
BIOGRAPHY

JACK VETTRIANO OBE

BORN 1951, FIFE

JACK VETTRIANO OCCUPIES A UNIQUE POSITION ON THE CONTEMPORARY ART SCENE. CONSIDERED BY SOME TO BE COURAGEOUS AND BY OTHERS OUTRAGEOUS, HE IS SOMETHING OF A MAVERICK FIGURE WHO OPERATES OUTSIDE THE ESTABLISHMENT, YET HIS WORK IS COLLECTED BY MOVIE STARS AND PRICED AT SIX FIGURES. HE FIRST CAME TO PUBLIC PROMINENCE AT THE ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY OPEN EXHIBITION IN 1989. OUT OF NOWHERE, HE ERUPTED ONTO THE SCOTTISH ART SCENE WITH A SERIES OF PAINTINGS, ALL OF WHICH WERE LATER SOLD. SINCE THEN THERE HAVE BEEN SELL OUT EXHIBITIONS IN EDINBURGH, LONDON, HONG KONG, JOHANNESBURG AND NEW YORK.

In 2003, Jack Vettriano was awarded an Honorary doctorate from St Andrew's University and an OBE for Services to the Visual Arts. In April 2004 'The Singing Butler' was sold at Sotheby's for in excess of £750,000, a record breaking price for a painting by a Scottish artist. In 2009, Vettriano was commissioned by the Yacht Club of Monaco to create a series of paintings to mark the centenary of their world famous yacht, Tuiga. The subsequent exhibition, 'Homage a Tuiga', premiered in Monaco as part of Classic Yacht Week in September 2009, before touring to the UK in 2010. In March 2010, Days of Wine and Roses was opened by Scotland's then First Minister the Rt Hon Alex Salmond SNP at the Kirkcaldy Museum, then transferred to London. Later that year, Sir Jackie Stewart presented Vettriano with the Great Scot of the Year Award which led to a Motion in Parliament calling for his contribution to Scottish culture to be recognised.

In February 2011 it was announced that Vettriano's self-portrait The Weight would be displayed at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. Then in January 2012, menswear brand Stefano Ricci launched its Spring Summer 2012 collection entitled 'Stefano Ricci - a tribute to Vettriano', using images by the artist and photographic re-interpretations shot by Fredi Marcarini featuring clothes and accessories from the Ricci 2012 collection. This same year 'The Singing Butler' went on display at the Aberdeen Art Gallery as part of an exhibition entitled, 'From Van Gogh to Vettriano'.

Vettriano's 2013/2014 Retrospective at the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow attracted huge attention and cemented his status as one of the world's most popular artists. With studios in Scotland, London and the south of France, he counts Jack Nicholson, Sir Alex Ferguson, Sir Tim Rice and Robbie Coltrane amongst his collectors.



THIS POWERFUL NEW COLLECTION BEARS ALL THE HALLMARKS THAT HAVE BUILT JACK VETTRIANO'S FORMIDABLE REPUTATION - AN ALMOST AGGRESSIVE BOLDNESS OF STYLE TEMPERED WITH NOSTALGIC CHARM, MORAL AMBIGUITY AND COMPOSITIONAL BRILLIANCE.

THE ARTIST TAKES US ON A JOURNEY FROM THE CINEMATIC DRAMA OF FETISH IN WHICH WE SEE HIS DARKER SIDE, TO THE RESTRAINED ELEGANCE OF THE CONTEMPLATION SERIES. AS WITH ALMOST ALL OF HIS WORK, WOMEN, IN THEIR MANY GUISES, ARE AT THE CENTRE OF THE COLLECTION, CHOOSING HOW MUCH OF THEMSELVES TO REVEAL AND HOW MUCH TO KEEP HIDDEN, AND DARING US TO JUDGE THEM.

"AN ARTIST HAS TO HAVE INTEGRITY; THE WORK HAS TO COME FROM THE HEART. I REALISED THAT THE THINGS THAT MOVED ME HAD BEEN IN FRONT OF ME ALL MY LIFE....WOMEN."

JACK VETTRIANO

NEW COLLECTION

Despite the much discussed eroticism which pervades so many of Vettriano's paintings, there is always that narrative quality in his work, be it light or dark, which suggests a past or a future, rather than dwelling on the present. There is often a slightly dreamlike detachment which can almost tip over into surrealism, and this distances it from the realities of the often provocative tableaux. The atmosphere or dark intimacy suggests romance, passion, 'a happening' that draws us, perhaps against our better judgement, into a world of heightened senses where a story is unfolding that we can make our own.

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SEVEN HEAVEN

13" X 15", Paper Edition of 100, Framed £650



CONTEMPLATION PIECES

From femmes fatales to sleeping beauties, from daydreamers to dancers, Vettriano's women weave their way through his dramatic narratives leaving a trail of broken hearts or contented smiles in their wake. The women in Contemplation are flying solo, each with something different on her mind; decisions to make, schemes to hatch, dreams to realise... but each of them has an air of assured confidence that suggests that she will, like all of Vettriano's women, be the architect of her own fate.

"Vettriano's women arrive with their pasts and desires defiantly on display; they challenge the viewer to embrace them or flee."

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VETRIANO



BLACK ON BLONDE

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BABY BYE BYE

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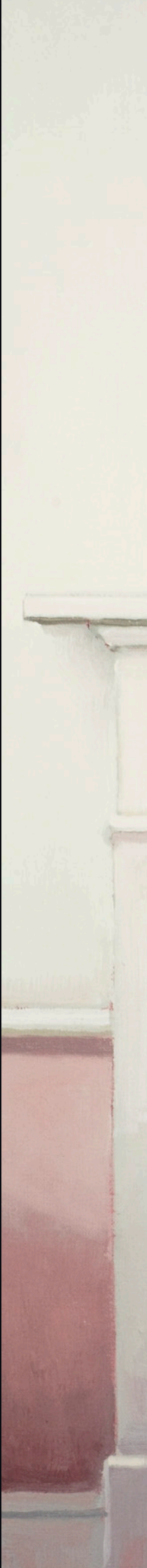


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"His images suggest stories, dark and hot happenings,
complicated pasts and futures.

They resonate beyond their burning moment."

A.L.KENNEDY

INTRODUCTION TO JACK VETTRIANO'S 2013/2014 RETROSPECTIVE AT
THE KELVINGROVE ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM IN GLASGOW

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