pop medium", Colbert describes. And they "sparkle as Pop should."

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Philip Colbert is a Pop artist based in London. He is the creator of the Pop Fashion/Art brand The Rodnik Band. The Rodnik Band label is presented as a pop band rather than a traditional fashion label. The collection is a unique amalgamation of music, art and fashion which combines three closely associated genres to create a unique fashion concept.

Colbert's adventure in fashion began by setting up the Rodnik label selling Russian scarves. The name Rodnik came from a shop founded in 1904 in Moscow. Collections formed through adventures and the true Rodnik Style was born. Colbert went on to form The Rodnik Band label, a unique mix of fashion music and art.

"Clothing with a strong sense of fun. This is present in all the collections from the conceptual object dresses, such as the sequin sunflower dress after Van Gogh to the surreal handbags and the bold ready to wear styles that make up the rest of the collection. My work walks a humorous line between fashion and art, I like the idea that my clothing is taken off the wall and worn, that each style expresses an artistic idea that is accessible and makes a thoughtful statement. I feel that fashion's greatest value is in fantasy and escapism. For me humour is a powerful tool to push understanding and encourage a thoughtful approach to clothing."

NOTES TO EDITORS

Gazelli Art House opened its first permanent gallery space on Dover Street, London, in March 2012 after hosting conceptually interlinked off-site exhibitions across London in 2011. In October 2012, the gallery re-opened its original space in Baku, Azerbaijan where it held exhibitions with Azeri artists since 2003.

As part of Gazelli Art House's on-going commitment to art education, the gallery will host a series of events and talks to run alongside the exhibition. As an art organization they are dedicated to providing a new setting for the understanding and deeper appreciation of art.