

TANYA LING

24th NOVEMBER - 14th AUGUST 2009

THE MAYOR GALLERY. 22A, CORK STRET, LONDON W1S 3NA

For the last three years Tanya Ling, for her own edification and the delectation of her followers has illustrated the International Ready-to-Wear Collections. In doing so, she has produced a series of paintings on paper that document the ever changing looks created by Lanvin, Chanel, Louis Vuitton, Jil Sander, Prada et al.

The new works added to this series illustrate the key looks from the Fall/Winter collections 09 and will be exhibited at The Mayor Gallery, 22A Cork Street, London W1S 3NA from July 24th to August 14th. Viewing is possible by appointment.

This work, which has its roots in a commission Ling received from Marin Hopper the then Fashion Director of US Elle, to make illustrations for the US Elle trend reports, has become increasingly painterly and at first glance less about the fashion and more about paint and demeanour.

Executed with exceptional flair, these small works (all the size of an A3 piece of paper) have a Fauvist feel about them that reveal Ling, with brush in one hand and palette in the other, to be what Jimi Hendrix is to the electric guitar and amplifier. Dear reader, if you've read this far and think this an outrageous claim, do yourself a favour and mark where you read this first because this is just the beginning ;) .

An on-going feature of Ling's work is the mood of the women. The attitude that they project is one of self-assured defiance. Whilst their clothing is strictly ready-to-wear, their impenetrable gaze is decidedly haute couture and falls upon the viewer, whoever they are, with a self confidence which at the very least inspires respect. With long limbs and necks, decorated with intricate accessories their expensively crafted ensemble herald the women flag bearers for the teams of designers, seamstresses, pattern cutters, weavers and printers who season after season produce the building blocks that reflect how we might see ourselves in this ever changing world.

They have no need for our approval. They are models, with no paunches to speak of, no double chins or flabby arms and if they were to let their guard down our admiration might turn to jealousy and we would hate them for their beauty and rubbish the work of those they serve.

For hi-res images, further information and appointments contact Jacquie Townsend on +44(0)20 8543 6731 or email info@fashionillustrationgallery.com