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Thomas Dane Gallery displays more than sixty works on paper by Michael Landy



Michael Landy, *Saint Catherine Wheels found dumped outside The National Gallery, 2012-13*. Pencil on paper, 150.5 x 292.7 cm. Courtesy Michael Landy and Thomas Dane Gallery.



LONDON. - It has been nearly twenty years since Michael Landy covered all the walls, top to bottom, of City Racing Gallery with small signs, symbols and figures, highly-stylised and personalised, boldly drawn in marker pen. The twenty-year anniversary of 'Run For Your Life', 1993, is an exciting pretext to stage a retrospective of works on paper by one of the truly original - and resolute - artists of his time. Landy is being celebrated at The National Gallery, London, with an exhibition, 'Saints Alive', the conclusion of his two-year residency.

Michael Landy's utterly distinctive graphic production is the foundation of his practice. His drawings function in many different ways: as semi-autobiographical pieces, preparatory or concluding sketches for his large-scale projects and installations, as well as autonomous bodies of work.

The display of sixty-odd works on paper, in both [Thomas Dane Gallery](#) spaces, will bring together, for the very first time, at least one example of every series or project that Landy has realised in the past twenty years, in an attempt to reveal and observe his rich, playful, and dogged vision.

Landy's compositions defy classical conventions, yet they are executed with obsessive attention to minutiae, in keeping with considerations of Art Brut - or even more so, Outsider Art - and are often arranged with uncompromised determination, and a strong sense of layering, as well as a hard-edged graphic outline.

In Landy's hands, the Art of Copying becomes a trademark for joyful inventiveness and innovation. The deceptive mechanisation of his mark-making turns into a ground for muted reflection (in 'Nourishment', 2002); introspection ('Orchidectomy', 2005); scrutiny of his entourage ('Portraits', 2007-08); emotional tribute to his father ('Welcome to my World', 2004); and very often observation and astute critique of a world engulfed in self-destruction by compulsory consumerism ('Run for Your Life', 1993-2013; 'No Frills', 2008; 'Scrapheap Services', 1995; 'Closing Down Sale', 1992).

There are only three drawings in existence around his most emblematic project, 'Break Down', 2001, reunited for the first time in the show, whereas his un-realised homage to Jean Tinguely ('H2NY', 2006-07), has given birth to a larger than life opus of hundreds of works on paper, all executed from films and photographs from the Sixties, in such diverse techniques as glue, oil stick, crayon, correction fluid, bleach, wax, ink and charcoal.

From the first ideas he jotted down on empty cigarette packs or scraps of paper, to the monumental accumulation, in pencil, of all the St. Catherine Wheels he found in the National Gallery Collections, Landy has been relentless, and he is still going.



Today's News

June 5, 2013

"The Golden Cabinet": Exhibition recalls the opulence of the lost Antwerp art cabinets

United States journal says research proves ancient French winemaking had roots in Italy

First dedicated exhibition of Eduardo Chillida's sculptures opens at Ordovas in London

Europeana releases first free iPad app with works from Europe's top institutions

First comprehensive retrospective of Linda McCartney's work opens at Kunst Haus Wien

Exhibition of new paintings by Per Kirkeby opens at Michael Werner Gallery in London

William Morris Gallery wins UK's largest arts prize - £100,000 Art Fund Prize for Museum of the Year

The Red Ronnie collection of rock & roll memorabilia at Christie's South Kensington in June

Exhibition highlights Gary Hume's innovative use of colour, line and surface

City of Marseille opens a twenty-first-century museum of civilisations next to the Mediterranean

Christie's London announces full details of The Exceptional Sale to be held on 4 July

Survey exhibition of the celebrated British painter Patrick Caulfield opens at Tate Britain

Minneapolis Institute of Arts receives transformative gift of Japanese art from Willard "Bill" Clark

Bonhams sells 100% of French champagnery's gold coin treasure

Annoushka Boutique displays the complete spectrum of Nathalie Hambro's broad-based artistic practice

Thomas Dane Gallery displays more than sixty works on paper by Michael Landy

Disappearance: Fergus Feehily opens exhibition at Mother's Tankstation in Dublin

Royal portraitist Nicky Philipps opens exhibition at Fine Art Commissions' new Duke Street gallery

Rare Russian literature on offer at Bonhams New York

Lethal Beauty: Samurai Weapons and Armor opens at the Honolulu Museum of Art

American and European masterworks of the last 100 years to be offered at Sotheby's

Most Popular Last Seven Days

1.- Investigators analyse ashes taken from the house of one of the suspects as Dutch heist paintings feared burnt

2.- **Exhibition of nude photography around 1900 on view at Berlin's Photography Museum**

3.- A team of twelve restorers inspect the "Isenheim Altarpiece" at the Unterlinden museum

4.- **Russian scientists make rare find of 'blood' in carcass of female woolly mammoth**

5.- Taliban criticise Kabul's pink balloon art project by 31-year-old artist from New York

6.- **Gagosian Gallery in London presents a group of four tapestries by Gerhard Richter**

7.- Archaeologists find Colonial and Pre-hispanic vestiges thought to be 500-1,000 years-old

8.- **RM stuns market as Villa Erba sale realises more than \$35 million; Ferrari sells for \$12,812,800**

9.- Indianapolis Museum of Art receives major painting by William-Adolphe Bouguereau

10.- **Newly discovered prisoner journal donated to Auschwitz by widow of US lieutenant Clifford Hensele**

You Won't Believe What These Flowers Are Made Of

James Franco Goes 'Psycho'

Imagine A World Without Women...


Russia Gets Avant-Garde

The Cutest Doodle Project We've Ever Seen

Behold The Strawscraper!

'A Rubens In The Cupboard!'

This Museum Gets YARN BOMBED

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