

Now and Then

Curated by Libby Sellers

15 September – 24 November 2018



Max Lamb, *Gold Cleft Chair 3*, 2018
 Unique
 European Chestnut, 23.5 Carat Gold Leaf

To mark its 10th anniversary, Gallery FUMI is proud to present *Now and Then*, a special exhibition charting the trajectory of the Gallery's programme since its opening in 2008.

Curated by renowned curator, writer and design historian Libby Sellers, the exhibition will celebrate the Gallery's represented artists and designers, showcasing a unique selection of key pieces created over the last ten years, together with new, never-before-seen works, especially commissioned for the show.

Now and Then will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue with contributions by prominent art and design writer Caroline Roux. Printed in limited editions, the publication will offer fascinating insights into the landmark exhibitions and collections at the heart of FUMI's ten-year journey.

For more information please contact:
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Statement by Gallery FUMI Founders Sam Pratt and Valerio Capo

“For us personally and for our designers, these ten years of Gallery FUMI have been an extraordinary journey. To honour such an important achievement, we wanted our anniversary exhibition to look back at our history, and, at the same time, forward to our future. At curatorial level, Libby Sellers was our natural choice. Libby's fresh outlook on our exhibition programme coupled with her wealth of invaluable experience as Gallery Owner and Senior Curator for The Design Museum speaks for itself. Working together has been an absolute privilege and we are simply thrilled Libby could play an integral role in celebrating such a significant milestone for the Gallery.”

Excerpts from Curatorial Statement by Libby Sellers

“As suggested by the title, this exhibition is about origins and continuity. As a celebration of FUMI's tenth year, it unites designers and works from the gallery's earliest days with recent and new commissions.

Far from establishing a series of juxtapositions and binary oppositions though, the selected works offer a temporal collage of the various relationships that have developed over that ten-year period: between FUMI and the designers, and between the designers themselves (many of whom are friends).

In navigating a way through all these relationships one overriding theme emerged – that of materiality as a primary medium of creativity. From Max Lamb's poetic exploration of wood, through Lukas Wegwerth's crystal growths and Study O Portable's excavations in jesmonite – each of the works shows designers, not as passive observers, but as active explorers of our complex world.

On this, their tenth anniversary, it is no coincidence that metals occupy the selection. From copper to gold leaf, through aluminium, lead, steel, brass, bronze, nickel and zinc – elements from across the metallic table are represented. In a way, FUMI is like these composite metals: offering a sum greater than its individual parts; accommodating and robust; weathering the external forces to create a structural support for all those ambitions.”

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