

Le Temps Des Cocus

Each piece depicts an iconic male character that viewers will recognize from history, literature and pop culture. The theme his subjects share in this series is having lived with a certain degree of passion, then suffered a related betrayal.

While his constantly evolving medium intertwines circuitous fibers and metallic filaments, Decluuz' striking, large-scale tapestries are much less the product of loom mechanics than of the hand, mind and spirit.

The portraits each feature a fine-tuned oxidation process tailored to the subject that invites the viewer to retrieve their own memories of these tales, take note of their differences and similarities, as well as ponder their historical contexts, perhaps comparing them to characters in the world as we know it.

Adam

Whether Adam had only three sons or many more during what is recorded as his nearly 1000 years of life, biblical texts and historians both agree that adultery and incest in that era were commonplace.

Menelaus

Already a main character in Greek mythology, the drama of Menelaus' marriage to Helen makes The Trojan War an enduring legend.

Henry VIII

Married six times, Henry VIII had two of his wives executed. He was so devoid of scruples that he was ready to ignore his cuckolded status to achieve his goal of a healthy male heir by seduction and political alliance.

Molière

"If not being cuckolded seems to you such a great thing, the way to save yourself is not to get married at all." Though a libertine, Molière married and was betrayed. He mocked himself by writing "The School for Wives."

Chopin

Chopin was only one of the insincere George Sand's many lovers, and after their nine years together, had to content himself with maternal kindness while he watched her romantic attentions shift to another man-child, the younger Alexandre Manceau.

Blake Carrington

Even powerful American scions of industry can find themselves betrayed. John Forsythe figures in this portrait gallery thanks to his role in the 80's television series "Dynasty" and relationship to the treacherous "Alexis".

Ken

Ken was the male archetype for children who owned Mattel toys from the 1960's. He was timeless, wholesome, handsome and loyal as Barbie's boyfriend, and even inspired some men to seek plastic surgery. Yet he ultimately proved immaterial, and suffered her rejection when she began to favor the more contemporary Blaine O'Hare, a DJ and guitar-player.

Just as Decluuz' portraits challenge our relationship to images and furnish a bridge between time-honored artistic methods and 21st century metal fiber technology, the artist provokes his viewers to compare iconic stories with some that are unfolding today. Though treachery and betrayal are no more pleasant now than they have been for centuries, for those of us feeling isolated, confused and disenfranchised by the barrage of horrific geopolitical news in 2020, this series, as well as Decluuz recent series addressing seven female subjects have the paradoxical effect of making viewers feel that we actually do belong, that we are living through a part of history's long, consistent timeline.

Driven to express himself with fiber art, Decluuz first exhibited at the Marine Biras gallery in Paris in 1995. He has since collaborated with architectural, interior design and fashion design houses to create extraordinary and inimitable environments. His unique pieces have been acquired by both public and private collections in Europe, the US and Asia. Decluuz aspires for his fabric to reflect a distinctive, yet global aesthetic that thoughtfully addresses a broad spectrum of contemporary life.

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