MYTH TAKES FORM BENEATH ENDLESS SKIES

SOPHIE RYDER

FOUR SEASONS HAMPSHIRE



HIGNELL GALLERY

This autumn sees the launch of our latest exhibition, as Sophie Ryder brings her expressive sculptural language to the five-star Four Seasons Hampshire country house hotel. Centred around an elegant 18th-century Georgian manor house and set within the magnificent historic 500-acre estate of Dogmersfield Park, the estates history dates back to the Domesday Book.

Sophie's world is one of animals and mystical creatures steeped in mythology and cultural symbolism. Spanning four decades of her career this exhibition brings the work Ryder's sculptures to a setting where art, nature and heritage sit naturally alongside one another.

'I am always happiest exhibiting my sculptures open air making the landscape part of their story. The skies move past and through them, bringing them to life'

Sophie Ryder

'Set throughout the estate, these iconic works by one of Britain's most acclaimed artists offer fresh perspectives on the surrounding landscape. Ever-changing with the light, the seasons and the wildlife that calls the estate home, the setting reveals new details and discoveries throughout the year.'

Andrew Harrison, General Manager, Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire



LOCATION:

FOUR SEASONS HAMPSHIRE

Dogmersfield Park
Chalky Lane
Dogmersfield
Hampshire
RG27 8TD
England

Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire is about one hour by car from central London. You can also travel by train to Fleet Railway Station, which is approximately 10 minutes by car from the Hotel.

London Heathrow is the closest major airport, approximately 35 minutes by car from Four Seasons Hotel Hampshire. Farnborough Private Airfield is about 20 minutes away, Southampton Airport is about 40 minutes away, and Gatwick Airport is about 90 minutes away.



THE FOUR SEASONS SCULPTURES:

RISING

Bronze
h:53.5 x 40.9 x 72.8 inches
h:136 x 104 x 185cm
Edition of 9

Image: Rising, Sophie Ryder exhibition St James's Square London







Rising with the artist and her dogs, Private Collection, UK

BLACK DOGS

Bronze
h: 36 x 44 x 19 inches each
h: 93 x 112 x 48cm each
Edition of 9

Dogs Welcome!

As a dog lover, owner and campaigner, dogs are central to Ryder's life and practice. Even while studying at the RA Schools she was the only student allowed to bring in her dog, Bear, because he was her model.

It is no coincidence that Sophie accepted the invitation to exhibit at Four Seasons Hampshire upon learning that the hotel warmly welcomes dogs.

Image: Black Dogs at Four Seasons Hampshire







DANCING HARES

Bronze
h:179.9 x 288.2 x 288.2 inches
h:457 x 732 x 732cm
Edition of 9



Image: Four Seasons Hampshire



Ryder expands on the traditional subject of boxing hares and plays with the idea of three hares dancing in a circle. Caught in spontaneous movement, each hare is an individual and adopts a different pose. The sculpture riffs on classical figurative sculpture. A humorous anthropomorphised ‘Three Graces’ most famously by Canova and Rapheal or 'La Danse' by Matisse. Yet it is pure Ryder signature style and its surface is alive with found objects.

Image: Dancing Hares, Private Collection, UK



Image: Dancing Hares at RHS Garden Wisley

The making of Dancing Hares in the studio





The exhibition at Four Seasons Hampshire is thoughtfully positioned across the estate, inviting hotel guests and visitors alike to encounter Ryder's work. Among them is 'Reclining Ladyhare', relaxing within the hotel's spa, housed in the beautifully restored former stables to the Manor House.

RECLINING LADYHARE

Bronze
h:42 x 76.3 x 27 inches
h:107 x 194 x 70 cm
Edition of 9

Image: Reclining Ladyhare, Private Collection, UK





GIRL WITH KNEES UP

Bronze
h:65.7 x 33,1 x 57.5 inches
h:170x W:87x D:150cm
Edition of 9

Image: Girl With Knees Up in front of The Royal Hospital Chelsea





Girl With Knees Up, Detail



DANCING LADIES (3ft)

Bronze
h: 35.4 x 44.1 x 37 inches
h:90 x 112 x 94cm
Edition of 9

Image: Dancing Ladies with the artist outside her studio



Sophie Ryder is renowned for creating and developing the Lady-Hare, an exploration of the female psyche who frequently references the artist's own body as it morphs with the powerful energy and form of the hare. Like wearing a mask, the personas of the hare a makes the figure’s identities fluid and enigmatic. With her highly personal, often playful, style and narratives, the artist explores the spirit.



