

bio

"Exploring a fictional history through fabricated documentation, the work of Nik Dudukovic merges the nostalgia of turn-of-the-century cartoons and illustrations with the familiarity of blemish-free draftsmanship. His characters are compositionally graphic from ten feet away and meticulously detailed from ten inches away, while his design and cohesive technique allow for a fluid --- yet selective --- narrative to emerge."

"Those rare moments when Nik Dudukovic sleeps, he collapses on the couch because his mattress is covered in art; the bed's proximity to his desk makes it the most logical place to transport his images with minimum risk of damage and few seconds lost. He slept under a pillow for a brief period because his comforter was missing. Rather than waste time finding it, he grabbed what was closest. Eventually the duvet emerged from under a couch cushion.

Dudukovic has forsaken this world and its comforts, choosing instead to spend the majority of his time in distant lands gathering artefacts and specimens for The Secret Museum of Mankind. If he slept in his bed, I would believe it is littered with images because he wakes clutching postcards from the places he travels while dreaming, that he has discovered a method to make material the images his subconscious reveals. Though these images are unsettling because of their implied or explicit violence and the strange juxtapositions of forms, the near to familiar quality of Dudukovic's pictures creates the greatest disquiet.

*The Secret Museum of Mankind* is a place you think you have visited before, but . . . no, you are certain you have never been."

-foreword by LEE SHEPPARD

**Nik Dudukovic** is a recent graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design. He is commercially represented by The Artist Group Limited in Toronto. His work has been published and exhibited internationally and is in private and public collections worldwide. Following successful shows in Japan, Hong Kong, Melbourne, Madrid and Barcelona, *The Secret Museum of Mankind* is his first solo exhibition in Toronto.