

Surface at 45 Park Lane - Art meets contemporary style

by Anna Ainscough

One of the most enjoyable ways to view art, whether you are looking for something for yourself, a client, or merely in the mood for a browse, is to visit one of the pop-ups which have begun to populate the city and beyond.



This one at the quirky, glamorous hotel, 45 Park Lane, is staged by 4WALLS, a collaboration between Morgan-Davies Art and Lafontaine Contemporary Art in conjunction with Lily Ackerman, the hotel's Curator in Residence.





The art deco inspired decor provides the perfect backdrop for the collection. This is a hotel which takes its art very seriously. While the artwork in the restaurant, guest rooms and upper corridors is permanent and includes established British artists such as Sir Peter Blake and Damien Hirst, the ground and first floors play host to a constantly evolving display of contemporary works by emerging talent which changes on a quarterly basis. It's an initiative which goes a long way to personalise the living space within the hotel (part of the Decorcafe ethos) as well as offering guests, an insight into the contemporary British art scene. And it's open to all.

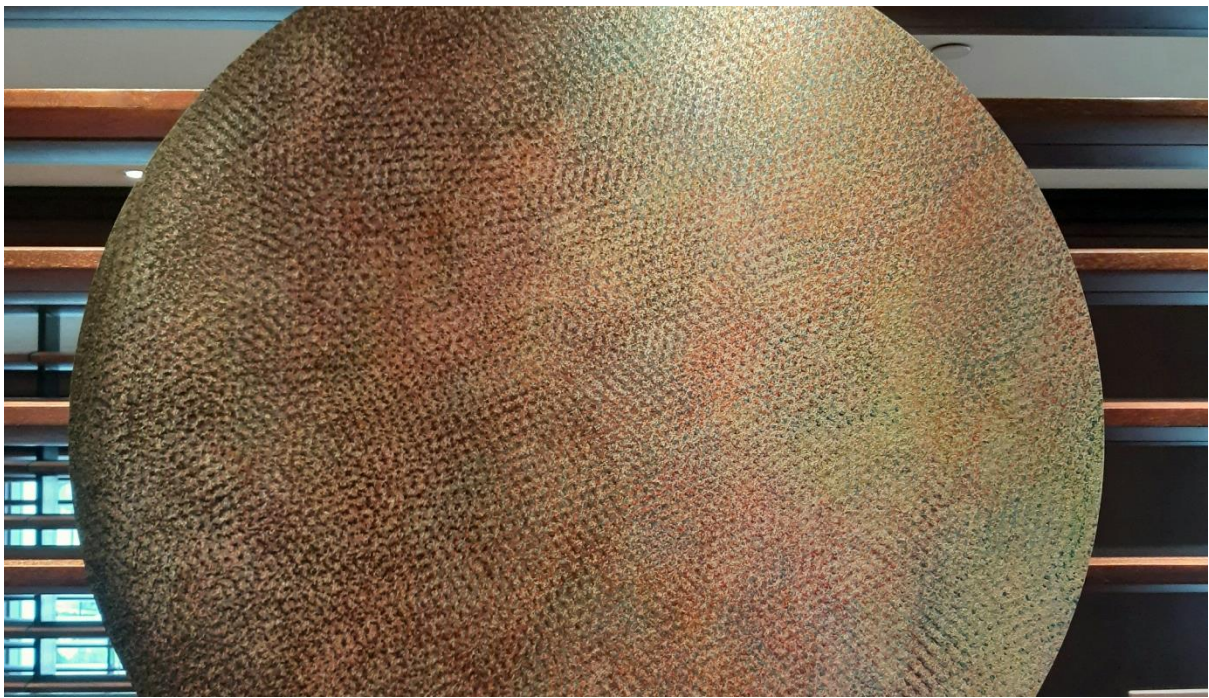


‘SURFACE’ brings together the talents of two visionary, international artists, Kirk Mechar and Rakerman. Shape, texture and tone is integral to both artists’ works but their approaches are very different.



Mechar, known for his large scale floral works, combines his skills as sculptor and painter to create a multi-dimensional effect by intricately cutting up his own original paintings and delicately placing them on a canvas to produce a new work of art. It’s a process that can take up to two years.





Rakerman's process is equally complex. He uses found objects to create texture in his pieces – in the images above entitled 'Dungeness' – by grinding rust and applying it to the canvas, taking a rubbing from fishing net and using a shredded tide timetable from the area. Using these physical materials, he connects the viewer with the earth in a visceral way and makes the invisible, visible. It's a technique reminiscent of the French artist, Seurat, to whom he pays tribute in the title: 'Thursday Middy at the Jatte (from '14 Homages to George'), 2019'.



Natalie Morgan-Davies is passionate about bringing complementary artists like these two together and inviting the public in to view their work in new, interesting places. She has a background managing artists and curating high profile exhibitions for Mayfair galleries, which is where she met her collaborator, Patricia Lafontaine.



Natalie set up on her own ten years ago and runs her dealership from her home in Clapham. It allows clients to view art in a domestic setting rather than the sometimes clinical walls of a gallery. This flexibility also makes it possible for clients to view works in their own home before committing to a sale. Combined with pop-up exhibitions such as this one, it makes for a more agile business which can respond more quickly to the needs of an ever changing art market.

Morgan-Davies Art also offers a complimentary consultancy service, sourcing art and arranging commissions based on client preferences.



Rakerman will be talking about art, technique and inspiration at a breakfast at 45 Park Lane from 8.30-9.30am on Friday 20th March. For more information, contact Natalie at natalie@morgandaviesart.com.

The exhibition runs at 45 Park Lane at 45 Park Lane, Mayfair, London W1K 1PN until 27th April.

‘SURFACE’ is one in a series of pop up events staged by 4WALLS. The next – COLOUR – takes place at Old Brompton Gallery, Tuesday 19th – Sun 24 May and features 4 contemporary artists.

Click through for more details on: [Morgan-Davies Art](#)
And here for more details on: [4Walls](#)

Anna Ainscough

Anna Ainscough is a freelance copywriter based in South West London. She has worked in television, film production and for the press, developing scripts and writing features. After a career break, Anna decided to follow her passion and now focusses on writing for design and interiors. She is a regular contributor to The Decorcafe Blog