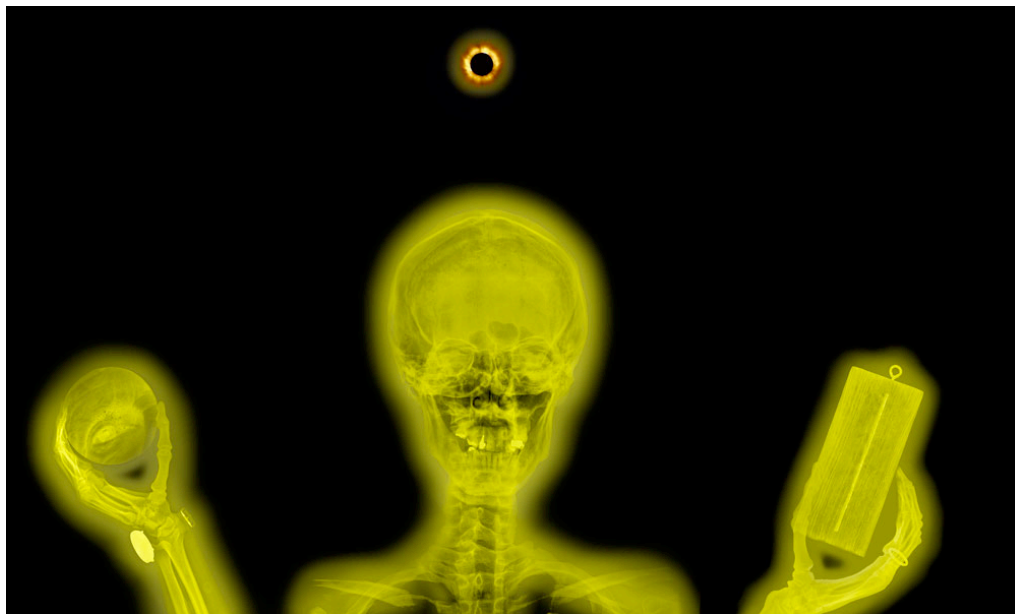


PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sacred Portraits Alexander de Cadenet

23 JUNE - 14 JULY 2015

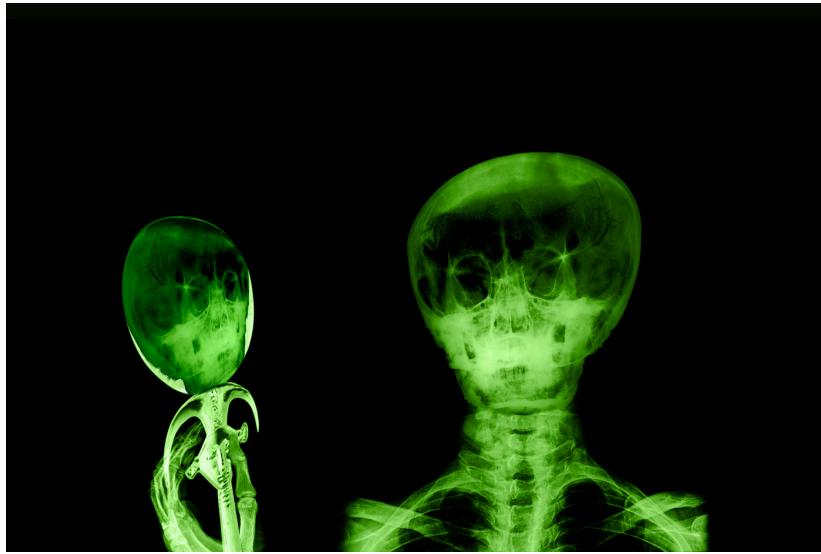


The Alchemist II, 2015

“A celebration of existence while simultaneously questioning the value of worldly endeavour”
– Tarnya Cooper, Chief Curator of the National Portrait Gallery London

SACRED PORTRAITS is a new polemic exhibition by London artist Alexander de Cadenet launching at Andipa Gallery on 23rd June 2015. Arguably the most objective form of self-representation, de Cadenet’s skull portraits break the mould of traditional portraiture by passing his subjects through an x-ray process revealing a skeletal forensic record with personalized elements relating to each subject’s unique character. As a precursor to current trends, de Cadenet’s study and work with skull portraiture date back 20 years, pre-dating works from other new contemporaries such as Damien Hirst. With a series of inspiring yet controversial historical icons, this provocative exhibition features photographic skull portraits from celebrities to ancient kings including Marilyn Monroe, Hitler and King Tutankhamun.

