

FRIEDMAN BENDA
515 W 26TH STREET
NEW YORK NY 10001

THE MAGPIE'S NEST
PAD LONDON | BOOTH B2
OCT 14 - 19, 2025

"Pebbles, bits of shoes, lumps of wood riddled with holes,
horsehair brushes – all smoothed and ennobled by the sea..."
– Charlotte Perriand on treasure hunted from Normandy beaches



New York – For Friedman Benda's participation at PAD London 2025, the gallery is pleased to present a special booth curated by British designer Faye Toogood.

What do you hold on to? A conker burnished from years of pocket polishing. A faded novelty keyring you would save over the car keys, perhaps even the car. For PAD London 2025 Toogood presents **The Magpie's Nest**, a tribute to curiosity, collecting and curating. Faye Toogood's foraged sticks, stones and broken bones are displayed amongst works from a collective of designers Faye has curated. Toogood has designed new works for The Magpie's Nest, including **Vale** (a hand carved Oak wall relief) and **The Magpie Tapestries** (five wool tapestries woven from still life artworks celebrating Faye's personal cabinet of curiosities, and the tools of the Toogood studio.)

Amongst Faye's hoarded treasure are playful and provocative works by Misha Kahn, Andrea Branzi and Fernando and Humberto Campana. Sculptural works celebrating their unique materiality and distinctly different responses to the natural world. **The Magpie's Nest** is not a vitrine of trophies, it's an uplifting and energetic choir of colliding collective voices.

"My dad was a really big bird watcher, so we were always out walking and foraging. I didn't have a huge amount in the way of toys, instead I was encouraged to collect natural things. One day it might be sticks and so back to the house we would come with a bundle of sticks, tie them up, make something with them. Another day pebbles from the beach. It was this idea that you collect it, and then you do something with it. In my case, that would mean arranging the collection, or trying to find patterns. The ritual of collecting and obsessing over natural objects, rearranging and trying to make sense of the world through them... it's an enduring influence on my practice. Over the years lots has been given away, lost or sold, but the things that stay are those tiny treasures gathered from adventures in nature. I seem to have passed the obsession on to my daughter Indigo. Just like me she will know exactly what's important in there and what's not, where she got each piece. And then she'll endlessly rearrange it all into her own secret typologies." – Faye Toogood

The presentation features work by Andrea Branzi, Estúdio Campana, Najla El Zein, Misha Kahn, Raphael Navot, Faye Toogood, and Thaddeus Wolfe.

Fair Information

Berkeley Square, London W1J 6EN, UK

Collectors Preview October 14 | 11 h – 19 h

VIP Opening October 15 | 11 h – 19 h

Public Opening October 16 – 18 | 11 h – 19 h

October 19 | 11 h – 18 h

About Faye Toogood

British designer Faye Toogood has emerged as one of the most prominent women in contemporary design today. “Whether you are a fashion designer, a furniture designer, or an interior designer, the materials you can get your hands on are essential,” she says.

Toogood was born in the UK in 1977 and graduated with a BA in the History of Art in 1998 from Bristol University. Upon graduation, she worked as a prop stylist at The World of Interiors before establishing Studio Toogood in 2008.

Working in a diverse range of disciplines from sculpture to furniture and fashion, Toogood often reinterprets and reinvents classical tropes and references from art history by introducing a new aesthetic. Since the conception of her immediately recognizable voluminous *Roly-Poly* chair (2014), she has been considered among the great form-givers of the 21st century.

Her career is marked out by the discrete Assemblages, each of which conjures a compact world of interrelated ideas, forms, and materials. Her first collaboration with the gallery, *Assemblage 5*, was inspired by a visit to Henri Matisse’s Chapelle du Rosaire de Vence explored ancient animist notions of the elements water, earth and moon through a personal lens. In her most recent *Assemblage 6*, Toogood set out to “unlearn” the process of design and build a new vocabulary for furniture by recasting sculptural maquettes made from mundane materials found in the studio.

Her works have been acquired for the permanent collections of institutions worldwide, including the Corning Museum of Glass, NY; Dallas Museum of Art, TX; Denver Museum of Art, CO; High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA; National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne; and Philadelphia Museum of Art, PA. Toogood lives and works in London, UK.

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](#).

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Media Contacts:

EU

IC Insight Communications

Adèle Godet

adele@insightcommunications.cc

T: +33 1 42 84 19 09

USA

LI.PR

Amalie Marinas

toogood@lucyirby.com

T: +44 (0) 7894127920

Friedman Benda

Lucy Gong

lucy@friedmanbenda.com

T: +1 (212) 239-8700