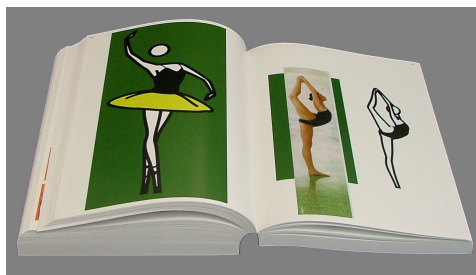


Julian Opie – This is Shahnoza in 3 parts
13th October – 15th November
Private View 18th October 10am-1pm
Press Release

The Alan Cristea Gallery at
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**JULIAN OPIE LAUNCHES TWO LONDON EXHIBITIONS, ONLINE SHOP,
AND MAJOR BOOK THIS OCTOBER**



The
Julian Opie
Shop.com

A pole dancer called Shahnoza is the subject of a new series of nine, life-size works by Julian Opie, titled ***This is Shahnoza in 3 Parts***, and featured in the exhibition of the same name at Alan Cristea Gallery from 13 October 2008.

This is Shahnoza in 3 Parts features linear images of the pole dancer in nine different poses, each divided into three framed panels. In all of the works, the line of the figure is made using a combination of silkscreen and flocking. This marriage of techniques gives a rich, black and velvety surface texture which contrasts with the pure white acrylic support panels. Flocking is the process of adhering fine textile fibres to a surface. Historically it is associated with wall coverings that became popular during the reign of Louis XIV of France and its use continues, in various forms, to the present day.

The depiction of Shanoza has been a recurring theme in Opie's work and earlier projects featuring the same subject include lenticular acrylics of *Shahnoza dancing Naked* and *Shahnoza dancing in White Dress*, in which the figure appears to move when viewed from different angles, a set of screenprints of the model in various dancing poses and a life-size vinyl wall sticker.

The exhibition follows on from Opie's major solo exhibitions at MAK (museum of contemporary art) in Vienna and MITO Arts Foundation in Tokyo and coincides with the publication of a major new monograph entitled *JULIAN OPIE*. Published in Japan, this new book covers every area of the artist's work and will be over 800 pages long including installation photographs, source material, studies as well as an exhaustive illustrated back catalogue of his work to date. It will be the most comprehensive publication on his work is being exclusively distributed in Europe by the Alan Cristea Gallery.

The book will also be available through Opie's new on-line shop which is being launched at the same time. **Julianopieshop.com** is a groundbreaking website which has been created solely to distribute the artist's merchandise. Opie has always wanted to break down the illogical barriers set up by the "Art World" between painting and design, sculpture and objects, and over the years has made a large number of items which feature his signature images. This dedicated site, the first of its kind, will sell online his catalogues, wall stickers, posters, note blocks, fridge magnets, LED animations and lenticular cards.

Opie's work will also be on show at the Lisson Gallery concurrently with the Alan Cristea Gallery exhibition.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Alan Cristea Gallery is the largest dealer and publisher of 20th-century and contemporary prints in Europe, publishing prints by the very best international artists as well as regularly showing paintings, works on paper, light-boxes and installations. In 2007, the gallery expanded and is now at 31 and 34 Cork Street.

Visitor information:
Gallery open 10am-5.30pm Mon-Fri, 10am-1pm Sat
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