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Gallery of Character Types

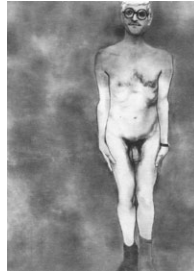
The Neo-Cubist, 1976–87

Oil on canvas, 178 × 132 cm

“The later painting is a portrait of Hockney which I began in the seventies. [...] In the later eighties, David described to me the death of his friend Isherwood in California. I took up the old portrait again and drew a kind of alter-figure across the original full frontal one, with Chris Isherwood in mind. Like Hockney, and unlike me, he had

been a very optimistic and sublime personality so I made of them a sort of cubist doppelgänger representing both life and death in the particular widely perspectival California setting they made their own in exile, and, I hope, in some harmony with David’s recent neocubist theory for pictures.”

• R. B. Kitaj, 1988/89



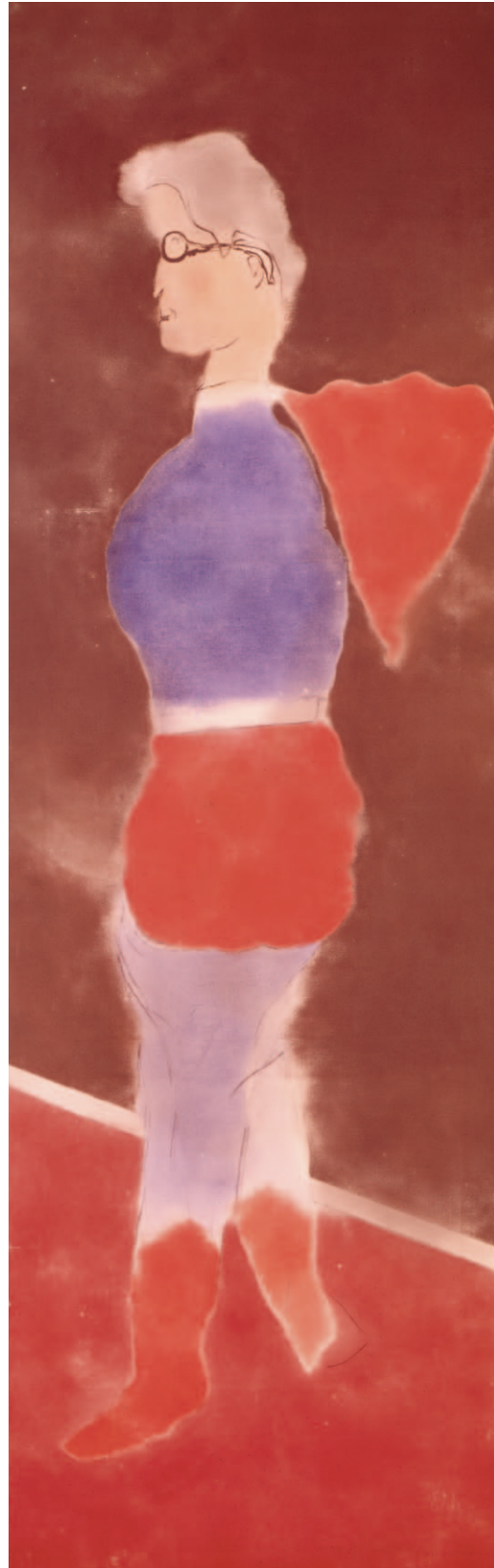
Batman, 1973

Oil on canvas, 244 × 76 cm



Superman, 1973

Oil on canvas, 244 × 76 cm



The Orientalist, 1975–77
Oil on canvas, 244 × 76 cm



The Arabist, 1975 | 76
Oil on canvas, 244 × 76 cm



The Hispanist (Nissa Torrents), 1977|78
Oil on canvas, 244 × 76 cm



Smyrna Greek (Nikos), 1976|77
Oil on canvas, 244 × 76 cm



Catalan Christ (Pretending to Be Dead), 1976

Oil on canvas, 76 × 244 cm

“Diasporism has inspired those representations or fictions of types of people to whose pictures I have given titles ending in *ist* – Orientalist, Neocubist, Arabist, Rememb-rist, Cézannist, Sensualist, Communist and Socialist, Kabba-

list, Caféist, Hispanist, and so on. I believe in a type-coining power for art. Some have been friends; all have been Diasporists (mostly not Jewish), folk who complicate one’s world in strange and wonderful ways.” • R. B. Kitaj, 1988

