

QUEYNES



The Amazing Fantasy Fannies of Jackie Adshead

Selene Powers - A JADE SPECIAL FEATURE

As an Erotic Artist, Jackie Adshead has always felt that it is important to create art with hidden or humorous undertones. She loves her artwork to have an instant rapport - one that people can strongly relate to and which brings out the sensuality that appeals to a large extent to women. With this aim in mind, she has proudly started a project that explores this to the full.

And since she believes a piece of art should try to convey some form of message on more than one level she wanted to create a conversation piece that also contained the ultimate delicious private joke!

So this is the underlying thought behind her 'Fantasy Fannies' collection of paintings; a celebration of womanhood being bright, vibrant and colourful abstracts of their most





innermost secret places. The concept behind the idea is that when someone normally has their portrait painted, it is of their face with their name as the title - but in this case Jackie wanted the portraits to be of the parts of women's bodies that they usually keep secret, and their names to be anonymous.

The innovative acrylic paintings, whilst being anatomically correct, are hidden enough in colouring and some of the external shapes to hide the image for what it is and painted in bright and vivid detail using strong vibrant colours, creating an instant abstract whether it uses turquoise, bright orange, lime green or any of the other equally bright colours. The pictures are painted intuitively concentrating on colour and exploring it to its full capacity. The bright colours denote energy and



emotion, ever moving, ever changing, and focusing on the opening itself. They radiate life, just as a woman does, even though her actual colours are more subdued. But it also illustrates the complex nature of their beings, represented in the folds, crevices and textures of this entrance to their innermost depths.

It's worth noting how different each of the Fantasy Fanny paintings are – but, as in real life, each woman is an individual, interesting to view. Jackie interprets and then creates a wonderful piece of art based on that very uniqueness. Some see rainbows, tropical beaches, oceans, sky, and even flames within them.

All the paintings have an image of a woman hidden within the folds as a reminder of what the painting relates to. The little inner lady makes a remarkable trademark and adds as a reminder of what makes women so special, where they accommodate lovers, accept life and give birth to it.

Jackie loves the idea that a Fantasy Fanny painting can be hung on a wall and the majority of people probably would not instantly recognise the theme of the art – continuing the ongoing secrecy of the anonymity of the subject matter and its personalisation. The absolute joy is that it is the most delicious of private jokes and that appeals greatly too!

She wanted the images to be anonymous, knowing full well that some women are coy about exhibiting their bodies to the world. So with that in mind she has called the images 'Queyntes' - being an old English word that predates various slang words and means an 'infolded mystery' which she feels describes them perfectly! The word is one that very few people have heard of, so it helps to hide the true image and helps with the joke aspect. Say it is an abstract of a 'Queynte' and the average viewer hasn't a clue at what they are really looking at, whilst those in the know are laughing deliciously to themselves with the knowledge of exactly what it is!

Jackie adores the idea of hiding images or messages in her work, that only an informed few are aware of. The series of paintings is therefore titled 'Queynte 1', 'Queynte 2' etc., to preserve the anonymous aspect to the work and subject.





The project began as a celebration of womanhood, and the rapid and wonderfully positive response to the paintings showed that women really relate to it as an idea, a concept and a way of expressing their femininity, liberation and power. Some happily think of them as exotic flowers, but the paintings have also been described as elegant depictions, delectable, respectful and an honest representation of amazing art without it being overly clinical or intimidating. Most people view them as a little shocking and yet still highly decorative. Women who may not be happy about seeing that part of their body in a photograph on the wall, seem more than happy to have their bodies depicted in a brightly coloured abstract painting and get a huge feeling of pride and happiness at seeing their own beautiful Queynte.

Jackie was delighted when a female psychologist, who deals with sex therapy, commented that some of her patients would greatly benefit from seeing the part of the body that they had dark negative thoughts about depicted in such a bright and positive way. There are women who are so proud of their bodies that they want the world to see them and there are those who do it as a sort of therapy. Even for shy women, it's very empowering. It certainly touches a chord in women, some view it as somehow spiritual, but it is certainly the ultimate all-women project.

Due to the huge response when the artworks were first featured on Jackie's blog - about her life as an erotic artist - and then as a collection in their own gallery on her website, she decided to exhibit the artworks in real life, as soon as was possible. So she took the vibrantly coloured and striking images to the large and appreciative audience at 'Erotica', held at Olympia, London, in November 2008, and was delighted to learn that they were considered by many to be the best exhibit there. Some of the women who had participated in the project came to view them and loved the fact that the most intimate parts of their bodies were on show and yet no one but the artist and they themselves, knew that it was theirs!

The anonymity of it is very appealing to a lot of women and brings out the extrovert in all of us! But part of the joy of it is that innocent eyes only see innocence in the paintings. A Canadian woman who commissioned her own Queynte was a little concerned about her young step-son seeing the image as it hung on her bedroom wall, but was greatly reassured when he looked at the image and announced that it looked like the little woman in it was sky diving. After that it was referred to as the 'sky diving' picture. One can just imagine the day, when as a young man he looks afresh at the image and realises that it's not actually depicting sky diving at all!

The project has covered three continents already and hopefully more women will want to continue the world-wide project by commissioning a painting of their own as an individual area of the female body that can be immortalised in paint, that says as much about her as an individual as anything can.

The natural progression was for Jackie to create a male version – which she has done under the title 'Tarses', an old English word meaning 'male genitals'. She has found that the images are slightly more difficult to hide within the painting, as the male outline is far more obvious. But this adds to the fun she has of playing with the shapes within the painting to hide the image. Jackie also is working on other paintings of a Queynte and Tarse together as the ultimate 'his and hers' artwork, and is exploring other aspects of colour by using a limited palette, or basic tonal range, or even black and white for a different, striking monochrome effect. Almost any combination of colours is possible and can be used to match any colour scheme, making a really effective painting on a large canvas for the erotic art collector. Jackie considers the Queyntes to be bright, beautiful and shameless, both spirited and spiritual.

For more information and to see the entire collection visit Jackie's website at www.jackieadshead.co.uk. And if you are brave enough and want to commission a painting of your own body parts, captured in timeless paint, please contact her via e-mail: jackieadshead@btinternet.com and she'll be delighted to discuss any ideas with you.

