

**BOSSE
& BAUM**



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Bea Bonafini, New limited edition, 2022



Bea Bonafini

***Twisted*, 2022**

wool & bamboo silk, handtufted

70 x 50 cm

Edition of 10, signed and numbered by the artist

£2,200.00 + VAT

Accompanied by a Certificate of Authenticity, signed and numbered by the artist.

We are pleased to present a limited edition of 10 handtufted carpets by Bea Bonafini produced in collaboration with Art Rug Projects in Athens, to accompany her solo exhibition, *Animals of Your Lips* at Bosse & Baum. The edition responds to the artist's ongoing experimentation with textile media and its possibilities.

For her first solo presentation at Bosse&Baum entitled *Talk to the Hand* in 2019, Bonafini treated her layered tapestries more like paintings, applying pastels to mixed carpet inlay and hanging them on the wall. In her current exhibition, she elevates the medium to a further, sculptural plane. Her large-scale pieces are installed as floating objects in the gallery space, pierced through by hand-painted porcelain shards that add a new three-dimensional element to the works.

Bonafini is interested in weaving the same visual language through different media and thus exploring the entanglements between materials, textures and iconographies. *Twisted* highlights the importance of carpets as a versatile material and narrative tool throughout Bonafini's practice.

“In *Twisted*, a body is engulfed by the unknown figure’s own hair. It seems to have a life and a will of its own as it cascades downwards, twisting itself around the limbs and consuming them. The only remaining hint of a human body are two blue boots. This new limited edition is a nod to my wider world of entanglements, in support of the dissolution of boundaries as we know them, and of the fusion between different matter and organisms.

Collaborations have opened up my practice to new technical possibilities.

Twisted was produced through the expertise of Ten Carpets and their artisans. We worked closely together to translate a pastel drawing into a larger-scale textile work. Each hue is hand-dyed, the bamboo silk is hand-tufted and the surfaces are shaved and carved, similarly to the bas-relief landscapes I create in my carpet inlay pieces.”

- Bea Bonafini





"This is our fifth collaboration with Bea Bonafini and I am thrilled that we continue to create and evolve.

It's a pleasure to be exhibiting at Bosse and Baum and it is the first time we are working with the artist on a smaller scale and on editioned artworks. One of the main reasons I founded Art Rug Projects was for each collaboration to be a new opportunity for the artists to discover a new medium, to expand their practice in new ways via the endless possibilities that the rug offers , as their new canvas."

- Electra Soutzoglou, Art Rug Projects

About Bea Bonafini

Bea Bonafini (b. 1990) is an artist whose interdisciplinary practice draws from oneiric visions, overlapping personal and ancient mythologies. Her tactile, intimate worlds form swirling scenarios that are fragmented and multi-layered. Figures are evanescent and transcendental, referencing imagery where fluid bodies collide, disperse, swim, fly and fall. The focus on universal human experiences – birth, death, illness, love - unfolds and proliferates ambiguously, simultaneously graspable and fleeting.

Bonafini's work expands the possibilities and interplay of painting, tapestry and sculpture. Holistic perspectives are developed in close dialogue with architecture, where works are expanded in space to envelop the viewer.

Recent solo exhibitions include Il Chiostro Animato at Museo di Roma in Trastevere, Trastevere (2022) and A Monstrous Fruit at Setareh, Berlin (2022). Recent group exhibitions include The Armoury Show with Setareh gallery, New York (2022), The New Guard at Carpenters Workshop Gallery, Paris (2022) and A Midsummer Night's Dream, Alkinois, Athens (2022). Bonafini has an upcoming solo exhibition at Nosbaum Reding in Luxembourg (2022).

About Art Rug Projects

Art Rug Projects by Soutzoglou focuses on the interactive collaboration with Greek and international contemporary artists whose selected works are transformed into handmade rugs and tapestries as original works of art, either as limited editions or as unique pieces.

Every collaboration is an opportunity for the artist to discover a new medium, to expand their practice in new ways, imagining the rug as their canvas. Carpet-making is linked with the tradition of the past, whereas contemporary art is an expression of the present. By adapting age-old traditions in a modern context, Art Rug Projects “weaves” heritage, history and handicraft with contemporary art.

About Bosse & Baum

Bosse & Baum was founded in 2014 by Alexandra Warder and Lana Churchill. The gallery occupies a 700 sq. ft. unit in the postindustrial Bussey Building, in Peckham, South East London, and is expanding into online spaces. Bosse & Baum is a commercial gallery seeking an active role in shaping art discourse by giving a platform to contemporary positions; representing an international roster of emerging artists whose work challenges dominant historical narratives and is socially engaged. We work to facilitate broader social access to art and contribute to the wider critical conversation on contemporary art through a public programme of exhibitions, talks and performances. We encourage inclusive participation and conversation within the gallery, whilst supporting the growth of the gallery's artists into a broader dialogue that includes private and institutional collections.