

**PRESS RELEASE: Issued 3 August 2022**



Nina Chua, Marker 466 (2021), detail. Photo by Michael Pollard

## **Nina Chua and Daniel Silver**

**Exhibition dates: 30 October 2022 - 29 January 2023**

**Castlefield Gallery presents a lively and exuberant exhibition of the work of Nina Chua and Daniel Silver, part of an ongoing series of two person shows.**

Chua invited Silver, an artist working at the forefront of contemporary figurative sculpture, to show a group of recent ceramic figures alongside a new set of her large-scale abstract drawings on paper.

Both artists work with materials in an intuitive, exploratory way leaving expression to the material itself. Silver's figures seem to emerge from the clay, which plays a significant part in shaping the work, while the form of Chua's drawings is determined as much by the qualities of paper and her use of marker pens as by her own hand.

Yet above all, bringing the work of Chua and Silver together emphasises something deeply human rooted in this manipulation of materials - in the physicality of making a mark or shaping the clay - that connects the work beyond its respective formal concerns and the notions of the abstract or figurative. The incidental similarities and contrasts between each artist's approach offer an incentive to think afresh about the 'touch of the artist's hand' and the traces it leaves, not merely on the surfaces of their works, but also on our thoughts and perceptions as we view the work.

*“...the pen and the paper have much to express and my job as an artist is to facilitate their potential. In making the work, I try not to control it”* Nina Chua

*“I think all my interest in archaeology and work that was made a thousand years ago, thousands of years ago, still carries that humanity in it, and I hope my objects will carry this in them in times to come.”* Daniel Silver

Castlefield Gallery has supported and followed Chua's work over several years. She has taken part in numerous exhibitions at the gallery including: *LAUNCH PAD: Meanwhile See This* (2012), *AND A 123* (2017) and *Oh, it is easy to be clever if one does not know all these questions* (2018). In 2013 Chua was commissioned to develop a public artwork for the gallery's external facade.

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**For further information, images or to arrange interviews, please contact: Leslie Remonato at Castlefield Gallery on [leslie@castlefieldgallery.co.uk](mailto:leslie@castlefieldgallery.co.uk) or 0161 832 8034**

## **Notes to editors**

### **More on Castlefield Gallery:**

What do we do? All sorts. We are a gallery, of course, with public exhibitions, events and commissions by the artists we support. We are a public art commissioner, and a curator. A publisher and a thinker. We start where art school ends. We are a career support. We help artists make art and make a living. We are a space where communities come together. Where the art we champion opens up difficult but rewarding conversations about our difficult but rewarding world. We are a passionate advocate for the things we believe in (and we believe in the value of art). We are a seeker and a solver: we find support for artists and communities when none seems available. We are a home, and an art studio. And always – always - we make new art happen.

**Nina Chua** was born in Manchester in 1980, where she still lives. She studied Embroidery and Fine Art at Manchester School of Art. She had her first solo exhibition at Workplace Foundation, Newcastle in 2021. Recent group exhibitions include *Dark Matter*, Workplace Foundation, Newcastle; *Painters + Collection 2021*, Nakata Museum, Hiroshima; *Touching from a Distance*, The Conduit, Workplace Foundation, London; *We are where we are*, Baltic 39, Newcastle upon Tyne; *Oh, it is easy to be clever if one does not know all these questions*, DOX Centre for Contemporary Art, Prague, and Castlefield Gallery, Manchester. In 2016 she was selected for the Liverpool Biennial Associate Artist Programme. In 2020 her work was selected for the Trinity Buoy Wharf Drawing Prize. Her work is held in collection at The Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; Manchester Art Gallery, Manchester; The Centre for Artist's Books at Dundee Contemporary Arts, Dundee; Simmons and Simmons Contemporary Art Collection and the Arts Council Collection.

[www.ninachua.com](http://www.ninachua.com)

**Daniel Silver** was born in London in 1972 He graduated with an MA in Fine Art Sculpture from the Royal College of Art, London in 2001, he also holds a BA Fine Art from Slade School of Art, University College London 1999. Silver lives and works in London. Selected solo exhibitions include: Daniel Silver, London Mithraeum Bloomberg SPACE, London 2019 Daniel Silver, The New Art Gallery, Walsall 2019. Daniel Silver, Frith Street Gallery, London 2018 Rock Formations, Art Basel Parcours, Antikenmuseum, Basel Rock Formations, Frith Street Gallery, London Roundabout Mouth, OMR Gallery, Mexico City 2015 Dig, Artangel, London 2013 Museo Carlo Zauli, Faenza Galleria Suzy Shammah, Milan 2012 Letting Go, AMP, Athens Coming Together, Kunsthaus Glarus, Glarus 2011 The Smoking Silver Father Figures, Frieze Sculpture Park, London 2010 Solo Presentation, Frieze Art Fair, London Cabinets #4: Daniel Silver, SE8, London Lionz in Zion, Galleria Suzy Shammah, Milan 2009 Making Something Your Own, IBID PROJECTS, London The Monks, Ancient & Modern, London 2008 Heads, Camden Arts Centre, London Demos, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland 2007 Galleria Suzy Shammah, Milan 2006 Daniel Silver, Pescali & Sprovieri Gallery, London 2005 Pailot Project, Gropiusstat, Berlin The Buddha and the Chaise Longue, Tal Esther Gallery, Tel-Aviv 2003 Cake Snake, Sprovieri Gallery, London 2001 Galleri S.E., Bergen 1998.

COMMISSIONS: 2019 Commission for a portrait of the former General Music Director, Kent Nagano, Bavarian State Opera, Munich 2019. Public Artwork Commission awarded by Guys and St Thomas' NHS Trust, Cancer Unit, London Bridge 2016

AWARDS: Henry Moore Artist in Residency, University of Sunderland 2005 Rome Scholar in Fine Arts, The British School at Rome 2002 Credit Suisse First Boston Award 2001 Sharett Scholarship, America Israel Cultural Foundation, New York Karten Scholarship, University College London Eric & Jean Cass Scholarship, Royal College of Art, London 2000 Audrey Wykeham Prize for Fine Art, University College London 1997.

danielsilver.org

<https://www.frithstreetgallery.com/artists/36-daniel-silver/>

**Exhibition Title: Nina Chua and Daniel Silver**

**Public Preview:** Thursday 27 October, 6-8pm

**Saturday Slow-Preview:** Saturday 29 October, 12noon – 5:30pm (pre-booking required)

**Exhibition Dates:** Sunday 30 October 2022 - Sunday 29 January 2023

**Christmas Closing:** Monday 19 December 2022 - Wednesday 4 January 2023

**Venue:** Castlefield Gallery, 2 Hewitt Street, Manchester M15 4GB

**Tel:** 0161 832 8034

**Web:** [castlefieldgallery.co.uk](http://castlefieldgallery.co.uk)

**Email:** [info@castlefieldgallery.co.uk](mailto:info@castlefieldgallery.co.uk)

**Opening Times:** Wed to Sun 12noon – 5:30pm

The gallery is fully wheelchair accessible, including provision of an accessible bathroom.

Supported with funding from The Haworth Trust.

This exhibition has also been generously supported by Castlefield Gallery Commissioning Patron Prof. Chris Klingenberg.

**Castlefield Gallery Funders and supporters**



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