

# LOUISA GUINNESS GALLERY

NIC FIDDIAN GREEN

THIS IS NOT A HORSE

27 APRIL - 3 JUNE, 2016

PRESS PREVIEW: 26 APRIL 6 – 8PM



Louisa Guinness Gallery is delighted to present ‘This is Not a Horse’ a new solo exhibition of jewellery by British Artist Nic Fiddian Green. The show will feature unique and editioned works, including the artist’s latest “Pocket” series.

Fiddian Green is best known for his monumental sculpture in bronze, lead, marble and copper. His archetypal 33 ft (12m) bronze “Horse at Water”, at Marble Arch, London, represents a subject and sculptural composition the artist has been investigating for the past 30 years. Recent months, however, have seen the artist scale his skill and trademark subject towards more intimate proportions.

The artist first began experimenting with the idea of ‘wearable sculpture’ in October of last year, producing carved-wax cast pendants in silver and gold. This exhibition will present Fiddian Green’s newest works; scaled down, hand carved versions of his emblematic horse heads. Each piece retains the same vivacity and emotion of his larger scale sculpture, whilst their scale offers the wearer the intimacy and immediacy of portable possession.

Perhaps owing to the covetable scale of these works, “This Is Not A Horse” sees the artist transfer a demonstrably personal dimension onto his sculptures, resulting in the creation of a series of “Pocket Jewellery”. Louisa Guinness describes the seed of the idea forming during their creative meetings:

“Often Nic would put the carved stone back in his pocket and say he wanted to keep it as a ‘pocket stone’, a small and tactile token to handle during the contemplation process.”

The consequent series are a selection of intricate, coloured stone carvings that, displayed on their plinths, serve as miniature and unique sculptures. Equally and paradoxically some are designed to be carried as “pocket jewellery” not to be seen or displayed, but to be handled, understood and appreciated through touch, retaining the natural heat from the body and acting as worry stones, gratitude rocks or talismans.

Working to a smaller scale has prompted a further expansion of the artist’s traditionally figurative subject matter: horse heads are accompanied by a self-portrait - “Happy Nic”- a starfish shaped pendant cast in silver. Playful and expressive the series also includes a glass bottle pendant for holding flowers that serve as a private vase of flowers at the table.

“Nic’s collectors are in for a big surprise” says Guinness “He is exploring precious stones in this way for the first time.”



From Left: Pocket Series, 2016, lapis lazuli, amber & amethyst, unique

#### ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in Hampshire in 1963, British artist Nic Fiddian Green is a renowned sculptor and draughtsman who specialises in lifelike sculptures of equestrian forms. Fiddian Green graduated with a BA in Sculpture from Wimbledon College of Art, London and an MA at Central St Martins College of Art with a focus on lost wax casting. It was in the early 80s when he gained his foundation diploma at Chelsea College of Art, that Fiddian Green had his first encounter with the iconic 5th century B.C Selene Horse of the Parthenon, found today at the British Museum in London. The Selene Horse has remained the key subject of his practice; a benchmark for balance, harmony and proportion since 1983. At present Fiddian Green lives and works at his cottage in Bramely, Surrey. His workshop and foundry at Bramely allow him to work in various materials such as bronze, lead, marble, copper and clay.

#### ABOUT THE GALLERY

Louisa Guinness Gallery works with today’s leading sculptors and painters to create jewellery as well as collecting and dealing in works by master artists.

The gallery opened in May 2003 with its inaugural exhibition ‘Past and Present; Jewellery by 20th Century Artists’. With this show Louisa Guinness departed from her original focus on artist-made furniture into the world of artists’ jewels. Since then she has worked on over 18 separate projects with leading contemporary artists.

Each new work is published in a small edition to the highest standard. Most are handmade in London's famous Hatton Garden district or the artist's studio. The ethos behind the jewellery is that it should be treated as wearable sculpture: whilst it is not being worn it is a piece of art independent of function, at home on a coffee table or in a dressing room.

#### NOTES TO EDITORS

Nic Fiddian Green and Louisa Guinness will be available on Tuesday 26th April throughout the day for interviews.

For any press enquires or for high res images please contact Tamara Platisa:

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