

# The Telegraph

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## From Richard Wentworth to Gavin Turk, the pioneering male artists changing the medium

Some of the country's most celebrated artists showcase the menswear of the season for the day...

### The Dandy: Robert Montgomery



It's surprising that Robert Montgomery didn't end up in the fashion business, so dedicated was his teenage self to the art of dressing-up. "I used to go dressed as a Victorian, like Oscar Wilde, in a double-breasted suit, a cravat, velvet cape and black-and-white shoes, to my local high school in Glasgow," he recalls, considerably less flamboyant today. "I've always thought of clothes as a democratic art form and a way to express yourself."

Today, he's swapped capes for canvases, calling his work "concrete, or shape poetry", whereby the arrangement of words conveys as much meaning as the words themselves. "I like the frankness of text, contemporary art can just end up becoming decorative and I want to engage with a wider audience." Recent creations reference abstract works by Kazimir Malevich – big black squares overlaid with text celebrating post-war initiatives.

*Joseph and The Cob Gallery present Hammersmith Poem and Love Letters to Kazimir Malevich by Robert Montgomery, 27 October to 25 November, and extends to Joseph, 2 Savile Row, London W1. The artist will be in conversation with Fiontán Moran in the store on 8 November; cobgallery.com*