MAQUETTES AND MORE

VARYING SCALES OF THE FOUR SEASONS COLLECTION AVAILABLE

RISING, MAQUETTE

Bronze

h: 22.6 x 21.9 x 13 inches
h: 46 x 64 x 32 cm
Edition of 9





GIRL WITH KNEES UP, MAQUETTE

Bronze
h: 17.1 x 7 x 13.4 inches
h: 43.5 x 19.5 x 34cm
Edition of 9



RECLINING LADYHARE, MAQUETTE

Bronze
h: 8.1 x 25.2 x 6.9 inches
h: 20.5 x 64 X 17.5 cm
Edition of 9

DANCING LADIES, MAQUETTE

Bronze
h: 10.6 x 10.6 x 12.6 inches
h: 27 x 27 x 32 cm
Edition of 12



DANCING LADIES

LIFE-SIZE
Bronze
h: 73.6 x 89 x 89 inches
h: 190 x 230 x 230cm
Edition of 9

MONUMENTAL (7 ½ FT)
Bronze
89.8 x 116 x 93.3 inches
h: 228cm x 296cm x 237cm

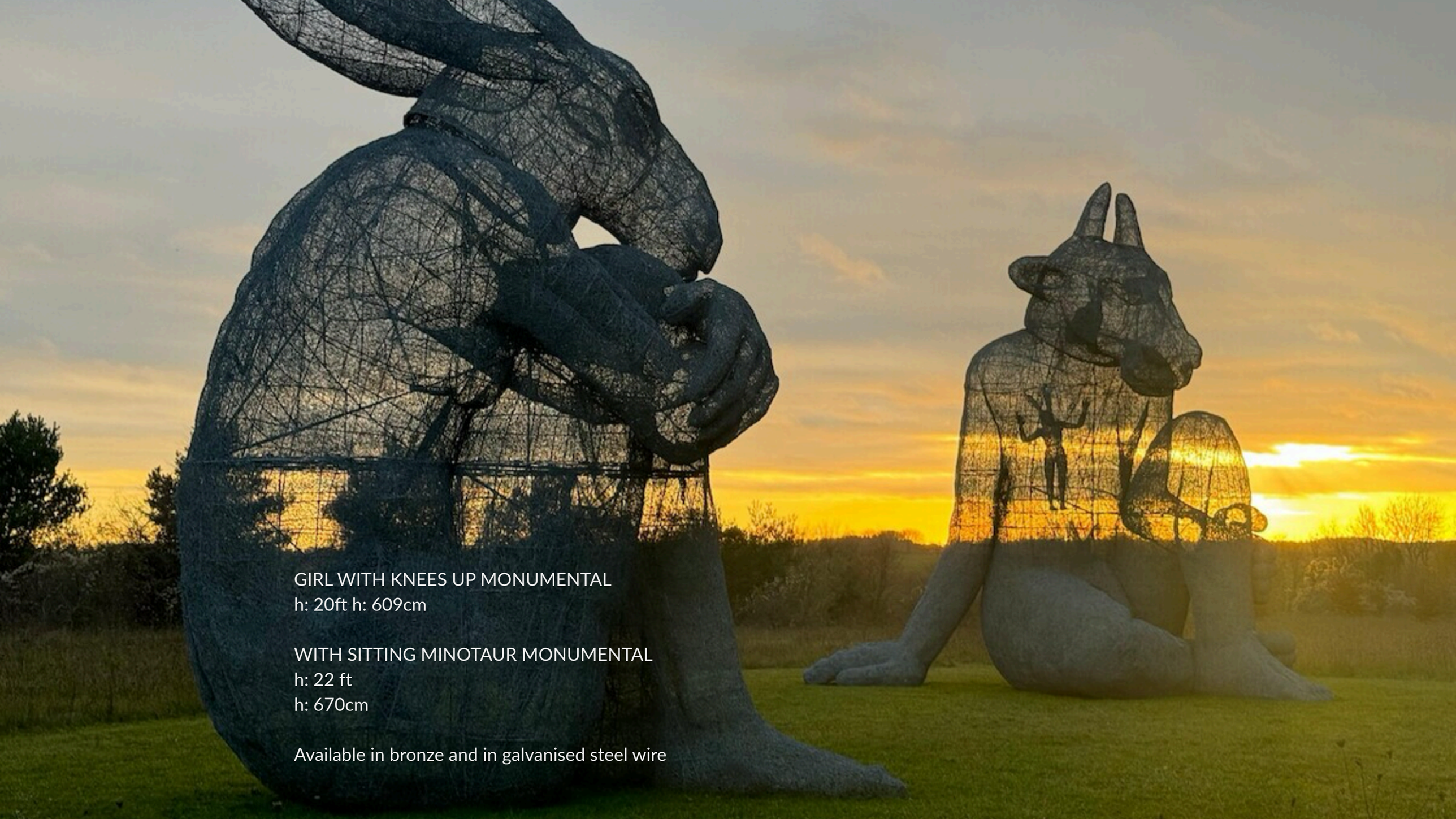




Image: Dancing Ladies Private Collection UK



GIRL WITH KNEES UP AND SITTING MINOTAUR
Art Paris, Grand Palais, 2025



GIRL WITH KNEES UP MONUMENTAL
h: 20ft h: 609cm

WITH SITTING MINOTAUR MONUMENTAL
h: 22 ft
h: 670cm

Available in bronze and in galvanised steel wire



‘Sophie Ryder is one of our greatest figurative sculptors working today. Her work continues in the Modern British tradition whilst being confidently and uniquely her own.

