

ARCHEUS / POST-MODERN

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Cecily Brown, Untitled, 2003

ARTIST Cecily Brown (b.1969)

TITLE Untitled

MEDIUM monotype on Lanaquarelle paper

DATE 2003

SIZE 41 x 50 ³/₄ in : 104.3 x 129.0 cm

FRAMED SIZE 49 1/5 x 59 1/16 in : 124.5 x 150 cm

INSCRIPTIONS Signed and dated in pencil on the reverse

PROVENANCE Private Collection (acquired directly from the owner) Private Collection, Europe

REFERENCE

AC24-02



Cecily Brown

Brown Cecily Brown, born in 1969 in London, United Kingdom, is a leading figure in contemporary painting. The daughter of art critic David Sylvester and novelist Shena Mackay, Brown was immersed in an intellectually stimulating environment from an early age. She attended the Slade School of Fine Art in London, where she completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1993. Her education at Slade shaped her early artistic style and conceptual approach.

Brown's work is characterised by vigorous brushwork, a vibrant color palette, and a dynamic interplay between figuration and abstraction. Her paintings evoke the human body and its visceral experiences, influenced by traditions like Abstract Expressionism and the Baroque, and artists such as Rubens, Goya, Willem de Kooning, and Francis Bacon.

After completing her education, Brown relocated to New York City in 1994, which proved pivotal for her career. Her early work gained considerable attention, leading to her first solo exhibition in 1997 at Deitch Projects. Notable early works like "*High Society*" (1998) exemplify her ability to blend figuration with abstraction, creating a sense of movement and chaos.

Brown's career includes numerous solo exhibitions at prestigious galleries and museums worldwide. In 2000, her work was featured in a solo exhibition at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden in Washington, D.C., significantly raising her profile. Subsequent exhibitions at Gagosian Gallery, Museo Reina Sofia, and Whitworth Art Gallery further solidified her reputation. Her work is included in major public collections such as the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Tate Modern, recognising her innovative approach to painting and her exploration of the human form.

Critics laud Brown for merging historical painting techniques with contemporary themes, often exploring sexuality, desire, and the human condition through abstraction that both conceals and reveals. This duality in her work has been extensively analysed, positioning her as a significant voice in postmodern and contemporary art. Scholarly interest in her work spans feminist theory, psychoanalysis, and art historical perspectives, underscoring the complexity and depth of her artistic practice.

In recent years, Brown has continued to evolve, exploring new themes and techniques while maintaining her commitment to the boundaries between figuration and abstraction. Her recent works feature densely packed compositions and a refined use of color and form. Exhibitions such as her 2018 show at the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Denmark highlight her ongoing relevance and adaptability. Cecily Brown's career, now spanning over three decades, showcases a remarkable trajectory of artistic innovation and critical success.



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