

CYNTHIA  
CORBETT  
GALLERY

LONDON  
ART FAIR

A proud London Art Fair exhibitor since 2005, Cynthia Corbett Gallery is pleased to return to the 2022 edition of the Fair with two original showcases: a survey of the oeuvre of 15 women artists, *Focus On The Female: London Art Fair Edit* (Stand 5), and a two-man show of Matt Smith and Andy Burgess at Platform: Music (Stand G9a). A unique piano recital by composer Dimitris Skyllas on the 21<sup>st</sup> April will accompany the curation.

Please click here to view the curations:

*Focus On The Female: London Art Fair Edit* <https://www.londonartfair.co.uk/galleries/cynthia-corbett-gallery-2>

*Platform: Music* <https://www.londonartfair.co.uk/galleries/cynthia-corbett-gallery>

For further information please contact Anastasia Lander at [anastasia@young-masters.co.uk](mailto:anastasia@young-masters.co.uk) | +44 (0) 7957 114 873

### *Focus On The Female: London Art Fair Edit* (Stand 5)

This year Cynthia Corbett Gallery and Young Masters Art Prize have been invited to do a special curated presentation at London Art Fair 2022. We will be at Stand 5, across the hall from the Fair's Museum partner, the New Hall Art Collection, a collection of Modern and Contemporary Art by women at Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge – the largest of its kind in Europe, and second largest in the world. We are presenting *Focus On The Female: London Art Fair Edit*, a continuing female curatorial project created through the prestigious and well-known Young Masters Art Prize to support women artists in the precarious post-pandemic times. *Focus On The Female: London Art Fair Edit* is a continuation of this new strand of Young Masters's not-for-profit activity aimed to support the artists. For London Art Fair we have curated an all-woman showcase unpacking the oeuvre of fifteen women artists: Gallery-represented, YMAP alumnae and artists new to the Gallery.

### Participating artists:

Elise Ansel	Eve de Haan	Klari Reis
Deborah Azzopardi	Amy Hughes	Cristina Schek
Tami Bahat	Elin Hughes	Emilie Taylor
Freya Bramble-Carter	Susanne Kamps	Andrea Tyrimos
Anne-Françoise Couloumy	Tuëma Pattie	Isabelle van Zeijl

*Focus On The Female: London Art Fair Edit* <https://www.londonartfair.co.uk/galleries/cynthia-corbett-gallery-2>

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**Platform: Music (Stand G9a)**

We are delighted to be part of Platform, a curated section featuring invited galleries presenting artists whose work aligns to a single distinct theme. This year's theme is Music, and our curation at Stand G9a will highlight the oeuvre of British-Irish ceramicist, professor, curator & textile artist **Matt Smith** and British-American painter, collagist, draughtsman, and photographer **Andy Burgess**.

**Matt Smith**

*Excerpts from a 31 Note Lovesong:*

While Artist in residence at the V&A, Matt visited the former Spode factory site in Stoke on Trent. He brought 31 production moulds that had been left at the now closed factory site. Using black parian clay and porcelain, casts were taken from the moulds and reassembled into new objects, each a portrait of the closed factory and loss of livelihoods.

When grouped together, a visual rhythm started to form. Similar to the black notes on a white score; a visual melody in response to the now silent factory site. The new works inspired **Greek composer Dimitris Skyllas** to compose *Abyss* for piano – an aural response to a visual response to silence. The work has been shown and performed at the V&A as part of London Design Festival and at the British Ceramics Biennial.

**On Thursday, 21 April, 8pm, London Art Fair is inviting you to [a recital by composer and pianist Dimitris Skyllas followed by a Q&A with artist Matt Smith.](#)**

In 2015 Greek composer and performer Dimitris Skyllas created his musical piece *Abyss* in response to Matt Smith's ceramic artwork *Notes Of A Love Song*, which then debuted at V&A. **This Thursday Dimitris Skyllas will be performing a segment of the work and Matt Smith will be presenting a specially curated selection of the Notes. Please contact [anastasia@young-masters.co.uk](mailto:anastasia@young-masters.co.uk) for invitations.**

The world premiere of *Abyss* took place at the spectacular venue of Victoria and Albert Museum. The second performance of the piece happened in Athens, making the first public appearance of the historical piano of Maria Callas at the Onassis Library. The third performance of *Abyss* was at the opening of the British Ceramics Biennale. And now, this Thursday 21st of April, you may be within the lucky few to witness the fourth performance of *Abyss* in London Art Fair's Talks Theatre.