Visual, tactile and emotional, her powerful and expressive pieces explore all aspects of human relationships. The fact that she relishes her practice of making, shines through her sculptures and the love and joy in her characters is infectious.’

Sir Harry Djanogly CBE
Art collector and philanthropist, supporter of Tate Britain, the British Museum, the National Gallery and the National Portrait Gallery

‘Image: The Minotaur and Hare on a Bench’, Yale Centre for British Arts collection, USA



'There is little doubt that 20th- and 21st-century British sculpture has been one of the defining forces of contemporary art. Sophie Ryder has been one of the most original forces contributing to this tradition.'

Sir Peter Murray CBE
Founding and Executive Director of Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Image: Sophie Ryder with her 'Hare with Dancers' at FAMM (The Female Artists of Mougins Museum), part of the Christian Levett Collection.



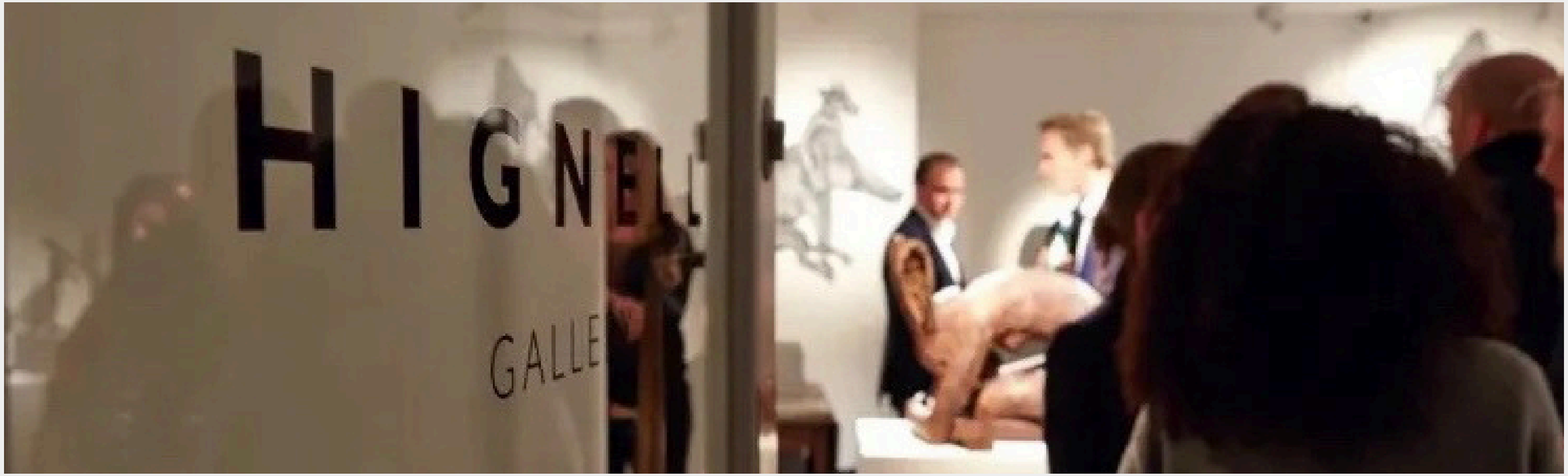
HIGNELL GALLERY

Hignell Gallery Ltd. are specialists in sculpture for every setting. Established in 2015 by twentieth century and contemporary sculpture specialist Abby Hignell in Shepherd Market, Mayfair . The gallery's inaugural exhibition showcased a selection of the twentieth century greats of Modern British sculpture with works by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and Lynn Chadwick.

The gallery program gives particular focus to monumental and site-specific sculpture and so outgrew its gallery walls. Now the gallery frequently presents open air exhibitions including Sophie Ryder at The Piece Hall, 'Tree of Life": Helaine Blumenfeld OBE at Ely Cathedral and 'Renaturing Nature' featuring the work of Joana Vasconcelos and Peter Randall-Page RA in St James's Square.

Gallery exhibition partnerships include Djanogly Art Gallery, Pilane Sculpture Park (Sweden), Ely Cathedral, Het Depot (The Netherlands), the Venice Architectural Biennale (Italy), Huygens' Hofwijck Museum (The Hague) and RHS Garden Wisley. The gallery’s dynamic identity continues to grow and shares its passion for the visual language of sculpture bringing accessible exhibitions to communities and placing art in the public realm.

Hignell Gallery has placed its sculptures in important private and public collections including The Sainsbury Centre and The Phoebus Foundation. Recent art institution collaborations include Denver Art Museum (USA), The Clark (USA) and the Jameel Art Centre in Dubai. Abby Hignell’s experience includes vetting and standards committees for fairs including Masterpiece Art Fair and Treasure House Art Fair. Hignell Gallery is a member of The Society of London Art Dealers.



HIGNELL GALLERY

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