

WHO'S DRIVING YOU



With London's iconic black cabs on the brink of extinction, photographer Oleg Tolstoy, captures Uber, black cab and mini cab drivers' fears and emotions in the run up to the summer 2015.

The bustle and energy of London nightlife hums through the images, capturing the troubled times caused by London's rapidly changing economy and the rise of ride-sharing apps such as Uber. The dark portraits of night drivers are permeated by a poignant reflective light. They are juxtaposed with semi abstract images of traffic and taxis and a sound-rich video installation.

Photographer Oleg Tolstoy says: "In my job as a photographer I use Uber cars, black cabs and mini cabs to travel between shoots. During these journeys I noticed an underlying weight in the air as a result of current conflicts between app and black cab, card and cash. Noticing this mood, in an idle moment between jobs, I began taking a series of photos of cabbies lost in their thoughts. These haunting portraits are ones most passengers and Londoners are usually unaware of, as they ride in the seat behind."

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Oleg Tolstoy (b.1986) is a London-based photographer specializing in portraiture. His work has been exhibited around the world including at 'The Saatchi Gallery and The Future Can Wait' London, Edward Lucie-Smith's 'British Art Now' Berlin, 'Contact Photo Festival' Toronto and Walls Gallery, Tokyo. His work has featured in numerous international publications, among them Vogue Italia, Wonderland, Q Magazine and Hunger magazine. He has photographed Sir Elton John, Cara Delevingne, Mick Jones, Rita Ora, Howard Marks, Kano and Mumford and Sons. His first major book, The Tolstoys In The 21st Century, has just been published by Merrell.

Carousel, Blandford Street, W1U 8AB 7th – 25th September by appointment.

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