

Lucy Skaer

Rural Works

Van Baerlestraat 80, Amsterdam
May 21 – June 19, 2021



Lucy Skaer | *Forest under Fire*, 2020

GRIMM is pleased to announce *Rural Works* a new solo exhibition of works by Lucy Skaer at our Van Baerlestraat location in Amsterdam.

Lucy Skaer masterfully combines form and material, navigating between points in time and mutable physical states. She pulls her subject matter away from its original context while preserving a sense of material memory; this is present in her new body of works, where she translates the forms of animals into ceramic, bronze and carved-stone sculptures.

Sequences of abstract animal pelts manifest simultaneous natural states; they shift from flora, to fauna, mineral to weather event. Among them, six small-scale ceramic pelts are striking for their individual subtleties and the gradations of forms they produce as a collection. The large bronze pelts were conceived as an embodiment of the words, “forest”, “fire”, “glass” and “fog”. Skaer combines and layers her references upon one another so that varying juxtapositions of texture –are coupled. Along with the pelts, a pair of stone basins supporting abstract animal heads are

positioned within the gallery space. The latter respond to the staging of religious rituals, suggesting sacred or occult functions.

Skaer’s symbolic language draws from her long-term exploration of material, memory, and the bonds between humans and animals. Her process is further informed by research she conducted at the Temple of Mithras where she examined artefacts from the renowned Roman-Era archaeological site in the center of London. Through Skaer’s gesture ancient forms are nurtured and reanimated, acquiring new dimensions that connect them to present systems of knowledge.

By paying close attention, Skaer locates and amplifies a sense of the divine in subject matter that is terrestrial. Each work tells its own alchemic story and allows the viewer to comprehend the deeper potential of both images and objects as vessels of meaning.

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For more information, interview and royalty free image requests, please contact the gallery:
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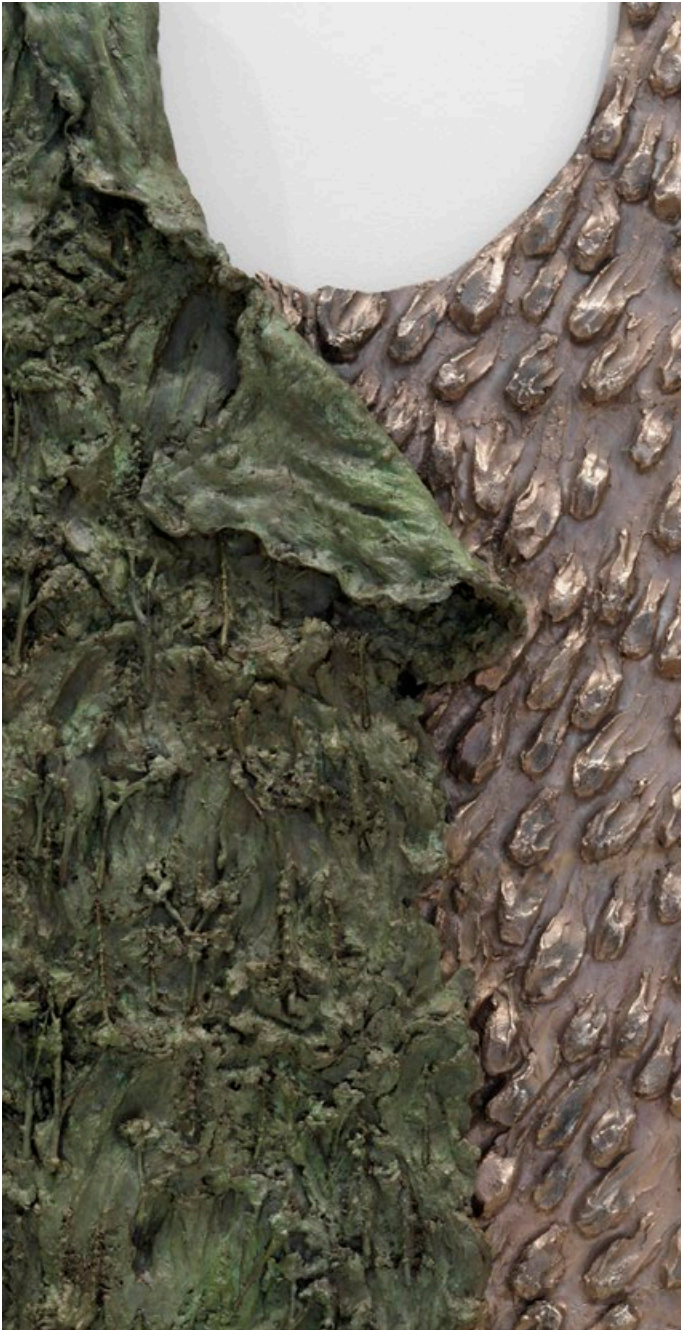
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Lucy Skaer | *Forest on Fire*, 2020 | detail

About the artist

Lucy Skaer (b. 1975 in Cambridge, UK) lives and works in London (UK) and Glasgow (UK). She graduated from the Glasgow School of Art in 1997. In 2009, Skaer was a Turner Prize finalist, and in 2007 she represented Scotland at the 52nd Venice Biennale. She is a 2021 resident at the Chinati Foundation in Marfa, TX (US) and was previously awarded residencies at the Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA (US) in 2016 and at the Emily Carr University of Art and Design in Vancouver (CA) in 2015.

Skaer's recent solo exhibitions include: *Forest on Fire*, Bloomberg SPACE, London (UK); *Future Sun*, S.M.A.K., Ghent (BE); *Day Divider*, Meessen De Clerq, Brussels (BE); *Heavy Weather*, with works by Carol Rhodes & Hanneline Visnes, GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL); *The Green Man*, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh (UK); *Sentiment*, Peter Freeman Inc., New York, NY (US); *Available Fonts*, Kunsthalle, Salzburg (AT); *La Chasse*, Kunstverein, Salzburg (AT); *Available Fonts*, KW Institute for Contemporary Art, Berlin (DE); *Una Casa Más Pequeña (The Smaller House)*, Museo Tamayo, Mexico City (MX); *La Chasse*, Musée, Régional d'Art Contemporain, Serignan (FR); *Past Shows*, GRIMM, Amsterdam (NL); *Leonora*, Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury (UK); *One Remove*, Kunstinstituut Melly, Rotterdam (NL); *Sticks & Stones*, Murray Guy, New York, NY (US); and *Random House*, Peter Freeman, New York, NY (US).

About the gallery

GRIMM was founded in Amsterdam in 2005. Since its establishment, the gallery has been committed to promoting and supporting emerging and mid-career artists who work in a diverse range of media. Representing thirty international artists, the gallery has two spaces in Amsterdam, and one in New York. GRIMM recently expanded to a new 6,000 square foot gallery space in Tribeca, New York in 2021.

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