

## HAUSER & WIRTH

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### Press Release

## Andy Hope 1930 Medley Tour London by Andy Hope 1930

Hauser & Wirth London, Savile Row

19 April – 26 May 2012

Opening: Wednesday 18 April 6 – 8 pm

Berlin-based artist Andy Hope 1930 has developed a far-reaching and diverse iconography combining the worlds of comic books, science fiction and mythology with history, pop culture and literature. For his exhibition at Hauser & Wirth, 'Medley Tour London by Andy Hope 1930', Hope will present the 'X-Medleys': a new series of paintings that weaves together elements from his unique pictorial language. Displayed alongside new and re-invented installations, this body of work represents a significant progression in Hope's practice, which develops with each stop on the artist's 'Medley Tour'.

A 'medley' is commonly defined as a piece of music consisting of several harmonically adjusted melodies taken from a musician's entire repertoire. Likewise for the 'X-Medleys', Hope re-visits different iconographic elements which have played a major role in his oeuvre, as well as masterpieces from art history. He then formulates these elements anew through a process of revision, erasure and dislocation, providing his audience with a fresh perspective with which to approach both these new paintings and his earlier works. For example, Hope's 'X-Medley 2' was inspired by Francis Picabia's painting of a young couple sitting underneath a cherry blossom tree. Hope adopts this basic composition and superimposes his own symbols: the black mask from his depictions of Robin Dostoyevsky; the woman's hair from his paintings of Hollywood starlets; and the dark shapes pulled from an earlier work showing a vacant room with empty frames.



With the 'X-Medleys', Hope takes one of his central themes – the manipulation of time – to a new level by intervening in his own artistic past. He reverse-engineers his practice, paring it down to its most fundamental elements and, in doing so, he creates a lexicon of his oeuvre. As described by Antonia Lotz in Hope's recent catalogue for the Kestnegeresellschaft, 'It is only possible to move forward through bringing to mind what has already happened, and with Hope this revision becomes a catalyst of his own advance'.

For his exhibition at Hauser & Wirth, Hope has also remade and deconstructed his 'Batman Gallery'.

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The first 'Batman Gallery' (2004) was an architectural interpretation of the eponymous superhero, his black cape solidified into one long, receding roof, which housed a gallery for a selection of Hope's paintings. The re-visited version has been painted white and divided into several pieces to be displayed in different areas of Hauser & Wirth's north gallery. Its soaring roof is suspended from the ceiling and the steps that once lead to the viewing area now lead nowhere.

Formerly known as Andreas Hofer, the artist adopted the name of Andy Hope 1930 in 2010. Hope associates the year 1930 with both the rise of the comic book to a mass medium, and the abandonment of suprematism and Russian constructivism, elements which have all played a significant role in his work.



Hope's recent solo exhibitions include 'Medley Tour by Andy Hope 1930' at Kestnergesellschaft, Hanover, Germany, where he first exhibited the 'Medleys', a precursor to the 'X-Medleys' (2012); 'Detour – Landscape in Progress II', Kunsthistorisches Museum and CAC Contemporary Art Club at Theseustempel, Vienna, Austria (2011); 'Robin Dostoyevsky by Andy Hope 1930', CAC Centro de Arte Contemporáneo, Malaga, Spain (2011); 'Andy Hope 1930 at the Freud', Freud Museum, London, England (2010); 'Andy Hope 1930', Sammlung Goetz, Munich, Germany (2009); 'air tsu dni oui sélav', Hauser & Wirth London, England (2009); and 'White Space Black', Oldenburger Kunstverein, Oldenburg, Germany. Hope's forthcoming exhibitions include a major solo show at Inverleith House, Edinburgh, Scotland, in autumn 2012.

### Forthcoming exhibitions:

**Isa Genzken**  
14 April – 19 May 2012  
Hauser & Wirth Zürich

**Ron Mueck**  
19 April – 26 May 2012  
Hauser & Wirth London, Savile Row

'Science on the back end. Artists selected by  
Matthew Day Jackson'  
1 May – 16 June 2012  
Hauser & Wirth New York

'The Historical Box. Curated by Mara McCarthy'  
22 May – 28 July 2012  
Hauser & Wirth London, Piccadilly

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X-Medley 2  
2012  
Acrylic and lacquer on canvasboard  
80 x 60 cm / 31 1/2 x 23 5/8 in

X-Medley 5  
2012  
Acrylic on canvasboard  
60 x 60 cm / 23 5/8 x 23 5/8 in

X-Medley 9  
2012  
Lacquer, acrylic on canvas board  
60 x 60 cm / 23 5/8 x 23 5/8 in