

# Game of Thrones Star Portrait on Display in South Kensington

Submitted by: Christian Furr

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Talented artist Christian Furr's (<http://www.christianfurr.com>) stunning art collection "Hidden Treasures" is being displayed at Campbell's Master Framers and Art Gallery (<http://www.campbellsoflondon.co.uk>) in South Kensington, London.

Amongst the collection includes the painting 'Flesh and Blood' – a superb example of contemporary figurative art. The artwork is the last in Christian's Men and Women series, painted between 2007 and 2011.

The "Hidden Treasures" collection, which must be seen in the flesh to be fully appreciated, is being exhibited until Monday February 15 2016.

Christian features the Game of Thrones star Esmé Bianco in his 'Flesh and Blood' painting. Esmé was spotted by Christian, prior to her role in the hit TV series, ten years ago at Terry de Havilland's 2005/06 London Fashion Week show, where she was modelling.

Speaking about why he chose Esmé to sit for his paintings, Christian Furr said "Esmé, with her red hair, had a twenty-first century edgy look combining the future and the past."

"Esme's look is reminiscent of 1940's screen icons such as Deborah Kerr, who featured as the muse in the film The Life and Times of Colonel Blimp. The model on the right is a friend of Esme's that has a different type of look that contrasts well."

The actress, who shot to fame in 2011 playing Ros in Game of Thrones, was not featured in George R. R. Martin's original book series, and in fact was only meant to feature in the pilot episode of the TV series. In an interview with HBO (<http://itsh.bo/1Qx2JNnl>), Esmé explained that the show's creators, David Benioff and D. B. Weiss, enjoyed her performance so much they decided to write her in as a recurring character.

Esmé Bianco said, "Sitting for Christian was an absolute pleasure. He is not only an extraordinarily gifted painter, but a very kind and charming gentleman. I feel very honoured to have been featured in several of his beautiful paintings."

Christian continues, "I chose to feature two women in this work with different types of poses and attitudes to reflect how most relationships are not static. Esmé gazes out of a window at life outside, unconcerned and intrepid in her pose where the girl on the right looks more introspective and protective."

"The image of the lion on the wall is vulnerable too. The three of them set up a pyramid-like composition like the Karpman Drama triangle."

The settings for the paintings in the series were largely high end hotels and include various themes about life and the relationships between men, women and love. Paintings within paintings or mirrors and

windows that appear in Furr's artwork are designed to represent alternate realities.

Christian, who was notably the youngest artist to be commissioned to paint an official portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, also commented on the method in his artwork. "I am conscious of balance and dynamics in all my works and for this reason I apply a method of making this work that is based on an aspect of the golden ratio. This means that in theory the painting should work upside down and in every position. I create the paintings, turning them every way whilst working."

"I don't like to put specific meaning on any of my works. I just like to give clues, signifiers and let the viewer do the rest. Although they may be influenced by my own sub conscious ideas, the works must exist in their own right and have their own life for whoever is viewing them."

Christian's Hidden Treasures collection will be on display until February 15 2016 at Campbell's Master Framers and Art Gallery, 35 Thurloe Street, London, SW7 2LQ.

The 2011 painting Flesh & Blood by Christian Furr featuring Esmé Bianco is oil on canvas, measuring 914 x 914 mm, is priced at £8,400.

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About Christian Furr

Christian Furr won recognition of his enormous talent early in his career. At just 28 he was the youngest artist commissioned to paint an official portrait of Queen Elizabeth II, personally selected from among dozens of other painters. As is typical of Christian's style, he approached the project with a unique point of view, showing both the regal and human qualities of Her Majesty.

During his early career, Furr followed the strong tradition of representation in British modern and contemporary art throughout his oeuvre. Today Christian focuses on keeping oil paint a fresh contemporary medium, and is continually interested in experimentation and exploration of new concepts. Christian examines everyday objects and human emotional connections with equal interest.

Selected collections include HRH Duke of Edinburgh, Blenheim Palace, The Ritz London, Leicester University, The Royal College of Psychiatrists, Britvic and The Institution of Civil Engineers.