15TH MAY 2014

# **RUPERT SHRIVE** ANIMALS AND MEN



PRIVATE VIEW: THURSDAY 5 JUNE 2014 - 6-8 PM EXHIBITION: 6 JUNE - 27 JUNE 2014

AT

SERENA MORTON, CANALSIDE, (BENEATH THE 'WATER TOWER) 385 LADBROKE GROVE, LONDON W10 5AA

Serena Morton

Canalside, Beneath the 'Water Tower', 385 Ladbroke Grove, London W10 5AA Tel: 07904 636 910 www.serenamorton.com Serena Morton is pleased to present the fourth London solo exhibition, 'Animals and Men', by Rupert Shrive.

It is a unique investigation of two and three dimensional space, explored through crushed paintings and collages made from the artist's own work.

The title is taken from Kenneth Clark's book (1977). We are presented with hybrid compositions of a human and an animal countenance, addressing such age old issues as man's complex relationship with the beasts, together with more contemporary concerns; of genetic modification, of plastic surgery, or of facial recognition in a time of constant surveillance.

Made with torn or crumpled fragments of paintings and drawings, Shrive now builds on his two signature processes; of crushing into sculpture and fragmenting into collage, and fuses the two into startling new three dimensional sculpture/collages.

Nothing is where you would expect it to be, everything is misplaced and what at first appear to be haphazard arrangements, turn out to be on closer inspection, carefully composed spatial juxtapositions that throw preconceived notions of the picture plane into disarray.

There are paintings and drawings; of people, of animals, both natural and mythological, copies of old master's, geometric decoration from the Alhambra and heraldic banderoles, in muted reds, blues, gold and silver.

These are composed to extraordinary effect, with each medium imposing its own logic on the central theme. Invoking divers sources; from the totemism of African tribal art to medieval chimeras, cubist arrangements to the Chinese zodiac or from Arcimboldo's composite heads on through to Rauschenburg's assemblages of junkyard detritus.

There is great pleasure to be found in deciphering these propositions and the exhibition presents a welcome alternative aesthetic to the sea of conventional media in which we find ourselves today.

Rupert Shrive has exhibited in London, Paris, Milan, Madrid, Brussels and Hong Kong. His installation at the Courtauld East Wing, 2011 - 2012 was inspired by Goya's '*Sleep of Reason*' and his monumental rendition of the seven deadly sins was exhibited in the Grand Palais, Paris in 2010. Michael Pepiatt's interview with Rupert Shrive is included in his recent book '*Interviews with Artists 1966 - 2012*', under the 'School of London' section.

His last one man exhibition was at the Chapelle de Boondael in Brussels in 2012.

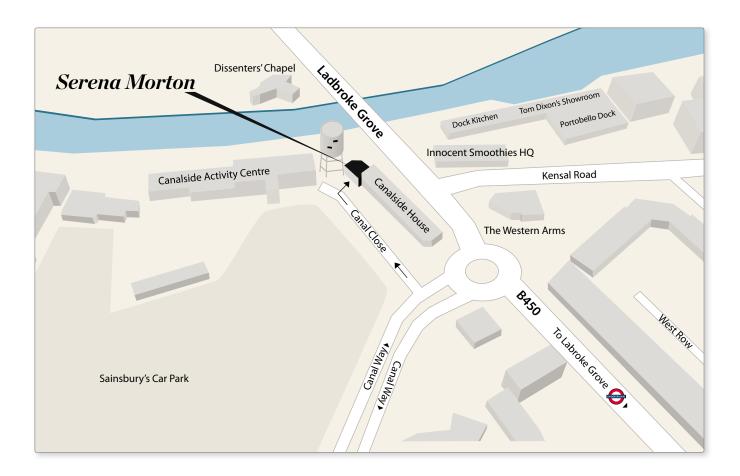
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## Serena Morton

Canalside, Beneath the 'Water Tower', 385 Ladbroke Grove, London W10 5AA Tel: 07904 636 910 www.serenamorton.com OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 10AM - 5PM ALL OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT CONTACT SERENA MORTON: SERENA@SERENAMORTON.COM



# Serena Morton

385 Ladbroke Grove London W10 5AA Adjacent to Canalside House

At the last roundabout on Ladbroke Grove before you cross over the Grand Union Canal, you will see Sainsburys car park on your left and a red brick building (Canalside House) on the right.

> Follow the signs to Canalside Activity Centre. Serena Morton is below the Water Tower on the right, at the very end of Canalside House car park.

> > Please note that Parking is Restricted.

Nearest tube Ladbroke Grove

www.serenamorton.com

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