

Angels and Fables

20 August - 19 October 2014



Visit The Harley Gallery at Welbeck this Autumn for a double-bill of enchanting exhibitions.

Claire Curneen's mystical sculptures will be on show alongside goldsmith Kevin Coates' poetic jewellery from 20 August - 19 October.

Internationally renowned ceramicist Claire Curneen takes inspiration from religious iconography, art history, myths and legends to craft her haunting sculptures. These are pieces that sneak up on you – quietly weaving a spell on the viewer.

Angels and saints are decorated with patterns and colour; their beauty drawing you closer. Other figures are unglazed, yet simple and elegant. But look a little closer and these figures tell a different tale. Slashed and torn, bruised and bound – these beautiful objects have more sinister stories to tell.

For *A Bestiary of Jewels*, Coates' has created his own encyclopaedia of animals – known as a bestiary. Made from gold and silver, shell or other unusual materials, Coates' bestiary contains bejewelled animals, each mounted into the middle of a 'page'.

Like a medieval bestiary's myths, lore and morals, Coates' jewellery is also symbolic. This bestiary represents a connection between animal and the person described on the bestiary page itself. Connections

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vary; Leonardo da Vinci is paired with a horse, poet Ted Hughes with a crow from his famous poem.

Visit The Harley Gallery this Autumn for a double bill of enchanting exhibitions. *To This I Put My Name* by Claire Curneen and *A Bestiary of Jewels* by Kevin Coates are showing from 2 August – 19 October. The Harley Gallery is on the A60 between Mansfield and Worksop, 10 minutes from the A1 and M1. Free entry and free parking. Visit www.harleygallery.co.uk for further information.

To This I Put My Name is a Ruthin Craft Centre and Mission Gallery Touring Exhibition.
A Bestiary of Jewels is produced by Ruthin Craft Centre in association with the Ashmolean Museum

NOTES TO EDITORS

For more information and to arrange interviews and photo opportunities, please contact Rebecca Wombell, Marketing Manager on 01909 501 700 / marketing@harleygallery.co.uk.

Accompanying catalogues are available for both exhibitions. Please call 01909 501 700 or email shop@harleygallery.co.uk for information.

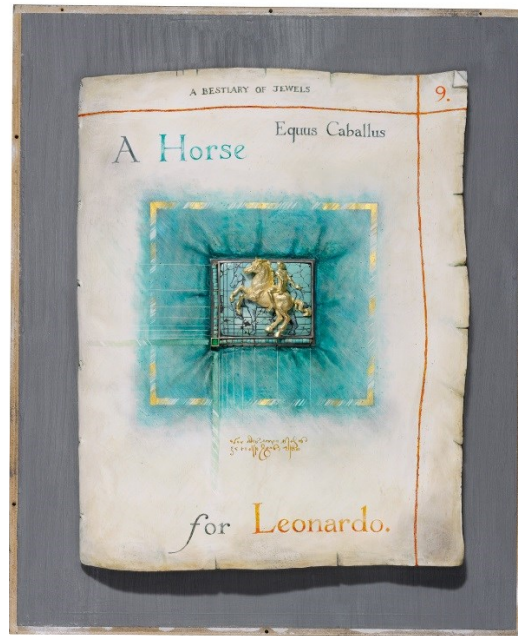
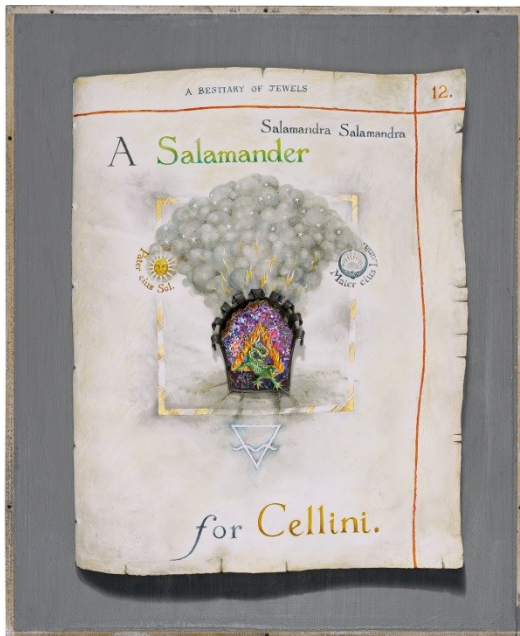
THE HARLEY GALLERY has a national reputation for excellence and innovation, aiming to widen participation and develop understanding of the work of practicing artists and makers. Situated on the ducal estate of Welbeck in North Nottinghamshire, the Gallery is easily accessible from both the A1 and M1. The three gallery spaces at The Harley show exhibitions of top quality contemporary visual art and craft which change 5 times a year. The Gallery is also home to a Treasury Museum which is the only exhibition space dedicated to showing objects from The Portland Collection of fine and decorative arts. It also has a contemporary Craft Shop, recognized by the Crafts Council as a quality retail outlet. Set up to showcase and support artists and makers by providing a retail outlet for their work, the Harley Craft shop sells work from leading British applied artists and emerging makers.

CLAIRE CURNEEN was born in Ireland and studied in Ireland and Wales. Her work can be found in collections across the world. *To This I Put my Name* is the result of a Creative Wales Ambassador Award, Arts Council of Wales. Curneen spent time at the National Museum of Ireland and then developed her findings as resident artist at Mission Gallery, Wales.

KEVIN COATES is a leading artist-goldsmith and sculptor who creates extraordinary jewellery in gold, precious stones, shells, and other unusual materials. He is internationally renowned, and has work in collections across the world including the Smithsonian Institute New York, British Museum and National Museums for Scotland.

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IMAGES



First page

Left to right:

Claire Curneen, *Blue*, 2013, Photo Dewi Tannatt Lloyd. Kevin Coates, *A Rhinoceros for Kaendler*, Photo Clarissa Bruce.

This page

Top row, left to right:

Claire Curneen, *Builders*, 76 x 51cm, 2013, *Strange Fire*, 70 x 22cm, 2013, *Cut To The Quick*, 58 x 20cm, 2013, *Over my dead body, (St Sebastian)*, 75 x 23cm, 2013. Photos Dewi Tannatt Lloyd.

Bottom row, left to right:

Kevin Coates, *A Salamander for Cellini*, *A Horse for Leonardo*. Photos Clarissa Bruce.

Welbeck, Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 3LW
marketing@harleygallery.co.uk / www.harleygallery.co.uk
+44 (0) 1909 501 700

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