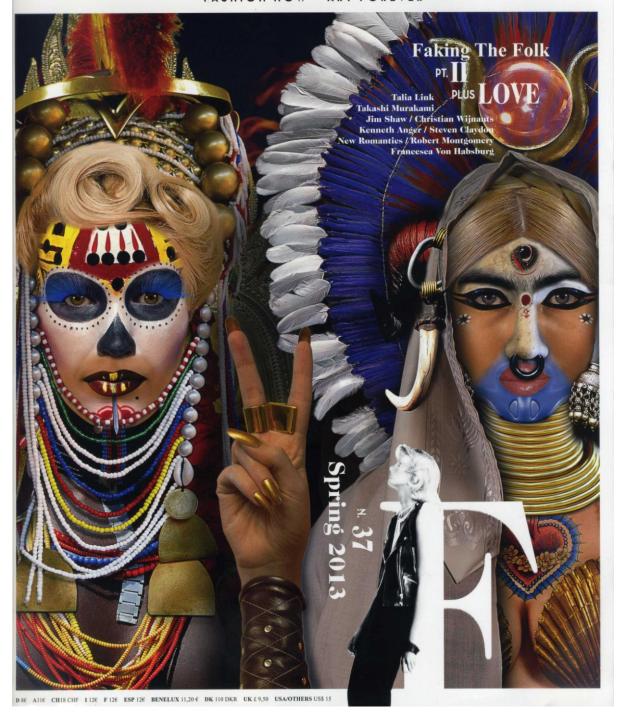


Sleel

FASHION NOW - ART FOREVER



THE MODERN MYSTICS

FOUR ARTISTS REANIMATING THE LORE AND RITUAL OF PAGANISM, WITCHCRAFT AND THE OCCULT

TEXTS — Hili Perlson & Leila Kozma

TEREZA BUSKOVA Charter of the Common Man, 2011

Combined inkjet & screen print 20 x 20 cm Edition of 20



TEREZA BUSKOVA

This London-based Czech artist brings back the traditions of a long-disappeared world. Casting herself as a

shaman of a small Czech town, she performs her own imaginary rites, turning every day objects such as Everlast boxing gloves and plastic deer into holy objects. "It's important to make ethnographic scenarios come alive again," she says. Thus the artist adds a modern touch to the Pagan-derived rituals she learnt about as a small child living in the former Czechoslovakia. She draws upon the change of seasons in her videos, solemnises the fasting season and the harvest, and celebrates marriage with a vivid and unusual practice.

Posing with the bloody head of a swine or walking down the aisle of a church with her body covered in white paint

are instances of the rituals which Buskova and her team of performers (who are fellow villagers and family members) enact. The performance "Baked Woman" saw the artist inviting the women of the village to embellish the artist's body with raw dough. Pretzels and viennoiseries of all sorts are placed on her naked body after she has been carried around the streets and the surroundings, putting herself into a pose of a divine creature, an artist, and explorer at the very same time. LK