

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Frieze London

Caroline Walker
Clare Woods
Booth B16
9 – 13 October 2024

Frieze Sculpture

Woody De Othello
Regent's Park, London
18 September – 27 October 2024



Stephen Friedman Gallery is pleased to bring together new paintings by British artists **Caroline Walker** and **Clare Woods** for Frieze London. The presentation explores how these two women artists take on the role of observer in their work.

Walker is known for her paintings that examine the diverse social, cultural and economic experiences of women living in contemporary society. In this new series, the artist continues to explore the overlooked jobs performed by women, focusing on teachers in her daughter Daphne's nursery in 2022 when the artist still lived in London. Whilst these scenes are rooted in personal experience, the paintings are also universally relatable. Rendered in luscious, expressive brushstrokes, *Palette Preparation* captures a teacher squeezing paint into a container for Daphne. Both subjects appear seemingly unaware of the viewer's presence, heightening the sense of voyeurism that permeates much of the artist's work. The paintings are united by a bright colour palette, reflecting the visually stimulating environment of the classroom.

Writing about this body of work, Walker explains: "The fact that the paintings were made two years after the source photos were taken further emphasises an aspect of this subject that interests me – the fleeting nature of this important time in children's young lives (many of the nursery pupils I painted will now be at school). The special relationships formed between nursery worker and child are so important to the series. These relationships can be very close and act as a stand-in for parental care, but they are short-lived – the child moves on and another takes their place. In these paintings though, this moment is frozen in time."

Clare Woods shares Walker's interest in documenting everyday subjects, with both using their own photography to inform their work. Woods' recent paintings are preoccupied with destabilising traditional art historical genres such as portraiture, landscape and – as seen in this body of work – still life.

Woods' new series depicts grand stone planters overflowing with foliage, drawing on photographs taken by the artist in Regent's Park, London, twenty years ago. Combining oil and resin to "make the paint move", the artist adjusts colour and tone through the weight of her brush as a sculptor might manipulate clay. Each work captures a static image, forcing the viewer to stop, observe and look anew at seemingly banal objects. Through this act of slowing down, Woods reveals the significance of gardens and parks in connecting us with nature in a fast-paced world. During the research for this series, she also began to notice the intrusive presence of weeds in London, comparing their resilience and adaptability with our own existence. Despite occupying a lowly position in art history, Woods deploys still life as a unique way to shed light on the human condition.

Stephen Friedman Gallery



For Frieze Sculpture, Stephen Friedman Gallery, Karma and Jessica Silverman are pleased to co-present a new, large-scale, patinated bronze by **Woody De Othello**. On view from 18 September to 27 October 2024 in Regent's Park. This will be Othello's first large-scale public artwork presented in Europe.

Othello is internationally celebrated for his emotive and inventive approach to ceramics that transforms everyday objects through animism and anthropomorphism. Titled *seeing both sides* (2024), Othello's seven-foot-tall bronze stands confidently in the face of change and embraces multiplicity. During its creation, the artist was inspired by tools and shapes with an axis like compasses, crosses, sundials, and Dogon sculptures, which often feature bilateral symmetry. His towering bronze directly engages with Dogon cosmology and beliefs that bodies are vessels and containers for spirituality, alignment and balance.

Notes to editors

Caroline Walker

Caroline Walker was born in 1982 in Dunfermline, Scotland, where she now lives and works. Walker obtained an MA in painting from Royal College of Art, London in 2009 and a BA (Hons) from Glasgow School of Art in 2004.

In 2025, Walker will have a major solo touring exhibition organised by The Hepworth Wakefield, UK. Recent solo and two-person institutional exhibitions include those at Nottingham Castle, Nottingham, England (2022); Fitzrovia Chapel, London (2022); University College London Hospital Arts, Street Gallery, London (2022) and K11, Shanghai, China (2022).

Her work can be found in numerous international collections including Aishti Foundation, Beirut, Lebanon; Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia; Arts Council Collection, UK; De Ying Foundation, South Korea; Government Art Collection, UK; HE Art Museum, Foshan, China; Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, Florida, USA; Kistefos Museum, Jevnaker, Norway; Kunstmuseum Den Haag, The Hague, The Netherlands; Longlati Foundation, Shanghai, China; Pond Society, Shanghai, China; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA; Museum Voorlinden, Wassenaar, The Netherlands; National Galleries of Scotland, UK; National Museum Wales, UK; Sifang Art Museum, Nanjing, China and Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, USA.

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Clare Woods

Clare Woods (b. 1972; Southampton, UK) lives and works in Hereford, England. Woods was elected a Royal Academician in 2022. Originally trained as a sculptor, she received a BA in Fine Art Sculpture from Bath School of Art in 1994 and an MA in Fine Art from Goldsmith's College in 1999.

This year Woods presented her solo exhibition 'Between Before and After' at Norrtälje Konsthall, Sweden. This coincided with Art/Books publishing Woods' second monograph 'As I Please', with essays by Charlotte Mullins, Darian Leader and Ela Bittencourt. Other recent notable solo exhibitions include those at CCA Museum, Mallorca (2023) and Serlachius Museum, Finland (2022).

In 2026, a solo exhibition by the artist will take place at Towner Eastbourne, UK.

Woods' work is part of significant public collections including Buffalo AKG Art Museum, USA; Arken Museum of Modern Art, Denmark; Arts Council Collection, UK; British Council Collection, UK; Dakis Joannou Collection Foundation, Greece; Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, UK; Government Art Collection, UK; Hepworth Wakefield, UK; Holburne Museum, UK; Jerwood Collection, UK; Royal Collection Trust, UK; Serlachius Museums, Finland; Southampton City Art Gallery, UK; Towner Eastbourne, UK; Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, UK; National Museum of Wales, UK and University of Warwick, Mead Gallery Collection, UK.

Woody De Othello

Woody De Othello was born in 1991 in Miami, Florida, he lives and works in Oakland, California. He received a BFA from Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, and a MFA from the California College of Arts in San Francisco in 2017. In 2021–2022, he presented a solo exhibition, 'Hope Omens' at the John Michael Kohler Center, and was included in 'Quiet as It's Kept' the 2022 Whitney Biennial. In 2019, San José Museum of Art, San José, California hosted 'Woody De Othello: Breathing Room.' He has been featured in group shows including 'Strange Clay' at the Hayward Gallery, London, 2022, and 'Hear Me Now: The Black Potters of Old Edgefield, South Carolina' at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 2022.

His work is represented in numerous collections including the Institute of Contemporary Art, Miami, Florida; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, California; MAXXI – National Museum of 21st Century Art, Rome, Italy; San José Museum of Art, San José, California; Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Maryland; Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, D.C.; Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, California; the Rennie Collection, Vancouver, British Columbia; Museum of Fine Art, Boston, Massachusetts; Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California; Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Pérez Art Museum, Miami, Florida; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York; Aishti Foundation, Lebanon; and de Young Museum, San Francisco, California. He is represented by Jessica Silverman, San Francisco; Karma, New York; and Stephen Friedman Gallery, London.

Stephen Friedman Gallery

Stephen Friedman Gallery is a contemporary art gallery that was founded in 1995 with a focus on representing exceptional artists from around the world. Since its inauguration, the gallery has been based in Mayfair, London. In October 2023, the gallery expanded and relocated to Cork Street. In November 2023, the gallery opened its first location outside the UK at 54 Franklin Street in Tribeca, New York.