Matt Smith's solo shows include *Queering the Museum* at Birmingham Museum, *Flux: Parian Unpacked* at the Fitzwilliam Museum and *Losing Venus* at the Pitt Rivers Museum. He has won numerous awards including the Young Masters Ceramics Prize, Object of the Fair at Collect and the Brookfield Properties Prize. His work is held in numerous museum collections, including the V&A and the Walker Art Gallery. He is Professor of Ceramics at Konstfack University of the Arts, Stockholm.

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**Andy Burgess**

*Jazz Collages*

**Since 2004 Cynthia Corbett Gallery has been internationally representing Andy Burgess** who read Politics & Economics at Leeds University before embarking on a serious career as a visual artist, multitalented painter, drawer, photographer, collagist, writer & curator. London-born Burgess, lauded by Annabel Sampson, Deputy Editor of Tatler as “the next David Hockney”, moved to Tucson, Arizona in 2010, when his career exploded on both sides of the Atlantic. The Gallery will be presenting primarily his vintage-inspired and historic ephemera collages as these are inspired by music, in particular, Jazz. **For this project Andy Burgess will collaborate with Jazz prodigy, Guildhall-trained Pianist & composer Rick Simpson.**

“In terms of artistic expression, there are many similarities between collage and Jazz. Not least, their shared desire to challenge and re-shape traditional forms of arrangement and to respond with vitality and energy to the rhythms of modern life. In a sense both collage and Jazz, move to the beat of the city, the speed, intensity, and complexity of the metropolis.

As a visual artist with a passion for music and Jazz in particular, I am fascinated and inspired, as many artists have been, by the relationship and shared motivations of both artforms. At its heart Jazz explores the relationship between structure and freedom; the melodic structure and harmony running through a composition and the freedom to depart from that structure, to weave in and out, to play around, diverge and then return. Collage is my way of exploring a similar relationship in two dimensions. Making collage encourages play and experimentation and allows me to make an abundance of smaller works that riff on a central theme. I feel freer to invent and try new ways of picture-making, exploring colour, texture, and composition with a greater sense of freedom and abandon. The cut and pasted nature of collage is experimental and playful and allows for dualities: objective versus non-objective, organized versus disorganized, geometric versus organic, resolved versus unresolved, cut edges versus torn edges, found versus fabricated etc.

In Jazz there lies a tension between the parts and the whole, played out in the expression of individualism, the improvisation around a theme and the imagination of the players. Charlie Parker deconstructed well known melodies. Miles Davis, classically trained, encouraged improvisation to such a degree that he arrived at “free jazz”, a total rejection of traditional structure.

Collage also kicks against convention. For a start, collage rejects a central premise of fine art... the picture as an illusion, a window into another world. Collage, the cutting and pasting of fragments of paper or other material, insists on its own materiality. By bringing fragments of the real world, culled from the streets and advertising, such as bus tickets, newspapers, wine labels and all manner of ephemera, collage breaks the spell of art as illusion. Collage insists on playfulness, imagination, and spontaneity,” – **says the artist, Burgess.**

**Platform: Music** <https://www.londonartfair.co.uk/galleries/cynthia-corbett-gallery>

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### ABOUT CYNTHIA CORBETT GALLERY

Cynthia Corbett Gallery, established by American former economist, art historian and curator Cynthia Valianti Corbett in 2004, is an international nomadic art gallery representing emerging and established contemporary artists. The Gallery has a broad annual exhibition programme including international art fairs and collaborative projects worldwide. The Gallery's represented and guest artists come from American, British, and international backgrounds, whose works have been published and acquired by major museums, institutions, and private collections.

In 2009, Cynthia Corbett launched the **Young Masters Art Prize**, a unique, not-for-profit platform supporting emerging international artists. The Prize celebrates artistic skill and innovation, with awareness of the Old Masters and art of the past. An independent judging panel that includes renowned art historians, collectors, curators and art professionals, selects the winners. In 2014 the **Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramic Prize** was added to focus more attention on the growing interest in the collection of contemporary craft and 2017 saw the launch of the inaugural **Young Masters Emerging Women Award**, and the fifth edition and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition of the Prize took place in October 2019. The most recent Young Masters initiative is the curatorial platform; **Focus on the Female**. Developed as an artistic and philanthropic antidote to the disproportionate impact of the COVID pandemic on women, *Focus on the Female* was launched with a dedicated exhibition, culminating in an awards ceremony in October 2021, with awards sponsored by Young Masters patrons.

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