

Claire Partington: *En Plein Air*

February 2 – March 19, 2022



WINSTON WÄCHTER FINE ART

Winston Wächter Fine Art is pleased to announce our second solo exhibition with London-based sculptor Claire Partington. *En Plein Air* is a collection of mixed media ceramic figures caught in moments of poised relaxation and stoic posturing. Referencing traditional portraiture, Partington casts her characters in a contemporary light, where earbuds and beer cans become accessories of grandeur. Figures bear their status through borrowed imagery, crossing thresholds of culture and history to concretely define themselves. Partington showcases these characters regaining autonomy through appropriation and interpretation, curating their personality just as one dresses and poses for the perfect Instagram shot. She upends social dynamics and gender motifs to give power to our oftentimes unproductive relationship with materiality, suggesting a constructive way forward to wear our identities with pride.

Partington's compositions recall the likes of Michelangelo and Manet, and her narratives draw upon folklore and myth. In exorcising themes from their initial context, Partington playfully mutates history like a story passed down from generation to generation. Rococo garments and pit bulls are placed together, signifying the same thing but existing as completely different mechanisms. The elements of her sculptures are malleable vessels full of meaning, waiting to be pried open and reassessed.

Claire Partington graduated from Central Saint Martins in 1995 with a 1st in Fine Art Sculpture and gained a Post Graduate qualification in Museum Studies in 2000. She started making ceramic works after attending night school classes in 2005. Her work features in notable international collections including the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Museum of London, Seattle Art Museum, Ömer Koç Collection, Istanbul and the Reyden Weiss Collection in Germany. She was the recipient of the Virginia A Groot award in 2018, and the same year exhibited an important large-scale commission 'Taking Tea' at Seattle Art Museum.



Winston Wächter Fine Art

203 Dexter Avenue North Seattle, Washington 98109

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Installation view of *Song of Myself* and *Eve* (flowers for display only)



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Title: Song of Myself
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 13.3 x 16 x 6.5 inches
Price: \$15,500



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Title: Eve
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 14 x 20 x 6.5 inches
Price: \$15,500



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Title: The Descent of Man
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 26 x 11 x 8 inches
Price: \$18,000



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Detail view of *The Descent of Man*



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Detail views of *The Descent of Man*



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Installation view of *The Descent of Man* and *Young Man Among The Roses*



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Title: Young Man Among The Roses
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 26 x 11 x 8 inches
Price: \$18,000



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Detail view of *Young Man Among The Roses*



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Detail views of *Young Man Among The Roses*



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Title: The Plank

Year: 2021

Medium: Porcelain and mixed media

Size: 11.5 x 12 x 8.5 inches

Price: \$16,500



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Detail views of *The Plank*



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Title: Godiva

Year: 2021

Medium: Porcelain and mixed media

Size: 19 x 8 x 16 inches

Price: \$15,500



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Detail views of *Godiva*





Title: The Shepherdess
Year: 2021
Medium: Porcelain and mixed media
Size: 18 x 14 x 14 inches
Price: \$15,500



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Detail views of *The Shepherdess*



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Title: Picnicker

Year: 2021

Medium: Porcelain and mixed media

Size: 12 x 12.5 x 8.5 inches

Price: \$16,500



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Detail views of *Picnicker*



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Title: In The Garden
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 19 x 16 x 7 inches
Price: \$16,000





Detail views of *In The Garden*



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Installation view of *Little Brother and Little Sister*



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Title: Little Brother
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 23 x 11 x 11 inches
Price: \$16,500
*Includes second head attachment



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Detail views of *Little Brother*



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Title: Little Sister
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 22 x 11 x 9 inches
Price: \$16,500
*Includes second head attachment



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Detail views of *Little Sister*





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Title: The Music Lesson
Year: 2021
Medium: Glazed Earthenware
Size: 18.5 x 14 x 11 inches



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Detail views of *The Music Lesson*



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