



Geoffrey Humphries
Paintings and Drawings from the Venice Studio
 Introduction by Jackie Wullschläger
 Interviewer Jackie Wullschläger
 Contributions by Colin Wiggin
 Contributions by Eric Denker
 Contributions by Janet Todd

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- A retrospective of the remarkable works that artist Geoffrey Humphries has produced in his fifty years as a flamboyant figure in Venice's cultural scene
- Gives a tantalising glimpse into the lives of the remarkable characters who passed through his studio - from rock stars, royalty and writers to eminent Venetians, artists, opera singers, and musicians
- Rich illustration and stunning design bring his sensuous figures to life on the page
- Features illuminating essays by eminent figures in the international art world

Renowned English artist Geoffrey Humphries (1945-) is arguably the greatest figurative painter living and working in Venice today. A master of oil painting, portraiture, watercolour and drawing, this is the first publication to bring together the many facets of his work. Humphries' Venetian studio has been the setting for a cast of remarkable characters for more than 50 years, from rock stars, royalty and writers to eminent Venetians, artists and musicians several of whose portraits are featured here. His legendary soirées have meanwhile provided the inspiration for his kaleidoscopic theatre pieces – surreal fantasies which recall the depraved allure of Secessionist Vienna and the cabarets of the Weimar Republic; while the shimmering light and jewel tones of Venice continually inspire his watercolour portraits of the city. However, Humphries is perhaps best known for his figurative works his sensual nuance of line capturing the essence of his subjects, whether in charcoal or in oils, often transforming them into playful conversation pieces with his characteristic inventiveness and wit. The extraordinary variety and beauty of Geoffrey Humphries' work is showcased here in this retrospective portfolio, which chronicles his remarkable life and oeuvre, and serves as a homage to his adopted city – Venice, a fusion of past and present, the city of both yesterday and today.

With introduction and interview by **Jackie Wullschläger**, Chief Art Critic of the *Financial Times*, and essays by **Colin Wiggins**, former Director of Special Projects at the National Gallery in London, and **Eric Denker**, Senior Lecturer at the National Gallery in Washington, and Janet Todd, former president of Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge.