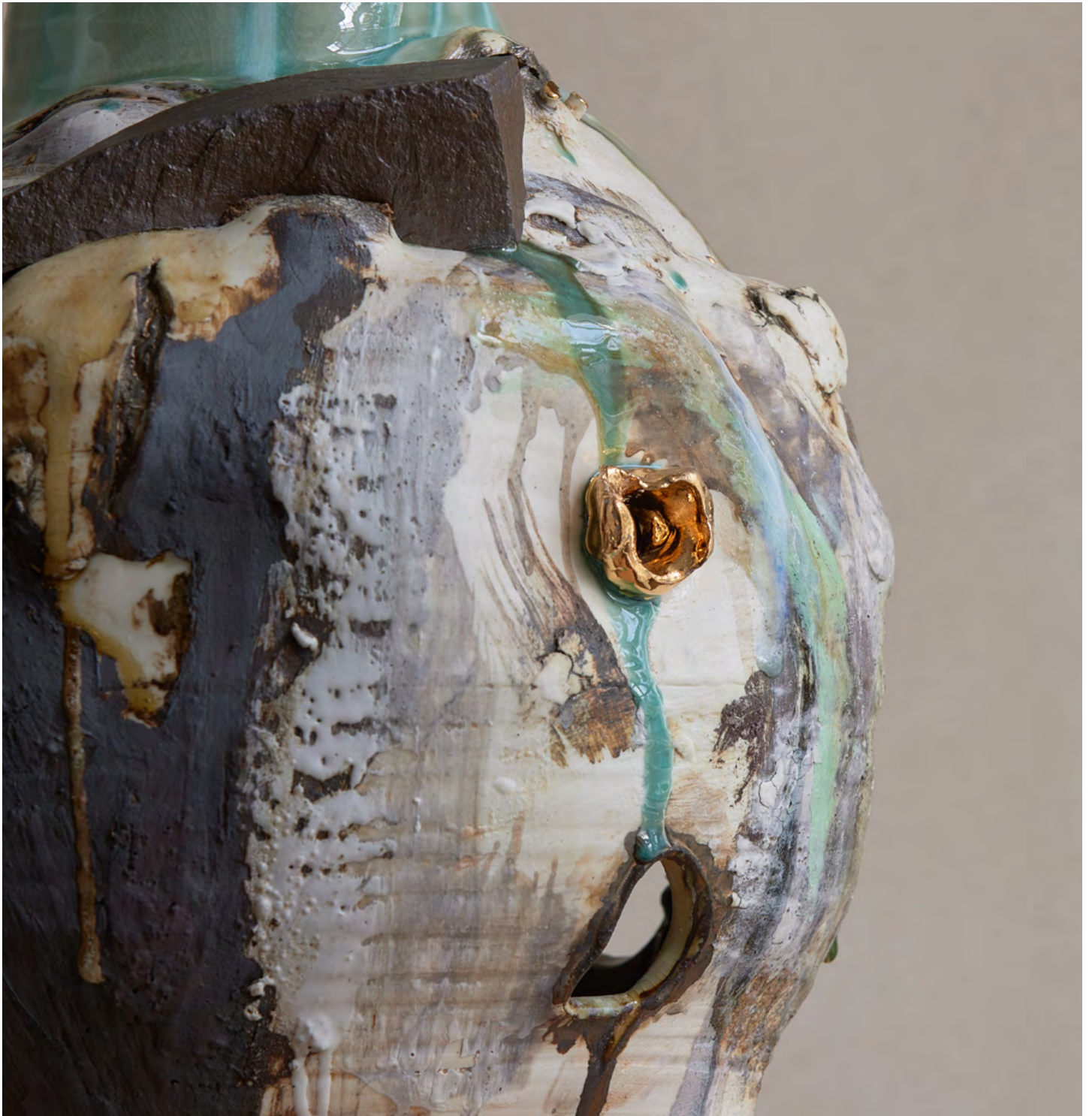


CARPENTERS WORKSHOP GALLERY PRESENTS

SEEING THINGS
GARETH MASON

11 OCTOBER – 22 DECEMBER | 2023

OPENING | 10 OCTOBER | 6 – 8 PM



PRESS CONTACT

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Carpenters Workshop Gallery is proud to present the first UK solo exhibition in over a decade of the work of celebrated British ceramicist Gareth Mason. The exhibition, titled *Seeing Things* highlights how Mason embraces clay's nuanced individuality whilst never ignoring the material's universality. Carpenters Workshop Gallery is pleased to be representing the work of the artist in collaboration with Jason Jacques Gallery.

Seeing Things will show 24 never-before-seen works created in the past two years. The works are made from clay and foreign objects, challenging porcelain's immaculate history by pushing the boundaries of the medium's course. The artist's elaborate process consists of throwing the pieces by hand, altering the form through firing and glazing, and adding unexpected materials of detritus such as glass, metal and shards of pottery. In doing so, the artist elevates the flotsam by making a case for their aesthetic value. The result is an avant-garde collection of works richly layered in texture, colour, and form.

Gareth Mason states: "I make no great claims as a 'seer', but ceramics is an arena of extravagant observation for me. Its textures and colours – its sheer transformative 'phenomena' – had me from the get-go. Long have people venerated aspects of the world that entrance the eye and the senses. We are sensual beings after all."

Mason is inspired by a desire to capture the dynamic nature of creation, the emotive power of materials, and their transformation through fire. The artist does not envision a completed and final result when creating these works, as a surprise is a key element within his creative process. The carefully wrought and disaster-strewn surfaces are fruits of past "failure", whilst every sense of drama and stress that the pots may convey foreshadows a future narrative, enabling a sense of excitement and intrigue within the viewer.

Loïc Le Gaillard, co-founder of Carpenters Workshop Gallery, comments: "We are thrilled to show Gareth Mason at our Ladbroke Hall gallery space – his first UK show in over ten years. His ceramics are captivating and continue to transcend the art of making through his exploratory use of clay, glazes and materials."

Also opening on 11 October, is the renowned Italian designer and architect, Vincenzo De Cotiis' exhibition, *Archaeology of Consciousness*, where he will be unveiling his latest body of sculptural work.



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About Gareth Mason

Gareth Mason is a potter of 35 years' standing and exhibits internationally. His first solo exhibition in America was in February 2011. Entitled 'Other Forces', it was held at Jason Jacques Gallery in Manhattan and began a long-standing professional relationship, continuing in the August 2022 solo exhibition, 'Wild Clay'. Residencies include Syracuse University, USA (2019/20), the Jingdezhen International Studio, China (2016) and Long Beach State University, USA (2011). Speaking and 'Master Class' engagements include; Everson Museum Syracuse (2019); Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge (2018); 'LabArtz', Taoxichuan, China (2016); International Ceramics Festival, Aberystwyth (2015); Greenwich House New York and The Clay Studio Philadelphia (2014); the American Museum of Ceramic Art, California (2013); SOFA Chicago Expo (2011); International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemet, Hungary (2010). A past columnist for Ceramic Review Magazine, London, he has also written for Ceramics Monthly, Keramik Magazine Europa and Ceramics Art and Perception, with the books, 'A Decade In Cahoots' published online by Jason Jacques Press, and 'More is More' by the same publisher, held in the Cfile online Library. A dialogue with the author and collector Ashley Thorpe appears in Thorpe's 2023 book, 'Contemporary British Studio Pottery'. Group exhibitions include; Shapes from Out of Nowhere, the Metropolitan Museum New York; Ceramics Biennale, Hongzhou, China, Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge; Side Gallery, Barcelona; Centre Tignous, Paris; Yale Centre for British Art, Connecticut; Hiram Butler Gallery, Houston and Boca Raton Museum of Art, Florida. Collections include The Metropolitan Museum New York, Everson Museum, Syracuse, Mint Museum North Carolina and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA. Mason is a Fellow of the Craft Potters Association and Brother of the Art Workers Guild, London. He lives and works in Hampshire, England.

<https://www.garethmason.net>

About Carpenters Workshop Gallery

Specialising in Functional Art and Collectible Design, Carpenters Workshop Gallery focuses on producing and exhibiting the work of international artists, designers, and architects, who look to push the boundaries of what is traditionally presented within the confines of the gallery and art fair space.

Carpenters Workshop Gallery is founded on the partnership of childhood friends, Julien Lombrail and Loic Le Gaillard, who first opened the gallery in a former carpenter's workshop in London's Mayfair. Since then, Carpenters Workshop Gallery has proven its deserved place as a leading pioneer in the world of high art and design, expanding to operate four galleries worldwide, situated in key locations of London, Paris, New York, and Los Angeles.

Actively involved in the research, conservation and production of limited edition works, the gallery's choices are guided by seeking an emotional, artistic, and historical relevance and breaking boundaries between art and design. This ethos is exemplified by the founding of The Workshop complex in Mitry-Mory, on the outskirts of Paris – a unique 8,000 square meters space dedicated to artistic research, bringing together the elite of practitioners and artisans. Within this creative hub, Carpenters Workshop Gallery artists and leading artisans work collaboratively to produce pieces with a hand-finished touch.

The gallery's next exciting chapter is the recent opening of Carpenters Workshop Gallery's new London space, within the expansive Notting Hill arts hub, Ladbroke Hall. This new destination, dedicated to presenting ambitious programming across all forms of creative expression, confirms the leadership role of Carpenters Workshop Gallery in today's international territory of art and design and their intersectionality.

www.carpentersworkshopgallery.com

About Jason Jacques Gallery

Jason Jacques Gallery is an American contemporary art gallery specializing in artists working in clay. Over its 30-year history, the gallery has both made its mark building museum collections of late 19th century European Art Pottery and become renowned for exhibiting some of the most exciting and influential international contemporary ceramic artists. Jason began his career in Europe three decades ago, combing through flea markets and antique shops for star pieces to send back to American dealers. He returned with a specialty in what he calls the Art Pottery Renaissance of the late-19th century— works by Lucien Lévy-Dhurmer, Ernest Chaplet, Clément Massier, Georges Hoentschel, and the like.

<https://www.jasonjacques.com/gallery>

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