BLOUINARTINFO

'Reverie: Dupatta-topia' by Robert Kushner at DC Moore Gallery, New York

BY BLOUIN ARTINFO | MAY 07, 2018



"A Visit to Delft - Blue and White," 2018, Robert Kushner, Oil, acrylic, gold leaf, silk, embroidery, sequins, and rhinestones on canvas, 72 x 72 in. DC Moore Gallery, New York (Courtesy of artist & DC Moore Gallery, New York)

D C Moore Gallery will host "Reverie: Dupatta-topia," a solo exhibition of new paintings of internationally acclaimed painter and sculptor Robert Kushner. Unlike his recent works, these new paintings present the artist's mastery over collage of fabric on to canvas and afterwards covering them with paint or gilt. The fabrics come mostly from India, Japan and Uzbekistan. The resultant is an exquisite product of bright sparkling color, radiating elegance and tale of the creator's technical perfectness. The idea behind this is originated from the artist's visit to India, where he learned the Indian technique of embroideries known as "dupattas," which immensely fascinated him. The embroidered fabrics cling onto the surface of the canvas, being partly visible under layers of paint, gilding and collage. Thus, his creation is a unique work of art which is a mixture of Eastern and Western styles. Each work presents a balance between the ornamental style of the dupattas and the artist's presentation of geometric and floral patterns. According to arrangement of the fabric's design and the replicating grids, the pieces appear to be jubilant, somber, or sometimes severe.

Robert Kushner was born in 1949 in Pasadena, California. He visited India in 1978, where he practised 'Rajasthani applique,' with a family of Rajasthani artists and changed his artistic practice completely. The human touch in the handmade textile, which changed the quality of the painting, attracted him immensely.

Kushner's work has been showcased extensively in the United States, Europe, and Japan and numerous solo exhibitions of his work have been held at: the Whitney Museum of American Art; Brooklyn Museum, New York; and Philadelphia Institute of Contemporary Art. His work has been included in various public collections such as The Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia Museum of Art; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Tate Modern, London, England; and the Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence, Italy.

"Reverie: Dupatta-topia" will be on show from May 3 through June 16, 2018, at *DC Moore Gallery, New York, 535 W 22nd St, New York, NY 10011, USA*.