

Vanessa Compton

O How Glorious is the Kingdom

Collage and acrylic medium on canvas

24x58" triptych (panel 1 24x18" /panel 2 24x20"/ panel 24x20")

Opening bid: Opening Bid: \$2000.00

Artist Statement:

*"Come here my love and I will lift my spirits high for you
I'd like to fly away and spend a day or two
Just contemplating the fields and leaves and talking about nothing
Just layin' down in shades of effervescent
And shades of time and tide and flowing through
Become enraptured by the sights and sounds in intrigue of nature's beauty
Come along with me and take it all in, come here my love." -Van Morrison*

While creating this piece I listened endlessly to Van Morrison's forgotten masterpiece "Veedon Fleece" as this album captures the wild and free stream-of-consciousness feeling I was going for. The masterful wood engravings of Asa Cheffetz (1896-1965) also inspired me as they capture this similar feeling and those familiar with his work will recognize it in panel 1 of the triptych.

Collage is the language of rupture and I find it an inherently poetic medium. While much of my past work has focused on the many injustices in this world, this piece is an allegory to beauty and wild freedom. Although I wasn't alive during 1960's my father, a singer-songwriter, was on Columbia Records during this time. This decade greatly shaped his life which in turn shaped mine. When I think of this time in Vermont I imagine a psychedelic kaleidoscope where dreams, hopes and earnestness live. It is a mythical place where back-to-the-landers, woodchucks, hippies, immigrants, Bread & Puppeteers, Quebecois and flatlanders are all drawn. May the spirit of this decade find your own youthful heart wandering these Eastern cathedrals of forest and field.

Drawn to rural environments where landscapes are vast and people are few, Vanessa grew up in

northern Vermont where her singer-songwriter father and artist mother inspired her to create from an early age. She devoted her school years to theater, sculpture, cello and world music. Vanessa has lived in Dakar, Senegal studying the kora and its influence on hip hop music, and Kumasi, Ghana learning palm wine guitar with living master Koo Nimo. After falling in love with rock climbing, she moved to Colorado and graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from CU- Boulder. Her sculptures and collages have been exhibited in galleries across the US and appear in private collections around the world. She has been awarded fellowships from *The Wallace Stegner House*, *Vermont Studio Center*, *Hubbell Trading Post & National Historic Site*, *The Brush Creek Foundation*, and *Jentel Arts*. Currently, Vanessa maintains a semi-nomadic lifestyle, creating art throughout the American West and the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

