Girls WIIN Masks by Ben Hopper

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Photographer Ben Hopper presents Naked Girls with Masks

Prints catalogue part #01 (July, 2010)

Why do we cover our bodies but display our faces?

Naked Girls with Masks is bold bodily communication, a parody of the self-censorship we all succumb to everyday. A photo series by Ben Hopper. (Contact details on last page)

All of the pictures in this catalogue are for sale. The prints are made in limited editions of 50 each. They are individually supervised, signed and numbered by Ben Hopper and shipped worldwide from London, UK.

Edition size: 50 Media: Digital Print; Matt Fuji Crystal Archive paper Size: 30" x 20" Price: £620

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Miss Aniela

Taken in Escapade (Fancy Dress Costumes Hire Shop. London, UK) using various masks from the actual shop.

#NGWM MA 000201



#NGWM MA 000202



#NGWM MA 000203









Scarlett

Mask by Jules Newman (Ghoulia's Peculiars) London, UK

#NGWM SA 000301



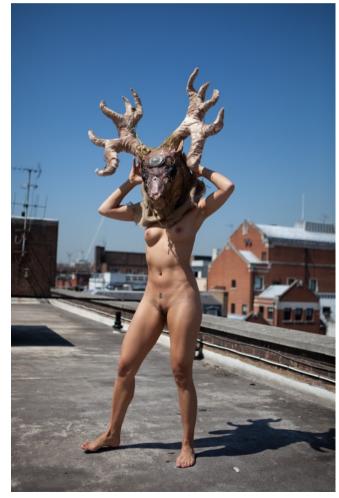
#NGWM SA 000302



#NGWM SA 000303



#NGWM SA 000304



#NGWM SA 000305



#NGWM SA 000306

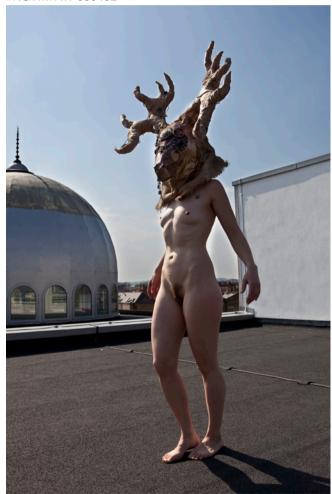


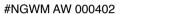


Mask by Jules Newman (Ghoulia's Peculiars) London, UK

#NGWM AW 000401









#NGWM AW 000403



#NGWM AW 000404

BlackLotus

#NGWM BL 000501



Cat Chappell

#NGWM CA 000101



BlackLotus

Mask by Aya Husni Bey London, UK

#NGWM BL 000502



#NGWM BL 000503



Nadia De Carlo

Mask made by Aste Amundsen for Tom Baker London, UK

#NGWM NC 000601



#NGWM NC 000602

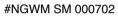


Saskia

Mask made by Skot Reynolds (Grave Industries) London, UK

#NGWM SM 000701







#NGWM SM 000703



Hélène Atsüko

Mask made by Oliver Spiers for Hélène Atsüko London, UK

#NGWM HA 000801



Hana

(1 of 2)

#NGWM HM 000901



#NGWM HM 000902



#NGWM HM 000903



Hana

(2 of 2)

#NGWM HM 000904



#NGWM HM 000905



Xarah

Taken in Escapade (Fancy Dress Costumes Hire Shop. London, UK) using various masks from the actual shop.

(1 of 2)

#NGWM XX 001001



#NGWM XX 001002



#NGWM XX 001003



Xarah

(2 of 2)

#NGWM XX 001004



#NGWM XX 001005



#NGWM XX 001006



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Text by Alix Fox

Ben Hopper is a mask-ermind! 'Naked Girls with Masks' is the latest project by this hotter-than-wasabi up-and-coming London-based fine art photographer, which features over ten different stunning, nude models wearing surprising, comical, and sometimes grotesque full-head masks.

