

Iness Rychlik

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am a self-portrait photographer, who focuses on dark conceptual erotica. My work is both personal and symbolic in nature. I often use genuine antique garments or props to depict the parallels between my experiences of objectification as a woman and the inferior female position in Victorian Britain. Attached to the idea of expressing sexuality and cruelty in a subtle evocative way, I aim to provoke the viewer's imagination, rather than satisfy it.

I honour the concept of transforming hidden pain into art; exposed, disturbing and beautiful. Some of my photographs are inspired by Frida Kahlo, who relentlessly painted from her bed, despite having her fractured spine immobilised by various medical corsets. I have yet to meet a doctor who could bring me as much relief as photography does. Perhaps some wounds will never heal and the best we can do is to paint in our blood.

