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ADRIAN NORVID

Born in London, England, in 1959. Lives and works in Montreal.

Adrian Norvid's drawing-based artworks combine many elements: psychedelic flashbacks and Victorian sympathies; ironic humour and sincere despair; witty wordplay and crass punnery; dollar-store décor and baroque ornament. This unusual mix of high and low—and the attention to detail with which Norvid articulates it—has made the artist increasingly renowned. Whether offering a wall-sized drawing of an art gala gone debauched or donning classical costume to play electronic keyboards in a room of romantically rendered paper candles, Norvid marries visual wonder with absurd narrative, evoking a series of 1970s underground comics characters and settings revamped for the white cube. Born in London, England, Norvid's family immigrated to Canada when he was 10 years old, and he grew up in Southern Ontario. Following studies at York University—where he earned a BFA in music and an MFA in studio art—he moved to Montreal. Included in the 2008 Quebec Triennial, Norvid's art has been exhibited across Canada, including at the Rooms, the Art Gallery of Windsor and the Leonard & Bina Ellen Art Gallery.

Photo of Adrian Norvid performing as his alter ego, Herr Krank, courtesy of Galerie Joyce Yahouda.

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