

Casa al Mare

GROUP EXHIBITION

+

The Moon's Daughter is a Pearl

BY EMMA WITTER

3 July - 6 September 2025

Private View: 6-9pm, Thursday 3 July



This summer, Gallery FUMI is delighted to present the second edition of the group exhibition *Casa al Mare*, alongside a solo exhibition in the lower ground floor space by London-based artist Emma Witter: *The Moon's Daughter is a Pearl*, opening on Thursday 3rd July.

An exploration of the elegance of the Mediterranean lifestyle and an embrace of the rustic, natural textures we find closer to home, *Casa al Mare's* walls of sun-washed blue and terracotta and floors laid in earthy woven sisal invite you to peek into a beautifully crafted home where *dolce far niente* meets rustic British summer.

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Under the spell of Cocteau's canvas of Villa Santo Sospir, we find the breeze of the riviera intermingling with a desire for nature and its boundless intricacies. Ornamentation fuses with the landscape in each of the works, as the border blurs between material and nature, form and aesthetics, function and beauty.

Beneath the waves of the Mediterranean above, you find precious, sparkling emblems as if re-born out of the deep past of the natural world in *The Moon's Daughter is a Pearl* - a solo presentation by Emma Witter. The title, taken from a poem by Anna Souter, traverses the line between the celestial and natural, the forgotten and re-discovered, an anthropomorphic carousel of treasure and discovery. Given new life, the works are created from salvaged metals, oyster shells, bones, and other natural remnants. Transformed tenderly through intricate hand modelling and embalmed with precious metal using the delicate, underwater process of electro-forming, we discover copper surfaces encrusted with baroque pearls and interiors layered with pearlescent and metallic pigments. *The Moon's Daughter is a Pearl* channels the romantic spirit, a sunken treasure chest as a call to dream. A testament to collaboration, these works bring together the skills of farmers, chefs, artisans, and the artist to transform humble materials into a surreal celebration of local agriculture, craft and community.



Ocean Bowl, Unfurled and *Treasure Box* by Emma Witter: Unique, Giant Oyster Shells, Electroformed Copper, Metallic Pigment, Crystal Resin, 2025. Image Courtesy of Gallery FUMI.

New works debuting as part of *Casa al Mare* includes *Archetypes* by Kustaa Saksi, a large-scale tapestry work crafted with soft mohair, alpaca wool and cotton in a composition of flickering forms and vivid colors; a bench, console, and dining table from the *Pebbles* series by Francesco Perini, sculpted with magnificent Tuscan woods in organic forms mimicing pebbles balancing on each other on a beach; and ethereal new vessels from the *Djinn Jar* series by Leora Honeyman, crafted with experimental mineral combinations with porcelain, pewter, and gold and platinum leaf.



Installation images courtesy of Tom Wright Penguins Egg Studio for Gallery FUMI

Echoing the waves, soft breezes, and the gentle freedom of the Mediterranean coast, new works by Jeremy Anderson and Carlès & Demarquet speak to the flora and fauna of the French Mediterranean. Anderson's vessels, lighting sculptures, and tables carry his signature sense of whimsy, while Romain Carlès and Paul Demarquet, making their debut with the gallery, present a dining table and chairs that reinterpret traditional carpentry with sculptural textures reminiscent of Impressionist brushstrokes.

Charlotte Kingsnorth debuts *Fuzzy III*, part of her *Hi/Breed* series, with linear forms enveloped in a lush skin of faux fur and sculptural upholstery, and Rowan Mersh presents a sculpture from his *Pithvava Praegressus* series, composed of meticulously assembled wooden sticks that ripple with a mesmerising, animated fluidity.

Additional artists and designers presenting work in *Casa al Mare* are atelier lachaert d'hanis, Glithero, JAMESPLUMB, Sam Orlando Miller, Max Lamb, Casey McCafferty, Rowan Mersh, Johannes Nagel, Study O Portable, Voukenas Petrides, and Jie Wu.

Sam Pratt and Valerio Capo comment: 'We're thrilled to present the second edition of *Casa al Mare* this summer. This exhibition allows us to explore design in a sensorial and expressive form. It sits in beautiful harmony with a solo presentation by Emma Witter, an artist who has long held a special place in our hearts. Inviting her to transform the lower ground floor into an ethereal grotto feels like a natural evolution in our collaboration.'

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ABOUT EMMA WITTER

Emma Witter is a London based artist. In 2008, she earned her diploma in Art and Design from The London College of Fashion. In 2012, she received a first-class honours degree in Performance Design and Practice from Central Saint Martins.

On graduating, Witter received the 'Seed Fund' Award from the University of the Arts London - a grant to establish her own studio practice, alongside a start-up grant from The Princes Trust Enterprise Programme. After a year of studio practice, she was awarded the 'Best New Business Award' during UAL's Enterprise Week in 2014. Since then, Witter has participated in numerous exhibitions, most notably her solo show *Remember You Must Die* (2019), following from her year-long residency at Sarabande, the Lee Alexander McQueen Foundation. Additional exhibitions include *Eileen Agar & Emma Witter: Tender Resurrection* at Bosse & Baum, London (2024), *Small Ceremonies* at A.P.A.P Art Space, Seoul (2023), and *Flowers - Flora in Contemporary Art & Culture* at the Saatchi Gallery (2025), in which she is currently exhibiting. She is also currently pursuing an MFA in Art & Humanities at the prestigious Royal College of Art, where her research investigates the meeting points of agriculture, food systems, and artistic practice, with a particular interest in materiality and British heritage crafts.

She has been highlighted by the Worth Global Style Network talent section as 'One to Watch' and her work has been featured in publications such as *The New York Times*, *Show Studio*, *Financial Times How To Spend It*, and more.

ABOUT GALLERY FUMI

Established in 2008 by Sam Pratt and Valerio Capo, the gallery focuses on high-level, conceptually, and aesthetically audacious designers and artists; each encompassing the value of craftsmanship, traditional techniques, and innovative technologies. Objects are usually handmade by the designer in a small workshop. Many use traditional techniques such as carving, glassblowing, cabinetry, lacquering, and meticulous hand assemblage.

The directors have built enduring creative relationships with institutions, interior designers, and collectors alike, and have gained a reputation for applying a very personal and original touch in their selection and curation. They marry a close understanding of the potential of their designers with a keen knowledge of the market to commission exclusive, low-volume, limited-edition works. The gallery runs an ambitious programme of exhibitions alongside a presence at international design fairs including PAD London, Salon Art + Design, Design Miami and FOG Design.