You've heard of masked balls...but these shots are all about masked boobies! Yet in addition to being undeniably sexual, they're also playful, disturbing, and thought-provoking: a parody of the way in which human beings usually present themselves, they beg the question – why do we reveal our faces, yet hide our bodies from view? And what happens when that arrangement is turned on its (masked) head?

The photographs just exhibited at ACT ART 8, a huge underground group art show, which took place in Angel, Islington on Friday 9th July (<u>www.actart.co.uk</u>)

The project is ongoing, and Ben is looking for journalists who want to report on his work, as well as gallery owners and fine art dealers interested in arranging further exhibitions with him.

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INFORMATION ON BEN

Ben Hopper is on a mission to create as many remarkable timeless images designed to overwhelm; his work has featured in magazines and exhibitions everywhere from Spain to Jordan, Switzerland, France, Germany and Italy. He lives in London, and originally hails from Israel, but has no desire for his projects to be weighed down with the heavy politics and negativity that's sadly often associated with the region; instead, he wants to forge new, positive connotations by taking pictures filled with explosive movement, stylish humour, and intriguingly odd-yet-stunning scenarios.

"My photographic style is always evolving – I never want to take predictable, jaded pictures – but I particularly love the challenge of working solely with available light, and capturing bodies in motion", says Ben. "I like every element of my compositions to fascinate; it might the energetic, quirky image of a nude woman in a moose head jumping into the air that first arrests the viewer, but then they notice interesting elements in the background too. I want everything about my photographs to provoke comment and exclamation. And I consider 'What the fuck..?!' to be a compliment!"

Ben is currently in-house photographer for two of the UK's most notoriously trend-setting alternative clubs: <u>The Last Days</u> <u>of Decadence</u> and <u>White Mischief</u>.

HOW TO CONTACT BEN

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MORE JUICE ON 'Naked Girls with Masks'

From an article by Alix Fox in Bizarre magazine, www.Bizarremag.com

'Just like Jim Carey's character declares in the movie The Mask, these shots of scorching nekkid chicks in crazy headgear are "Smmmmokin'!" They're from a series of images called 'Naked Girls with MasksNaked Girls with Masks' (does what it says on the chuffin' tin, dunnit), by London-based photographer Ben Hopper. "The whole project kicked off back in July of 2009, when I was snapping some pics of a stunning young lady called Cat Chappell and her girlfriend Diana," explains Ben. "We were at my friend Alan's house, and he happened to have loads of costumes and masks lying around. Cat's back is covered in an amazing tattoo by Xed Le Head, who's famous for inking hypnotic geometrical patterns, so I persuaded her to show if off my stripping to her birthday suit and sticking a mask on her head. I loved the effect; her perfect figure reminded me of the nude supermodels in Helmet Newton's notorious black-and-white photos, and it was so unusual to see someone reveal their body yet hide their face, when usually it's the other way round. I sought out other models mostly by using social networking sites, although Hana Mokrisova – who appears wearing both a grotesque scary rabbit head and a Venetian mask – bumped into me at a Torture Garden fetish party. She was wandering around topless with a mask on at the time, so she was made for the job!"

"The various masks came from all sorts of places. An octopus-shaped monstrosity borrowed from a performer named Tom Baker arrived still soaked with his sweat from a show the night before, and another mask was saturated with water: its owner had given it a bath to try and clean off the layers of grime and gunge acquired during an adventurous trip to Download festival that weekend! I got an artist called Skot Reynolds (aka Grave Industries) to transform an Ikea lampshade into a spooky skull headpiece by drawing on it, while Canadian mask-maker Douglas Witt grafted for hours to deliver three custom-made creations to me. I was quite obsessive about the need for masks to cover the models' faces completely; I wanted to separate the girls' bodies and brains entirely. This meant that a lot of the mask-crafters had to work at much bigger sizes than they were used to, which was a fun challenge for everyone!"

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