

Press Release

ALICE MARY LYNCH

Enchanted

16th – 22nd December 2017



Moonshine Lovers, 25.7 x 16.2ins (65 x 41cm), by Alice Mary Lynch

Visitors to Jonathan Cooper this Christmas will discover the dreamlike world of doll-maker Alice Mary Lynch. In her first exhibition with the gallery, the Somerset-based artist will present over fifteen new dolls, each crafted with carefully selected vintage fabric, and delicately hand-embellished.

The daughter of painters James and Kate Lynch, Alice Mary Lynch was raised in the creative environment of her parents' studios. A love of acting and theatrical costumes led her to study fashion design, and as a young graduate she travelled to Paris. Arriving on the doorstep of designer John Galliano with her portfolio, she was offered an internship that led to her spending nine years in the city, later as a designer for Christian Dior and Sonia Rykiel. It was during this time working with luxurious beads, crystals, and other trimmings that she developed the exquisite craftsmanship that defines her work today.



ABOVE RIGHT: *Tickled Pink*, 33.5 x 17.75ins (85 x 45cm), by Alice Mary Lynch (detail)

Depicting the woodland creatures such as foxes and hares spied near her Somerset home, each doll has a unique personality, enhanced by the collage of materials with which it is created. From silk kimonos to Edwardian lace, they are a testament to the artist's travels in France, South America, and Japan, and the kaleidoscopic influences that inspire her work. Often hovering between two states, half laughing and crying, half smiling and wistfully longing, Lynch's works reflect the mercurial qualities of our own personalities, and the plethora of emotions and experiences that creates our sense of self. Romantic and playful in nature, each is imbued with the rich symbolism of folklore, and invites us to rediscover our childhood delight in storytelling and imagination.

My characters evolve from dreamlike visions that float around in my head. Sometimes they are prompted by stories, fairytales, a poem, a visit to the circus, glimpsing a fox across the fields or an owl in the sky at dusk... They begin to have a life of their own, a romantic life, as I stitch them together and dress them in a forgotten piece of broken Parisian silk, crystals from an old chandelier... it's a patchwork of different worlds and times. They then begin to have stories of their very own.

– Alice Mary Lynch

NOTES TO EDITORS



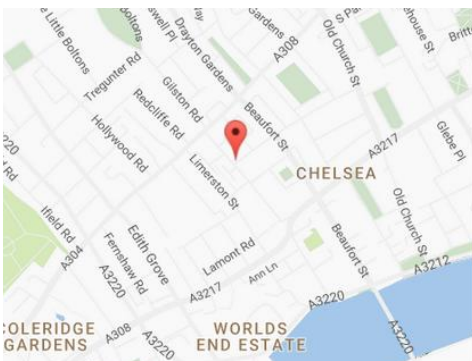
Growing up in Somerset with artist parents, Kate and James Lynch, **Alice Mary Lynch** scoured flea markets with a magpie's instinct for curiosities to inhabit her fairytale world. She trained in Fashion Design at Kingston University, London, then worked as a designer in Paris for John Galliano, Christian Dior and Sonia Rykiel. She honed her craft in their studios full of stitching, beading and embellishment and thrived in the theatre of their catwalk shows.

Alice's dolls have been commissioned by designers and private patrons throughout the world and exhibited in boutiques and galleries in Paris, London and Somerset. Her clients include Anthropologie, Alice Temperley, Anya Hindmarch, Pearl Lowe, Victoria Beckham, Merchant Archive and Marwood London.

ABOVE : *Moonstruck*, 31.5 x 11.75ins (80 x 30cm), by Alice Mary Lynch

Jonathan Cooper - founded in 1988 - is a London based contemporary art gallery specialising in representational drawing, painting, photography and sculpture. The gallery is a member of SLAD (The Society of London Art Dealers), BADA (The British Antique Dealers Association) and LAPADA (The Association of Art & Antique Dealers), and regularly exhibits at international art fairs.

LISTING INFORMATION



The gallery is open Monday – Friday 10am – 6.30pm and Saturday 11am – 4pm.

Free Admission.

Jonathan Cooper, 20 Park Walk, London, SW10 0AQ.

How to find us:

Bus: 211, 11 and 22 on the Kings Road
or 14 and 414 on the Fulham Road

Tube: South Kensington and Sloane Square

PRESS INFORMATION

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