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Costumes for human dolls

Looks like King Ludwig XIV. ...but it is not.
Looks like fairytale about princess with golden star... but it is not.
Looks like satin...but it is not.
She plays with epochs, costumes, fabrics, skirts, models... **german artiste Tina Cassati.**

Where the wild roses grow

When I saw the video to the song „Where the wild roses grow“ for the first time I almost didn't blink for 3 minutes. Not to miss a moment! Magic visionary atmosphere, soaring bucks of roses, fabulous Kylie Minogue with porcelain skin and red lips in the tarn, snake twisting over her snow-white dress, voice of Nick Cave, strong story (for those who don't know, Kylie is already dead in the video! It is duet of loving victim and her killer). I tried to „memorize“ these views and save them to my memory to recall them everytime I want to. It worked just a little bit. Few years later I met with the art of Tina Cassati. Her photos won't „run“ like mentioned video (though she devotes herself to videoart too) but can perfectly involve its atmosphere.

„The world needs more fantasy“,

said Mr. S.Dalí and madame Cassati identified with that. As a child she created costumes for her dolls and drew, later started to paint. These activities maintained till these days. She played in a theatre where she found strong source for her inspiration. Her costumes are influenced by Rococo, Baroque, Italian paintings, Cirque du Soleil, elegance of 1920-1940s or old Russian fairy-tales. In 2002 she introduced her foil costumes at berlin festival „Recycling Art“, in 2008 she set up costumes and music show with singers and dancers „Divas without fur - Natural Couture“ which went along with music genres as industrial, darkwave, goth, 80s ... Her other projects are „Paradise Birds“ and „Modern Casanova“. You can see her art at international exhibitions, fashion shows, festivals, in videos... The models of her photos are people who inspire her: her friends, dancers, musicians, other artists - but it can be interesting face from streets in Berlin (where she lives) as well. Tina Cassati usually starts with choosing the right model to the theme she has in mind. Then she explores several locations in her surrounding, selects suitable requisites, sew costumes or redesign already existing costumes of her closet. Sometimes she adopts everything to the muse which she met. For costumes and hats Cassati uses lots of unusual fabrics: paper, foil, cardboard, bandage, old clothes...and it breathes by glamour anyway!

Adam or Eve?

In the project „Paradise Birds“ T. Cassati crosses traditional gender borders. She feels urge to show there is something more than just cliché dividing for males and females. People who are also beautiful but confronted by intolerance and disgust in the society. But they have as every person a right to self-realization. „Fashion is a fantastic helping tool for discovering your own sexuality, for self-determination and to design a more playful image of oneself“, she says.

The aim of Tina Cassati is to help people to escape out of their daily life for a moment, to dive into a fantasy world with them. And who wouldn't like to feel like Alice in Wonderland for a while?

www.tinacassati.de
myspace.com/cassati

text: Petra Dudáková
foto: Tina Cassati