



Bronek Kozka, *Train* (detail) 2010. Courtesy of the artist and Bett Gallery, Hobart

Bronek Kozka

Future Portrait

23 September 2010 - 28 February 2011

Russell Street, South Bank
(on hording in front of ABC construction site)

A collaborative project between
the QCP and South Bank Corporation

About the work

Kozka's saturated images are all dripping with an Oriental sensibility that was first sighted during his initial encounters with Japan during the year of 1995. Beset by wonderment and the addictiveness of Japanese culture, Kozka had to only express to a friend that he was indeed in the future to realize that he had just launched himself into a world which would ignite passion and, one day, become the subject matter of his highly successful body of work *Future Portrait*.

Many years, and many return journeys to Japan later, Kozka continues to explore his 'possible future' world which exists within the dystopian ramshackle sprawl of uncontrolled development, punctuated by technology and urban decay. For although the world has been modified since his earliest encounters, Kozka still believes that the grand cities of Japan continue to function as the embodiment of the future. And what would this future be if it were not for it's inhabitants? As a result, *Future Portraits* reveals Kozka's vision through the window of portraiture whereby aesthetics, technologies and people of the 'future' can be dissected and examined. These 'windows' become a portal between the present day and the future and allow us insight into the subject matters world and existence.

Kozka's main intent for these images is to create a work that visually investigates the ideas, concepts and thoughts explored in imagery inherent to Japanese art and culture in conjunction with a Western perception of Japan and both Eastern and Western science fiction visions of futuristic dystopia. As an artistic practitioner, Kozka wonders, "Why are we so bleak? (about the future) yet so excited? Is dystopia our utopia?"

Biography

Bronek graduated from the Bachelor of Photography at RMIT in 2000 and later his Masters in 2009. He has been a Commercial Advertising Photographer since 1990 at The Bakehouse Studio in Collingwood, Victoria. He has also been a lecturer in Portraiture and Studio at RMIT since 2004. His work has been featured in many exhibitions in Australia as well as in New York and Venice. He has won several awards and had his work published internationally.

www.kozka.com

Related artists and influences

Quentin Tarantino – Tezuka Osamu – Mariko Mori – Zo Minori – Zoren Gold



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