



# *The Art Gorgeous*



## **Leelee Kimmel – From “Eyes Wide Shut” To The Art World**

*Why She Traded Red Carpet for White Cube.*

Art Stuff 08 Feb 2018



([http://www.theartgorgeous.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/03Leelee-Kimmel\\_theartgorgeous.jpg](http://www.theartgorgeous.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/03Leelee-Kimmel_theartgorgeous.jpg))

It is not a huge surprise, that former actress Leelee Kimmel (born Sobieski) exchanges the red carpet for quiet days in the studio painting. Already as a child, she watched her father, painter Jean Sobieski, working in the family's NYC living room. Kimmel eventually became a rising Hollywood star after a appearance in Stanley Kubrick's 1999 thriller *Eyes Wide Shut* – but even at the set, she covered the inside of her trailers in plastic so she could paint. "I always said, 'I don't want to act. I paint'. Now aged 34, she paused Hollywood and is ready to let the painter out. "Painting is like it's a vomit of what's going on inside of me and in the world." After having a work included in Marborough's group show last summer, she just opened her first solo show with a pretty cool crowd attending at Brooklyn's Journal gallery.



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"In my paintings there's a lot about energy and vibrations and the whole world being connected," Kimmel explained, contrasting that sense of control to the experience of being on a film set. "If you're on a crew and 150 people are pushing for you to fall in love with somebody else, everybody is rooting for it. That's the energy of a lot of people, but it's fake."



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Kimmel is married to fashion designer Adam Kimmel since 2009 and has two kids. Their Tribeca loft was also featured in *Vogue* and as you can imagine its incredibly stylish – as well as filled with amazing pieces of art: The couple are passionate art collectors and own works by artists including [Raymond Pettibon](#)

(<http://www.artnet.com/artists/raymond-pettibon/>), George Condo  
(<http://www.artnet.com/artists/george-condo/>) and Theodor Seuss Geisel (better known as Dr. Seuss).



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Images via *Vogue*, *Elisabet Davidsdottir*, *Interview Mag*, *Pinterest*