



REBECCA  
HOSSACK

ART GALLERY

## PRESS RELEASE

# Happenstance

## Jerry Jeanmard

21 September 2023

*Happenstance*: an exhibition of new collages by Jerry Jeanmard, mounted by the Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery as part of their on-going collaboration with Billy Reid, New York.



Jerry Jeanmard, *Rainbow Trout*, 2023, collage, 56 x 38 cm

Houston-based artist Jeanmard deploys a diverse array of found vintage papers - ephemera from high and low culture, and from the round of daily life - to create playfully subversive images of people, alive with individuality and character.

*Happenstance* brings together a swashbuckling pirate (who has plundered the Victoria and Albert Museum gift shop), a gentleman casually sporting an Ibis on his head, an overdressed guardsman wielding a magic wand, a botanist with a rainbow collar and a chartered accountant - amongst a distinguished host of others.

In making these extraordinary images, Jeanmard draws on a collection of papers amassed over some sixty years. There are laundry tags, children's drawings, cinema passes, hamburger wrappers, bus tickets, bingo cards, and postage stamps; fragments of Chinese calligraphic notes, tiger posters from India, and Italian marbled papers (collected from his travels).

The artist works intuitively, without a set plan. Beginning with an attraction to a color or shape, Jeanmard builds and layers his materials, gradually transforming the abstracted forms into figures. He pays close attention, always, to negative space - ripping, cutting, and carving out shapes to find moments of ease amidst a jumble of imagery. It is a technique that invites, or demands, rapid decision-making. 'I love happenstance,' explains Jeanmard. 'There is joy in the process of discovery.'

Born in Lafayette, Louisiana, in 1945, Jerry Jeanmard studied at the School of Visual Arts, New York and the University of Southwestern Louisiana. His creative life spans over five decades, from his career as an illustrator and graphic designer in the 1970s and 80s, to his work as an interior designer in the 90s, 00s and 10s, and, in the past ten years, his emergence as a fine artist of note. Happenstance *iHappenstance* 'd solo exhibition with the Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery and his first at Billy Reid, New York.

**About the Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery:**

The Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery is a contemporary art gallery challenging trends. Over the course of three decades the gallery has built an international reputation for innovation, individuality, energy and excellence. Rebecca Hossack has been a great champion of non-Western artistic traditions, and hers was the first art gallery in Europe to exhibit Australian Aboriginal painting, which it continues to promote.



Jerry Jeanmard, *Exotic Internist*, 2023, collage, 76 x 56 cm, 30 x 22 in

**Listings information:**

*Jerry Jeanmard: Happenstance*  
Opens 21 September 2023  
Rebecca Hossack Art Gallery,  
2a Conway Street, Fitzroy Square,  
London, W1T 6BA  
Free admission

**For press enquiries:**

Please contact  
kristie@rebeccahossack.com  
(+44) 20 7436 4899

**Gallery opening times:**

Monday - Saturday: 10 am - 6 pm  
Closed Sunday