



Adelaide Damoah

Trevor McDonald and Princess Diana, what two things do they both have in common? The answer: they are both British stars whose pictures have been painted by artist Adelaide Damoah. What's special about these portraits is the fact that Adelaide paints black icons white and white icons black. 'I needed to do an exhibition,' states the 30 year old. 'And I did not think that random faces painted by an unknown self taught artist would attract any interest, and being Black and British, I decided to look at British icons, and what it meant to be an icon in the UK.'

'I discussed with close friends what Princess Diana and Naomi Campbell would look like with reversed skin colours and the conversation progressed to whether or not they would still be icons.'

The Essex based artist has had various reactions to her work. 'One man said that he was so touched by my work because it reinforced that skin colour did not matter and the people meant

the same to him in terms of their personalities and achievements even though their colour was reversed.'

'Conversely, during a discussion on a radio show a lady called in to say 'who did I think I was changing the colour of such highly respected British icons.'

Considering that the extent of her professional art training is gaining a GCSE in the subject, Adelaide has gone amazingly far. 'The 'art' community is not yet taking me particularly seriously,' she says. 'I have a long way to go to prove myself.'

Adelaide gave up her job as a high flying medical representative to follow her dream of being and artist after discovering she had endometriosis. Although the art elite may turn their noses up at Adelaide as you can see she doesn't have anything to prove, she's made a lot of sacrifices and fought hard to gain recognition and the reality is the proof is in the artwork.

For more information contact Adelaide Damoah at ade1238@gmail.com

Pictures from left to right Trevor McDonald, David Beckham and Joan Collins

Words Annika Allen, Pictures courtesy of Black Ink Photography



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