

attitude

FASHION MAGAZINE NO. 61 SUMMER 2008

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ONE PLUS
ONE
EQUALS A SUMMERTIME LOVE-IN

PAUL NORMANSELL

By Belinda Pappalardo



“I strive to create something that is unique relating to issues around youth, modern day life, culture and music.”



in fashion, culture and issues relating to youth and beauty.

“I think the use of colour is a key element, how they work together to create very different outcomes. I strive to create something that is unique

relating to issues around youth, modern day life, culture and music.”

That love of music can be heard loud and clear when he's working at his home base and in an old converted factory that he shares with 12 other artists.

“Whatever the environment, there is always music playing as a source of inspiration. I am really interested in music and would love to make my own stuff. It is a big influence in what I do... I see there being similarities between the two. A piece of music consists of many layers which together make one finished piece. The way my paintings are constructed is the same.”

From his first sell-out exhibition after finishing up fine art studies at the University Of Central England, Paul has since shown in Japan and America. It's no secret the London artist is going places. He's sold paintings to Radio One DJ Pete Tong, singer Daniel Bedingfield, footballer Juan Pablo - and now, continuing the art and music mix, he's completed art work for The Killers' new album, *Day And Aye*.

“All the images for the album are in my dot style rather than the figurative work. The artwork in the inlay is four portraits of the band members. It is a brilliant opportunity, although a little daunting. It is going to be a great opportunity for me to show my work to a bigger audience.”

paulnormansell.com

While Salvador Dali's work conveys surrealism, Andy Warhol has pop art down pat and Jackson Pollock was famous for the abstract expressionist movement, there's another artist with a distinctive signature style. London artist Paul Normansell jumps from abstract to dot style. Or as he describes it, “contemporary, pointillism meets pop art with a modern twist”.

“I have two styles which are very different to each other, the figurative pieces are fashion based, I try to find images that show contradictions which I then use to create a title,” he says.

“I also look for images that show an emotion or express a feeling. I sometimes remove the face to remove the identity of the person and focus more on the body image and what it's trying to say.”

Paul might scrub faces out in his figurative work, but they play a big role in his pointillism pieces, which feature the very famous visages of celebrities such as Kate Moss, Naomi Campbell and Agyness Deyn. Paul achieves immaculate finishes with his painstaking pointillism work, which masses lots and lots of dots of colour that the eye and brain see as a complete image. The flawless surfaces of the paintings, created by layering gloss paint on aluminium sheets, reflect the perfect images of celebrity presented by mainstream media.

Paul was drawn to fashion images and their vivid colours in his earlier days. It's still a focus for his work, along with trends



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