

Sergei Sviatchenko: Collages

Edited by Rick Poynor



This is the first monograph to focus exclusively on the prolific collage output of Sergei Sviatchenko, a leading figure in the contemporary collage world. Edited by Rick Poynor, whose essay provides an engaging critical overview, it gathers Sviatchenko's most significant work from the past 10 years and shows little seen collages from his early years in Ukraine before he moved in 1990 to live and work in Denmark.

The severe reductiveness of Sviatchenko's image manipulation sets his collages apart. Works from his long-running *Less* series consist of only two or three elements floating on a jarringly bright background. The fewer fragments he allows himself to work with, the more crucial the acts of selection, excision and montage become.

Depthless backdrops deny his collage constructions a sense of location and push them forward as graphically sculptural objects. The swift cuts that Sviatchenko makes into his source pictures give them angular new outlines that can verge on abstraction. Each day our relentless image culture confronts us with an overwhelming deluge of new images. Sviatchenko's strangely dislocated and sometimes otherworldly interventions offer moments of unexpected balance and repose.

This beautifully designed monograph is illustrated with 165 images selected to bring out salient themes in Sviatchenko's continuing development as one of the most rigorous and provocative collage artists working today.

For further information about this book or to see a review copy, please contact Johannes Schlebrügge – **SCHLEBRÜGGE.EDITOR** on +43 1 367 94 72 or email schlebruegge.editor@aon.at

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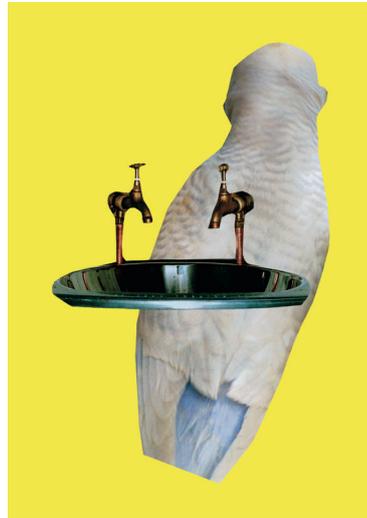
SERGEI SVIATCHENKO's work has been exhibited in Denmark, Germany, Italy, France, Canada, UK and USA. After an architectural education in Ukraine, his early output was based on collage, which remains central to his thinking and practice. Later, he turned to abstract painting. He has created large-scale paintings and collage photomurals for companies and institutions. In 2002, he founded Senko Studio, a non-profit exhibition space in Viborg, Denmark, where for seven years he curated shows by emerging artists and photographers. In 2009, he founded the website *Close Up and Private*, a photography project dedicated to the visual language of classic style in clothing.

RICK POYNOR is a British writer, lecturer and curator, specialising in visual culture. His books include *Obey the Giant: Life in the Image World* (2001), *No More Rules: Graphic Design and Postmodernism* (2003), and *Jan van Toorn: Critical Practice* (2008). He is Visiting Professor in Critical Writing in Art & Design at the Royal College of Art, London.

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100 FROM THE SERIES Less, 2008 29.5 x 21 cm



FROM THE SERIES Less, 2008 29.5 x 21 cm 101



146 FROM THE SERIES Less, 2013 48 x 33 cm



FROM THE SERIES Less, 2013 48 x 33 cm 147