

ROBYN BEECHE

1945 -2015

FEB 2 - 28, 2016

Robyn Beeche, the native Sydney photographer, who sadly passed away this year at the age of 70, documented seemingly opposing worlds: the post-punk, new romantic fashion and music scenes of 1980s London, and the Hindu ceremonies held in the Indian pilgrimage town of Vrindavan, Uttar Pradesh. Beeche became renowned in London for her ground breaking photos of painted bodies, transforming the body into a canvas and a site of dynamic exploration. Collaborating with counter-culture personalities Zandra Rhodes, Vivienne Westwood, Leigh Bowery and Divine, Beeche was drawn to personalities who were fascinated with the possibilities of physical transformation. Employing imaginative makeup and sophisticated lighting, bodies were fragmented, distorted and transformed into sculpture. Regularly visiting India in the mid-1980s at the peak of her career proved life-changing with Beeche settling in the pilgrimage town of Vrindavan permanently in 1992. For the next three decades Beeche captured both the serenity and dye-drenching ecstasies of Indian religious rituals. The colour saturated week-long Holi festival in Vrindavan reminiscent of Beeche's experimental work with makeup artists.

Anne O'Hehir, curator at the National Gallery of Australia, stated that, "much of Beeche's work of the 1970s and 1980s sits in its own place between fashion photography and art photography. For me there's an interesting tension in her work between the image as decoration and the image as portraiture - particularly in the images of famous figures - Leigh Bowery, Sir Roy Strong, Andrew Logan. Beeche's inspiring life story has been told by Lesley Branagan in a revealing documentary film 'A Life Exposed - Robyn Beeche: a photographers transformation', which was broadcast on ABC TV June 2013. The film reveals how Beeche, at the center of London's high fashion world, finds that fame and success are no longer enough and traces her intrepid move to India to rediscover herself.

Robyn Beech is survived by her brother, Geoff and sister, Gai.

Directors note

We are always amazed by Australian photographers impact on popular culture overseas and Robyn is no exception. Her images from Londons' decadent 80's were known the world over, her work was surprising then and remains so now. The National Gallery, Canberra, have previously acquired 55 of her works - she is an important artist. This is the first time Robyn's work has been showed since her passing and due to her international profile will soon be highly sort after.

All the listed prices are valid during the exhibition period only.

ARTWORK SALES (see next page)

PUBLICATION 'VISAGE TO VRAJ' \$60

A LIFE EXPOSED DVD \$25



PRICE LIST 2016



1. VIVIENNE



2. SONIA II



3. STEVE STRANGE



4. SONIA I



5. LEMPICKA



6. LEIGH BOWERY



7. DIVINE



8. KNOTS



10. ANAND



11. RATIONAL THEATRE



12. SCARLETT



13. KICK BACK



14. PINK ELLIE



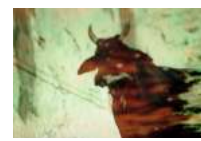
15. YELLOWMAN



16. ELLIE AND WIDOWS



17. MUKHARAI



18. BALADEV

1980's images (1-12) available in two sizes

Large 100 x 100cm (image area) frame size 125 x 151cm edition of 9 \$ 3850 unframed \$ 4850 framed

Medium 56 x 56cm (image area) frame size 79 x 64cm edition of 25 \$ 1850 unframed \$ 2250 framed

Indian images (14 -18) one size only

69 x 46cm (image area) frame size 79 x 64cm editions of 25 \$1250 unframed \$1500 framed

note- Please ask staff regarding Robyn's other works that are available which are not on display. All frames are exhibition only frames - New frames will be produced.