

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Garry Orriss photos are international and multicultural, inspiring and critical, bright and provocative. His portraits of couples are now veritable classics and serve to heighten the viewer's psychological, social and cultural perspective through an autobiographical means. His portraits of couples, often naked are the culmination of prolonged periods of time together, something that involves a great sense of understanding and respect. Born of German, French and Irish decent Garry Orriss was adopted by an Australian couple of British origin. It is through his own search for identity that he has caused many of his models to question or challenge their own cultural barriers, quite often breaking political, social and religious taboos. His portraits reflect the current debates around photography and society in general and have been called everything from progressive art to even still lives as they over-turn the traditional rules of appearance and the ideals of portraiture into a greater societal need for change and understanding. Whether it be of a Huli head-hunter laying with the skull of the man who killed his brother or a Chinese-German gay marriage, Orriss's vision as artist works at the very tissue between the transition from one world into another using the dynamics of the human relationship as medium. The artist succeeds in pushing the photographic portrait boundaries into new realms while offering us a glimpse into the real-life couples he photographs, 'Getting under the skin' often through voyeuristic means. His works are referred to as 'Projects', and each portrait pertains to a certain series or theme that is painstakingly researched, with some photo portrait series taking up to seven years to complete. Garry Orriss does not impose his artistic intention on the people he meets on the streets. In fact he treats the people with a form of respect based, on the assumption that the extraordinary is inherent and in the everyday. It is through his portraits that his authenticity could not be greater.

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<http://www.garryorriss.com>

Title of Artwork: Mario and Yvonne, Plate: 8.

An original master work measuring 145cm x 125cm exists and has a limited edition of 150.

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