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FIG UnFramed

Gary Card
David Downton
Ricardo Fumanal
Richard Gray
Richard Haines
Barbara Hulanicki
Richard Kilroy
Tanya Ling
Marko Matysik
Gladys Perint Palmer
Hiroshi Tanabe
Peter Turner
Zoë Taylor

FIG at The Shop at Bluebird
350 King's Road
Chelsea
London SW3 5UU

Friday 29th May - Friday 12th June 2015

FIG Symposium hosted by Richard Kilroy
11.30 am Saturday 6th June, The Shop at Bluebird.

FIG UnFramed is the first exhibition to be presented by FIG at concept store The Shop at Bluebird, the fashion emporium located in the Art Deco garage towards the end of the King's Road in Chelsea.

The exhibits will be informally presented on the shop walls lifted directly from the artist's studios fresh, raw and unframed. Never before has FIG attempted to show so many works at once and as such offers an unrivalled visual spectacle and an extraordinary overview of recent practice in the field of fashion illustration.

The artists represented in the show are amongst the finest working in the field of fashion illustration today. Collectively the group have made work for the vast majority of the leading fashion brands, stores and magazines. Other than Richard Kilroy, included in a FIG exhibit for the first time, they need little in the way of an introduction.

Kilroy is the author of the Thames & Hudson publication *Menswear Illustration* and creator of, and contributor to, the fashion illustration fanzine *Decoy*. Kilroy makes finely rendered pencil images that are composed with exceptional precision, care and economy. As part of FIG UnFramed Kilroy will be hosting the first ever FIG **Symposium** in The Shop at Bluebird during the morning of Saturday June 6th. Kilroy will be joined by panelists Gary Card, Zoë Taylor and Alexander Fury.



Richard Kilroy

Cosmo in Julian David Jacket, 2013

Graphite on Bristol Card, 42 x 29.5 cm

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FIG at The Shop at Bluebird

FIG is the gallery in residence at The Shop at Bluebird and presents a carefully curated, changing display of works (prints, drawings, collages and paintings) made by the world's leading fashion illustrators that are available to buy.

FIG provides Bluebird customers, FIG aficionados and the general public alike, the opportunity to view some of the very best fashion illustrations made today and an education in who's who and what to collect by the very best in the field.

FIG

FIG is the world's leading gallery dealing in contemporary fashion illustration presenting drawings, paintings, collages and prints from the most important artists working in this field today. Works are available through FIG by David Downton, Tanya Ling, Gladys Perint Palmer, Hiroshi Tanabe, Richard Haines, Mats Gustafson, Francois Berthoud, Jean-Phillippe Delhomme and Richard Gray.

Collectively these artists have been commissioned by virtually every major fashion business and fashion magazine in the world including Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Prada, Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, V Magazine, Selfridges and Barney's.

Art dealer and gallerist William Ling - a fine art graduate of and former lecturer at Central St Martins founded FIG in 2007.

For FIG's inaugural exhibition, *100 Years of Fashion Illustration*, Vogue granted Ling access to their archive in Hanover Square so that original work by Cecil Beaton, Carl Erickson and René Bouché could be shown alongside works by René Gruau, Antonio Lopez, Mats Gustafson and Jean-Philippe Delhomme for the very first time. This exciting debut was followed by London's first exhibition of works for sale by Rene Gruau (1909-2004) and a presentation held in association with the V&A, which showcased work Ling help acquire for the museum's collection of prints and drawings.

Today FIG sits at the forefront of the emerging market in fashion illustrations, showcasing world-class work that is internationally acclaimed and increasingly sought-after. With FIG's help the genre has become highly collectable and has attracted the attention of some of the world's biggest players in the art world including Christie's for whom FIG curated a special exhibition at the end of 2013.

Highlights in 2014 included sales of work by Richard Bernstein (1938-2002) to Anthony d'Offay's Artist Rooms Collection for National Galleries of Scotland and Tate and work by David Downton to Palais Galliera, Musée de la Mode de la Ville de Paris.

"The market in fashion illustration is emerging and is driven not by hype but talent. The sifting process that starts with a young hopeful illustrator, sitting on the bench with their portfolio in the foyer of Vogue House, legs swinging hopefully for an appointment with the Creative Director, ensures that only those with the greatest ability progress and claim our attention." William Ling

The Shop at Bluebird

The Shop at Bluebird is an ever-evolving space; part concept store and part cabinet of curiosity, where you can find high-end designers alongside niche labels and emerging fashion talent, interspersed with objets d'art, original prints, books, collectibles and cult beauty brands.

The Shop is an eclectic experience that is both laidback and luxurious. It is a space where you can browse and choose the perfect outfit with help of our style advisors, select artwork for your walls and buy cult beauty, fragrance and grooming products. The Shop also houses a diverse edit of accessories, books, periodicals and interior pieces. Everything within The Shop at Bluebird is carefully selected for its quality, creativity and unique perspective on design. Collaborations and pop-ups are part of the mix providing excitement, entertainment and progression.

The Bluebird philosophy is further characterized by the exceptional architecture of the store. The 10,000 square foot space is located at 350 King's Road in a Grade II listed Art Deco garage that was built for the Bluebird Motor Company in 1923 – inspired by Sir Malcolm Campbell's record-breaking vehicles. Light, space and sensory involvement are all considered and visiting The Shop at Bluebird is akin to turning the pages of your favourite magazine.

Drawing on the creative history of the King's Road, The Shop at Bluebird gives the ultimate, unique shopping experience that both stimulates and inspires.