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CARYLANN LEOPPKY

Carylann Loeppky is a Vancouver-based contemporary painter who has gained a critical and cult following for her striking portraits and figurative work. She began her creative career in the fashion industry styling the underground club and independent music scene. Later, her innovative graphic design aesthetic landed her a job doing album art for an influential Vancouver music label.

In her current art practice, Loeppky creates eccentric, enchanted portraits of people – mostly young females in elaborate outfits and ornamental features – that have a classical manner though tricked out in contemporary steampunk style. Inspired by 17th +18th century French court painters and the strange beauty of surrealism, Loeppky is keenly attentive to the mood and mystery in a suggestively struck pose. Her work has been described as "macabre fairytales" – dark, gorgeous, spellbound scenes of high-glam party-goers living on the edge of this new age of decadence. For Loeppky, her figures inhabit "a private realm of their own mystery – a fractured, dreamlike perception of space existing outside of time."

Recently exhibited in solo shows in Montreal, New York and Los Angeles, Loeppky's work was also featured in a rare exhibition among the architectural splendours in Croatia's historic 14th century Kastil Bancovic.

Carylann Loeppky works as a full-time artist from her studio – complete with a chandelier – in Vancouver's gritty eastside warehouse district.