

FRIEDMAN BENDA
8260 MARMONT LANE
LOS ANGELES CA 90069

CARMEN D'APOLLONIO
I'M NOT A SHRIMP
JAN 6 – FEB 4 2023



It's all over now, 2022



Cup of Tea, A Sandwich and you, 2022

Los Angeles – Friedman Benda is pleased to announce *I'm Not a Shrimp*, Carmen D'Apollonio's first solo gallery exhibition in Los Angeles opening on January 6th. Highlighting the intuitive, self-taught approach and the tongue-in-cheek sensibility that defines her practice, *I'm Not a Shrimp* represents an adventure with new typologies and more complex compositions in clay and bronze.

Bringing together works into a surrealist landscape, each piece is personified with its own stand-alone narrative through familiar organic forms. As a sculptor, D'Apollonio communicates her mindset and personal observations on everyday life with spontaneity and relentless energy. The exhibition includes a series of floral vessels that reflect what she refers to as her “romantic side.”

Emphasizing her recent experiments with gesture and materiality, the exhibition debuts a series of contoured lights that float in unpredictable ways around a wooden structure – exploring the interplay between positive and negative space.

“I love shrimp. And these pieces remind me of shrimp—how they are curved downwards like a tail,” says D'Apollonio.

About Carmen D'Apollonio

Born in Switzerland in 1973, D'Apollonio previously worked as an art director for short films and commercials in the mid-nineties. In 1996, she began working with the artist Urs Fischer, and assisting him for over a decade. In 2006, she founded the fashion brand Ikou Tschuss (ikou means “let's go” in Japanese and tschüss is “bye-bye” in Swiss German), which combined modern textiles with traditional artistry. D'Apollonio established her own studio in Los Angeles in 2014. D'Apollonio's process begins with sketching, which she then translates into clay—evolving the three-dimensional form as she goes. Her titles range from the comic to the plaintive and offer narrative fragments entirely in tune with their suggestive, open-ended compositions.

About Friedman Benda

Friedman Benda identifies and advances key narratives that intersect contemporary design, craft, architecture, fine art, and cutting-edge technological research. The gallery promotes synthesis between leading creative thinkers and makers by creating opportunities to advance new connections within the global design community. Friedman Benda is committed to a critical view of design history. We aim to expand the design dialogue from its established sources, exploring perspectives that have previously been marginalized. Spanning five continents and four generations, Friedman Benda represents a roster of seminal established and emerging designers, as well as historically significant estates. With locations in New York and Los Angeles, the gallery's exhibitions, publications and collaborations with institutions have played a vital role in the development of the contemporary design market and scholarship since 2007. For further information please visit www.friedmanbenda.com and the gallery's Instagram [@friedman_benda](https://www.instagram.com/friedman_benda) and [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...).

Carmen D'Apollonio: I'm Not a Shrimp
Friedman Benda, Los Angeles, CA
January 6 - February 4, 2023



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Amaryllis, 2022
Ceramic
24 x 23 x 23 inches
61 x 58 x 58 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
California, here I come, 2022
Ceramic
16 x 16 x 17 inches
41 x 41 x 43 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Call 911, 2022
Ceramic, cotton, maple
32 x 40 x 5.5 inches
81 x 102 x 14 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Cup of tea, a sandwich and you, 2022
Ceramic, cotton
26 x 16 x 23 inches
66 x 41 x 58 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Daisy jane, 2022
Ceramic
32.25 x 21 x 21 inches
82 x 53 x 53 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]

Desert rose, 2022

Ceramic

25.25 x 14 x 14 inches

64 x 36 x 36 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]

I can't see you, 2022

Ceramic, cotton, maple

40 x 17 x 11 inches

101 x 43 x 28 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]

I can't wait to meet your wife, 2022

Ceramic, rice paper

60 x 27 x 9.5 inches

152 x 69 x 24 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]

I look better than the shade, 2022

Ceramic, cotton

24 x 16 x 8 inches

61 x 41 x 20 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]

I will come back if you let me, 2022

Ceramic, linen shade

44 x 41 x 20 inches

112 x 104 x 51 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]

I wish I was a little bit taller, 2022

Ceramic, cotton

61.5 x 16 x 17 inches

156 x 41 x 43 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
I'd leave my happy home for you, 2022
Ceramic
14 x 23 x 22 inches
35 x 58 x 56 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
I'm not a shrimp, 2022
Ceramic, cotton, maple
42 x 7.5 x 10 inches
106 x 19 x 25 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Into the wild, 2022
Ceramic, cotton
41 x 35 x 17 inches
104 x 89 x 43 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
It's all over now, 2022
Bronze
73 x 24 x 17 inches
185 x 61 x 43 cm
Edition of 8, 2 AP



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Marigold, 2022
Ceramic
18.5 x 15 x 15 inches
47 x 38 x 38 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Mg2, 2022
Ceramic, linen
39 x 16 x 14 inches
99.1 x 40.6 x 35.6 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Never, ever, forever, 2022
Ceramic
17 x 15 x 14 inches
43 x 38 x 36 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
No way out, 2022
Ceramic, cotton
Each lamp:
24 x 20 x 6 inches
20 x 19 x 6 inches



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
Sorry I made you cry, 2022
Ceramic
20 x 10 x 14 inches
51 x 25 x 36 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
There is no help for me, 2022
Ceramic, cotton
17 x 12 x 7 inches
43 x 31 x 18 cm



Carmen D'Apollonio [Swiss, b. 1973]
You left without saying goodbye, 2022
Ceramic, cotton
39.5 x 12 x 20 inches
100 x 30 x 51 cm