

Christmas Presence, curated by Maria Cristina Didero and Libby Sellers, is a charitable project born from a call to kindness and friendship.

The first of an intended ongoing series, Christmas Presence is a short-run selling show of commissioned decorations, greeting cards and other holiday treats. Thanks to the generosity of renowned designers and professionals from all over the world, we celebrate creativity as an engine for goodness and openhandedness. In the true spirit of compassion, many of the items have been recycled or repurposed from waste materials while all the works on sale have been exclusively created and donated for the project.

Between them, Maria Cristina Didero (Milan-based independent design curator and author) and Libby Sellers (London-based design curator and author) bring decades of experience in commissioning and exhibiting emerging and leading international designers. This, their first ever collaboration, grew from a simple desire to celebrate shared passions, experiences and (most importantly) friendship. Before long the project had expanded into an invitation to all their friends and colleagues within the creative communities for a distinctive Christmas celebration.

Launching on 20<sup>th</sup> November for three days only, all proceeds raised from Christmas Presence 2019 will go to the London-based homeless project Under One Sky. Since 2012, Under One Sky has supported more than 3000 people in London. Bringing warmth and aid to those in need, their team of volunteers walk the streets during cold winter nights to hand out life support packages and lift the spirits of the homeless.

With material sponsorship from the Italian paper company Cordenons and a venue generously sponsored by South Kensington Estates, all the collaborators including the organizers, are donating their services and talents. Christmas atmosphere with Italian style panettone and home-made jam are secured while traditional songs will be performed live by The Ricos.

## **Details:**

Private View: 20 November 6.30-10pm (invitation only)

Further opening times: Thursday 21 November: 1pm - 8pm / Friday 22 November: 1pm - 4pm

Address: 35-36 Thurloe Place, South Kensington. London. SW7 2HP

## Contributors:

APFEL, Anton Alvarez, Bethan Laura Wood, Campana Brothers, Chelsea Vivash, Diego Faivre, Fetherstonhaugh Associates, Formafantasma, Gala Fernandez, Gemma Holt, Gitta Gschwendtner, Guillermo Santomà, Hunting & Narud, Jorge Penades, Kellenberger-White, Lilianna Ovalle, Martino Gamper, Max Lamb, Michael Anastassiades, Michael Marriot, Nao Matsunaga, Natsko Seki, Paul Cocksedge, Peter Marigold, Philippe Malouin, Raw Edges, Sabine Marcelis, Simon Hasan, Studio Mama, Study O'Portable and Zaven.

Maria Cristina Didero and Libby Sellers for Under One Sky.

For more information, please contact: Maria Cristina Didero: mc@mcdidereo.com Libby Sellers: office@libbysellers.com

Wishing you a bright and beautiful season of joy!