

## Moraliste #2, 2012

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### Romain Mader

*Moraliste #2 , 2012*

serie Ekaterina

inkjet print

Image: 24x30 cm or 9,4x11,8 inch

Edition of 6 ex + 2 AP

Courtesy Galerie Dix9 Hélène Lacharmoise

INV Nbr. RM076

### Description:

Portrait of Oksana Shochka in her small studio, co-founder of the Femen movement, tragically disappeared in 2018. Chatchko is at the origin of the creation of the militant and aesthetic imagery of Femen: painting on a naked bust and crowns of flowers.

Creating fictional narrative within his images, Romain Mader realized the project "Ekaterina" in 2012. Travelling to the imaginary city of Ekaterina, the artist documents his search for a girlfriend, clumsily posing with mail-order brides and passing through a series of fictional towns.

Between reality and fiction, irony and vulnerability, the work is made of photographs which form also a film looking like a photo novel. Performing himself the story, Mader makes a kind of fictional documentary about sex tourism in Ukraine and plays with the aesthetics of documentary photography. The ever-posing women, castle-like buildings and billboards of the ideal married life give the impression of a utopian lifestyle, however unobtainable in reality.

A book titled "Ekaterina" is published by Morel editions, London.

The project made the cover of the catalogue "Performing for the camera", exhibition on show at Tate Modern London in 2016.