



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

‘America has Lichtenstein, we have Azzopardi!’

35 Years of Azzopardi, a major retrospective of British Pop artist Deborah Azzopardi

Online exhibition will run from 11th June until 3rd July 2020

Private timed appointments at Wimbledon HQ may be arranged

In 2020 the Cynthia Corbett Gallery is proud to announce a major retrospective of British Pop artist Deborah Azzopardi. The exhibition will feature original paintings that will be offered for sale for the first time in Azzopardi’s career.

Azzopardi acquired her worldwide fame for the joyous Pop Art images she has created over the past 35 years. Deborah’s unique and feminine take on contemporary art is best described by the esteemed art critic Estelle Lovatt. ‘America has Lichtenstein, we have Azzopardi!’ Lovatt goes on to comment: “Sometimes you just want to curl up under a blanket. With a good book. A piece of chocolate. A man. This is what Deborah Azzopardi’s pictures make me feel like doing. They are me. They remind me of the time I had a red convertible sports car. I had two, actually. And yes, they are you, too. You immediately, automatically, engage with the narrative of Azzopardi’s conversational visual humour. Laughter is the best aphrodisiac, as you know. Never before has the erotic dream been painted by a woman so well. ... Distinctive, memorable and provocative, Azzopardi’s Pop Art shows what happens to the protagonist as her canvas acts like a storyboard for movies. Azzopardi’s definitely got the ‘When Harry Met Sally...’ – ‘I’ll have what she’s having’ ... down to a fine art, in paint. ... There’s plenty of art historical references from... Manet’s suggestive ‘Olympia’; Boucher’s thought-provoking... ‘Louise O’Murphy’ and Fragonard’s frivolous, knickerless, ‘The Swing’.... Unique in approach, you easily recognise an Azzopardi picture. ... Working simple graphics and toned shading (for depth), the Pop Art line that Azzopardi sketches is different to Lichtenstein’s. Hers is more curvaceous. Feminine.”

The world is familiar with her artworks, as many of them have been published internationally. Her original paintings are in great demand, and we are pleased to bring to the marketplace such rare gems as the Habitat ‘*Dating*’ series (2004/08), the iconic *Sshh* (2008) and *Love Is The Answer* (2016), created by the artist at the request of Mitch and Janis Winehouse as a tribute to their daughter.

London-based Azzopardi (born in Golders Green) is a long-standing supporter of **British Friends of the Art Museums of Israel** (BFAMI). In 2013 she made her first donation to the organisation: the original *Girl With The Diamond Earring* (2013), shown at Christie’s auction house and successfully auctioned at the BFAMI Gala Dinner at the Round House. Other donations included an editioned screenprint of *Love Is The Answer* in 2017 and a *Save The Date* print in 2020, both exhibited in London at Christie’s.

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For this exclusive exhibition we are pleased to once again partner with BFAMI and pledge a donation of 20% from the sales of these wonderful Azzopardi originals as well as limited editions to include *Femme Fatale* (2016), *Guilty Pleasure* (2016), *Girl With The Diamond Earring* (Ed. 2/15, 2013), *Gossip* (Ed. 6/10, 2016) and *The Great Escape* (Ed. 14/15, 2015).

“Azzopardi’s mission is to be free to play with the drama and joy of everyday life. She breaks her subjects down into vibrant segments and into moments we have all experienced and she captures them forever in paint.” – Angus Granlund, Director, Head of Day Sale, Modern British & Irish Art, Christie's London.

Deborah Azzopardi is represented internationally by the Cynthia Corbett Gallery.

The Cynthia Corbett Gallery established in 2004, is an international contemporary art gallery representing emerging and established contemporary artists. The gallery regularly exhibits at international contemporary art fairs and has an annual exhibition programme alongside collaborations with galleries worldwide. The gallery works with a number of American, British and International artists whose works have been published and acquired by major museums and institutions. In 2009 the gallery launched The Young Masters Art Prize, a unique not-for profit competition. The prize is an international platform giving exhibition opportunities to both emerging and established artists. The Prize was founded by American Gallerist Cynthia Corbett to celebrate artistic skill and innovation with awareness of the Old Masters and the art of the past. In 2014, the Young Masters Maylis Ceramic Prize was launched to showcase the growing renaissance in ceramics worldwide; and 2017 saw the addition of the Young Masters Emerging Women Artist Award.

‘America has Lichtenstein, we have Azzopardi!’, Estelle Lovatt FRSA

For further information please contact Anastasia Lander at anastasia@young-masters.co.uk | +44 (0) 7957 114 873

info@thecynthiacorbettgallery.com
www.thecynthiacorbettgallery.com
[Instagram.com/cynthiacorbettgallery](https://www.instagram.com/cynthiacorbettgallery)
Tel. +44 (0)20 8947 6782
Mob. +44 (0)7939 085 076