ANDIPA GALLERY



The Pharaoh, 2015

In addition to his selected historic figures, de Cadenet also accepts private commissions allowing clients the opportunity to capture their own photographic skull portrait by working directly with the artist to create a unique piece using external artifacts, situations or environments. Past clients include royalty and notable individuals, couples, and families in fashion, industry, banking and the arts.

Inspired by the tradition of the *Vanitas*, relating to the transcendence of earthly life, de Cadenet's work explores a deeper representation of self, beyond flesh and bone, creating a timeless snapshot of the current moment with a medium that speaks to our past and future alike. The resultant radiograph cannot be created in Photoshop and is an authentic record of the subject's identity.



The Star, 2015

ANDIPA GALLERY

A notable part of the series, 'The Star' is a dramatic representation of Marilyn Monroe that questions the vanity of earthly status and fame by reaching beyond external beauty to show the anatomical essence of the icon. Here de Cadenet parodies the glamorous mask of celebrity with a portrait that strips away all material attachments, leaving the star exposed and timeless with a certain divine presence suggested by the halo above. Using this 'anti-portrait' approach, the work speaks to the aesthetic of pop art while also suggesting a deeper spiritual contemplation touching on the mortality of life.

SACRED PORTRAITS will release 9 new extremely limited edition works in two formats and offers the opportunity to privately commission a unique portrait as an individual, couple or family using meaningful personal artifacts that speak to the essence of the client's identity and being.

Prices range from £2,200 to £7,850 with commissions starting at £12,000. See andipa.com for more details and contact information.

BIOGRAPHY

Born in London in 1974, Alexander de Cadenet works in the media of photography, painting and sculpture. With a practice that draws inspiration from historical portraiture, spiritualism and symbolism, his work explores sacred traditions through a contemporary perspective. The skull portraits transform instruments of medical intention into artworks that explore themes of vanitas, the nature of celebrity and existential investigation. De Cadenet has been experimenting with this form of art for 20 years and the skull portraits have been widely exhibited and presented in numerous international private collections and publications.

Alex De Cadenet completed his BA at Courtauld Institute of Art, London in 1996. His exhibitions include Victoria & Albert Museum, (London), Courtauld Institute of Art, (London), Tate Britain (London), Gallery Marino (Rome) and the Beijing National Museum (Beijing). He has been featured in Time Out, Art of Britain, Art Tomorrow and *Movements in Art Since 1945* by Thames and Hudson.

END

*NOTES TO EDITORS

Exhibition Dates: 23 June – 14 July 2015

Opening and Press Reception: 23 June, 6pm – 9pm. Artist will be in attendance.

Gallery Location: Andipa Gallery, 162 Walton Street, London, SW3 2JL, UK

Exhibition Hours: M-F: 9:30-18:00 and Sat: 11:00-18:00. Closed on Sunday and bank holidays. Free Admission.

ANDIPA GALLERY

Tel: 020 7589 2371 / www.andipa.com

Closest tube stations: Knightsbridge and South Kensington

Press Enquiries: Please contact Daniel Campos, by email at daniel@andipa.com or by telephone 020 7589 2371. Images available by request, in high resolution for print and low resolution for online use. The artist and gallery director are available for interviews.

About Andipa Gallery

Andipa Gallery works both in the primary and secondary market. Within its primary platform it shows fresh, innovative and aesthetically stimulating work by new contemporaries from around the world. Andipa Gallery draws on the knowledge, experience and resources from its over fifty years experience to provide an exciting program of exhibitions and events. Collecting contemporary art is a very unique experience and we welcome both those new to contemporary art and existing collectors.

Artwork Details:

Cover Image (page 1):

The Alchemist, 2015

Available in two formats:

Photographic print mounted on aluminium
Edition of 3, Signed
100 x 150 cm
£ 7,850 + vat

Photographic print mounted on aluminium
Edition of 7, Signed
18.6 x 31 cm
£ 2,200 + vat

Second Image:

The Pharaoh, 2015

Available in two formats:

Photographic print mounted on aluminium
Edition of 3, Signed
100 x 150 cm
£ 7,850 + vat

ANDIPA GALLERY

Photographic print mounted on aluminium
Edition of 7, Signed
20 x 30 cm
£ 2,200 + vat

Third Image:

The Star, 2015

Available in two formats:

Photographic print mounted on aluminium
Edition of 3, Signed
150 x 130 cm
£ 7,850 + vat

Photographic print mounted on aluminium
Edition of 7, Signed
31 x 24 cm
£ 2,200 + vat