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iké udé's sartorial anarchy: beyond dandyism

'It is the pleasure of astonishing others, and the proud satisfaction of never being astonished by them' Charles Baudelaire talking about Dandyism





The Story of Iké Udé 's sartorial anarchy

Settings: New York, today

Leading Actor: New York based, Nigerian born artist and photographer Iké Udé keenly investigates with his work the interaction between culture and style. His articles on fashion and art have been published in magazines and newspapers worldwide. Vanity Fair included him on their International Best Dress List, in 2009 and in 2012. Udé has been engaged with Sartorial Anarchy since 2010, when the first photographs of this series were presented in the exhibition, The Global Africa Project, at the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD), NewYork. Most recently, Udé has continued his Sartorial Anarchy series for the exhibition Artist/Rebel/Dandy: Men of Fashion at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) Museum. On October 10 his work will at Leila Heller Gallery in New York.

Plot: Udé's Sartorial Anarchy series is essentially post-dandyism in its conceptual use of fashion/costume as an index of culture. Udé's distinctive portraits, which poeticize colors, sumptuous fabrics, and composition, transcend the traditional aesthetic of portraiture showing a highly stylized world of color in which the artist employs

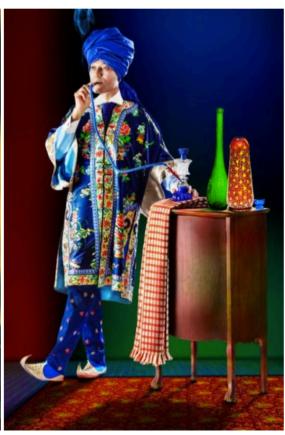


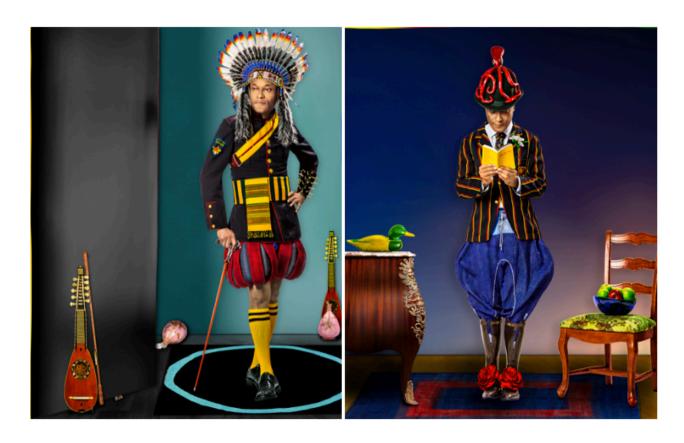
men's fashion ensembles that have been culled from various historical times and geographies. According to Udé "to quote from all items of past or present men's attire is the aim of sartorial anarchy. By mixing varied costumes in concert with the now and then, we begin to realize how arbitrary, subjective, fleeting, even absurdor "real" cultural construct is".











Iké Udé on show at Leila Heller Gallery from October 10 to November 10