

THE LOST WARHOLS



AD LIB GALLERY

10 Church Road, Wimbledon Village, London, SW19 5DL

Exhibition dates: 18 May – 18 Jun 2023

Private View: Thursday 18 May, 6pm - 8:30pm

Ad Lib Gallery is proud to present ***The Lost Warhols***, an exclusive exhibition of works portraying the iconic artist Andy Warhol. Curated by American photographer and street artist **Karen Bystedt**, the exhibition features new interpretations of her archival photographs of Warhol, by a selection of international contemporary artists including MAXIM, James Mylne, Peter Tunney, and Miguel Paredes.

The original photographs were taken by Bystedt, then a tenacious young film student at NYU, who in 1983 boldly cold-called Warhol at Interview Magazine inviting him to pose for her for her book-in-progress featuring the era's top male models. Having come across an image of the artist modelling for Barney's, she had hoped to capture the icon in this unique context, positioned amongst faces renowned for their aesthetic ideal – and on hearing whom else she intended to include, Warhol swiftly agreed to join the fold. Bystedt's resulting images capture a soft and vulnerable Warhol, the man made infamous by making others his model, now the model himself.

Bystedt included two of the thirty-six photos shot that afternoon in her book *Not Just Another Pretty Face* published by Nal, and placed the negatives in storage, where they lived untouched for 25 years. After all that time, compelled to unearth the images captured that afternoon, Bystedt was able to locate just 10 of her original negatives, and dedicated the months to restoring her Andy, pixel-by-pixel.

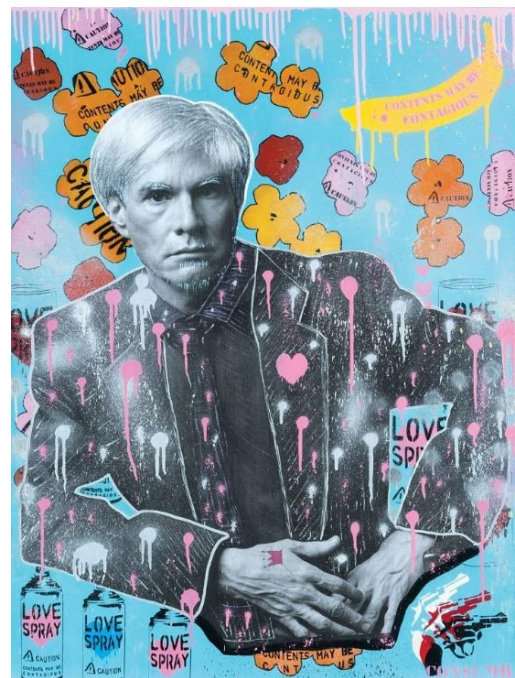
Having turned from photographer to visionary pioneer in the mixed media form, Bystedt conceptualized a new future for her portraits, one that echoed her subject's inventive spirit, and mirrored his approach to both inspiration and practice. Giving form to a modern, immaterial Factory of her own, Bystedt invited contemporary artists to interpret her images in their own artistic language, thus conceptualizing a series of collaborations that would represent community and pay homage to the mixed media form so inextricably associated with the legacy of Warhol. Exhibiting artists include, among others: Karen Bystedt (Miami); Brayden Bugazzi (LA); Consumer Art (New York); Cavanagh Foyle (Ireland); Carlos Manuel (Cuba); MAXIM (Czech Republic); Nick Munier (Ireland); James Mylne (London); Miguel Paredes (Miami); Will St Leger (Ireland); Louisa Tebbutt (London); and Peter Tunney (New York).

PRESS RELEASE



One of the first woman street artists to proliferate a male-dominated space, Karen Bystedt's works have been collected by internationally renowned private and public collectors and have been exhibited next to Retna, Cleon Peterson, Big Sleeps, Bradley Theodore, Gregory Siff, Add Fuel, Producer BDB and Speedy Graffiti. Karen Bystedt's photographs of Andy Warhol have transcended from portraits taken by her as an NYU student to the concluding image in Blake Gopnik's definitive biopic, WARHOL (Harper Collins 2020).

Bystedt photographed and immortalized Johnny Depp, Brad Pitt, Keanu Reeves and Djimon Hounsou in her book 'Before They Were Famous' well before creating a massive contemporary archive re-identifying Warhols artworks with her own contributions to the street art world, opening the conversation of women breaking barriers in art, hip hop and pop culture today.



AD LIB GALLERY

10 Church Road, Wimbledon Village, London, SW19 5DL

www.adlib.online

Email: info@adlib.online

Telephone: 0208 944 8909

Instagram: [@adlibgallery](https://www.instagram.com/adlibgallery)

Twitter: [@adlibgallery](https://twitter.com/adlibgallery)

PRESS RELEASE



Images, top to bottom,
left to right:

Brayden Bugazzi and
Karen Bystedt, *Game
Changer: London is
calling*. Limited ed. print
on canvas, 97 x 153cm.

Karen Bystedt, *Gold
Kings (Basquiat and
Warhol)*. Mixed media,
20 x 24 in.

Cavanagh Foyle and
Karen Bystedt, *Lost in
Space*. Mixed media, 40
x 40 in.

Peter Tunney and Karen
Bystedt, *The New
Yorker*. Mixed media, 44
x 44 in.

Consumer Art and Karen
Bystedt, *Flower Soup
Bananas*. Mixed media,
40 x 30 in.

Karen Bystedt with
artworks from The Lost
Warhols collection.
Featuring artworks by
Karen Bystedt and
Brayden Bugazzi.

EDITORS NOTES

About Ad Lib Gallery

Ad Lib Gallery is an independent contemporary art gallery nestled in the heart of Wimbledon Village, just a few doors away from The Ivy Café. The gallery was opened by Dylan Roberts in October 2019 at a large gallery space in Parsons Green and was relocated to Wimbledon Village in December 2020.

Artists are mainly from the UK, USA and Europe, and some are from Bedales School which is well known for art, drama and music, and was attended by Dylan over 25 years ago. The gallery mainly exhibits and sells contemporary original art and limited-edition prints, by emerging and established artists.

Over the last few years Ad Lib Gallery has exhibited and/or sold works by: Damien Hirst, Goldie, Chris Levine, Mr Brainwash, The Connor Brothers, Pure Evil, Ewan David Eason, Nasser Azam, Ben Eine, Adam Bricusse, Anna Kenneally, Carolina Piteira, Mark Evans, James Mylne, Iryna Yermolova, Will Solomon, LUAP, Carl McCrow, Dan Pearce, Emma-Leone Palmer, Dan Cook, Johnny Morant, Ru Knox, Bob Dylan, Natasha Archdale, Carne Griffiths, Harry Bunce, amongst many others.

View all Ad Lib Gallery artists [here](#). Other artists mentioned above are featured on the gallery's [collectible art](#) page.