

MR DETECTIVE MAN

RICH HARDCASTLE

7th - 11th January 2015

Mead Carney Fine Art
45 Dover Street, London W1S 4FF

Private View: Tuesday 6th January 2015, 6.30 - 9pm

Mead Carney Fine Art is pleased to announce a new selling exhibition of photography by **Rich Hardcastle**.

Mr Detective Man presents an insightful, thought-provoking and playful critique of contemporary culture framed through a stylised and cinematic narrative that draws on the familiar tropes of the crime thriller and the police procedural.

Hardcastle has cast some of the world's most recognisable faces in this striking visual drama, with model-of-the-moment **David Gandy** providing a powerful and poignant presence as the story's eponymous protagonist.

Supported by a high-profile cast including **Jacob Anderson** (*Game of Thrones*), **Paul Anderson** (*Peaky Blinders*) and **Adam Hills** (*The Last Leg*), a darkly comic narrative is played out through a series of familiar yet darkly dissonant scenes that follow Gandy from hospital bed to interrogation room to morgue slab.

'Rich Hardcastle brings excitement back into photography. His ideas are truly inspiring. You never quite know exactly what mad idea he has planned until you get to the shoot. He's a true creative, a true artist.'

- David Gandy

Hardcastle's highly-detailed portraiture combines an intelligent and acutely-observed visual humour, frequently imbued with a quiet pathos. His striking, highly original aesthetic has attracted industry-wide acclaim and has led to commissions from publications including *Rolling Stone*, *Esquire* and *Harper's Bazaar*.

During his 25 year career, Hardcastle has worked with a roster of stars of stage and screen including Ricky Gervais, Billy Zane, Michael Sheen, and Stephen Fry.

'Rich has a way of making a rainy day spent in a muddy field look glamorous and important'

- Ricky Gervais

Mr Detective Man is the latest exhibition of Hardcastle's celebrity portraiture to be staged at Mead Carney Fine Art and follows his highly successful show at the gallery in early 2014, entitled *Dark Tales*, which also featured David Gandy.



(Patch Up) - Sickness and Wealth, 2014.

© Rich Hardcastle, courtesy Mead Carney Fine Art.



(Shoot Out) - The March of Progress, 2014.

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(Autopsy) - Grin and Bear It, 2014.

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(Deadline) - Tempers Fudge It, 2014.

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About Rich Hardcastle

With a First Class Honours degree in Photography and a Masters' in Fine Art Photography from Edinburgh College of Art, Rich Hardcastle has over 25 years' experience as a commercial photographer. He is one of the elite BAFTA photographers who have shot portraits for BAFTA's archive and is the official backstage photographer at the BAFTA Film Awards. His previous projects with the likes of Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant, where he was commissioned to document the making of the award winning show 'Extras', brought him industry-wide acclaim. The resultant images were released in a book titled *The Illustrated Scripts*. Hardcastle travelled the world as 'special photographer' in the hit TV series "An Idiot Abroad", which was also published in book form. There are several works by Hardcastle in the prestigious permanent collection of The National Portrait Gallery.

About Mead Carney Fine Art

Mead Carney Fine Art opened in June 2012 on Dover Street, Mayfair, London as a new contemporary art gallery representing emerging and established artists. Mead Carney also provides expert advisory services on evaluation, acquisition services and advice on the art markets of all categories including North American and European Fine Art, Old Masters, Impressionist, Modern & Contemporary art. Our team of international art advisors have powerful associations with the world's most prestigious artists, art galleries, institutions and auction houses, along with unlimited access to the very best research and statistical material available.

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(Finale) - Games with Real World Consequences, 2014. © Rich Hardcastle, courtesy Mead Carney Fine Art.