

'Identities'
Clare Bonnet, Toni Cogdell, Henrietta Dubrey,
Veronica Wells
Sarah Wiseman Gallery
4th-25th March

Veronica Wells

Veronica Wells draws her influences from popular culture, examining images that portray an idealised way of life. Fashion, material possessions, image, style and relationships are all explored enticing the viewer into her world. Mixing rough and broad brushstrokes with finer, more intricate details, Veronica Wells' paintings questions ideas of perfection.

Can you describe a typical day in the studio?

Get up early, put my music on and paint. I tend to draw out my images the day/ night before so I am ready to paint fresh.

Which artists do you identify with most?

I love a wide range of artists, the one whose work is most similar to mine is Chantal Joffe, I am drawn to the large scale, bold personas exuded.

When did you decide that you wanted to paint?

I am attracted to colour and texture and painting allows you to create a mixture so easily and quickly. I have loved it since I was little.

Do you define yourself as a 'Woman Artist'? I enjoy painting and the release it offers, I do not focus on being a 'woman artist' but an artist in my own right regardless of gender.

Can you tell us about the women that appear in your paintings – are they known to you or more of an exploration of a fantasy, a life of fashion/culture?

When I decide on an image to paint, I find something that hits me and I connect with, whether a mood, style, impression.. I enjoy imagining a sub context to what may lie around that one image. I listen to music when I paint, I find that this can add to the mood I get from the image; I like to get lost in the music and creating an attitude.