

Royce Howes

In the early 1990's, I began using newspaper photographs as the basis for works in collage. I transform these images by isolating individual figures from their original contexts. The figures are arrested in their moments, re-envisioned as suspended in a new and less defined space, and heightened to a point where they seem to stand for the human condition itself.

My work begins with a photographic image and transforms it through a collage process informed by ideas of painting and drawing. Not least among these is the idea of "the painterly". I have viewed the essence of "the painterly" as the quality of "coming into being".

These collages can bring to mind early forms of photography or they can refer to analytic cubist form. Although they themselves are made of the dot and screen patterns of halftone printing, they can also refer to pixilation, including the irregular pixilation that occurs when a digital moving-image is faltering and breaking down.