



agnetha sjögren



Agnetha Sjögren is a Swedish artist who has been based in London for over 20 years. Her playful and sculptural practice has led her to create exquisitely hand crafted one-off art dog sculptures and limited edition prints.

Her work has received extensive press coverage in editorial publications such as Vogue, Elle and Design Week as well as being short listed for the Summer Show at The Royal Academy of Arts, invited to OCCCA in L.A, exhibited on The London Underground and has taken it's proud place at the heart of the British and Swedish art scene.

Sjögren's work has been bought into private collections and luxury brands all over the world, and has been exhibited amongst other artists such as Andy Warhol, Stella McCartney, Louis Vuitton, David Hockney and Bob Dylan.

Agnetha's background as a designer, makes quality and sustainability the focus of her creative thinking. Born and educated in Sweden, Sjögren is a multi-disciplinary artist who brings art and design together whilst drawing inspiration from the relationship between urban life and nature.

“The art-dogs started because I got tired of all people telling me that their dog was nice! I am afraid of dogs and I wanted to show people what a “nice” dog is.

My dogs don’t eat bark, jump, bite, drool or need to go out for a poop. They sit or stand “nicely” all day long, you can come and go as you please without having to worry about them...

Now that is a ‘nice dog!’”





This dog is based on the 1st edition vintage comic 'Marsupilami och Kaktuskrisen'.

The search of fathers and the meaning of fatherhood has taken my siblings and I on a lifelong journey. On the subject of father's lost, modern society has become adjusted to this un-idealised family unit.

The dog has the image of the 'perfect' family placed on his heart and from this innate ideal there radiates the thoughts that takes me on my quest. Although questions will always remain we try and find a resolution, a sense of peace within one's self.

Marsipan tells the story of self-discovery and eventually self-realisation, from starting dark at the top of the tail as the beginning is a twisted, unfurling time of questions and no answers. As we move on and grow down the body, the colours become less tormented and bring with them a fresher outlook. We then progress into enlightenment, the colours grow lighter and questions of life's hows and whys become less of a concern and a sense of self is discovered.

The stories in each passport describes how the Dog is emblematic of aspects of my childhood and diary. I call it 'My Travel' so it could be a physical memory or a personal journey.

YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE,

EUROPEAN UNION
UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND

CHARLIE BROWN

A NEW PEANUTS BOOK



PASSPORT



“Childhood and travels”

One of the most famous symbols in Sweden, as native to Sweden as Russian dolls are to Russia, The Dala Horse, (Dalahäst in Swedish) is one of our national symbols.

No matter how far from home I may be the Dalahäst has always been a companion for me on my travels. The family company Olsson owns the copyright for this symbol and have never before allowed it to appear on a dog but agreed to make an exception and paint my dog in their studio in Sweden.

This is the first and last time that this will ever happen, which makes this dog absolutely unique.



“Each dog has been constructed with careful attention to detail; particularly in the way the comic panels wind down around the dog, with special care taken as to which panels fall over the dog’s paws, eyes and heart. So we see “a perfect family” over one dog’s heart, or Tintin descending a long rope down a dog’s leg.

Special care has also been paid to the dog’s arse something special being placed on each one. On My Angel, there’s a butterfly and wide-eyed cherubs staring out at you - a playful and clever touch that I appreciated.”

London City Nights, Press



RADISSON BLU WATERFRONT HOTEL





“What’s so nice with Rosewood is that it feels like home, well we can all wish... And I think that the art pieces all around the hotel definitely helps with that feeling.

To see so many of my art pieces in such a vibrant and gorgeous setting and with the space that it allows, really does my work justice.”

Agnetha Sjögren



Blind Love, 2016 26 x 24cm, Bronze



Wide Open, 2015, 80 x 98cm, Leather, Bookmarks & Zip



Midnight, 2015, 42 x 50cm, Sparkle fabric

WIDE OPEN



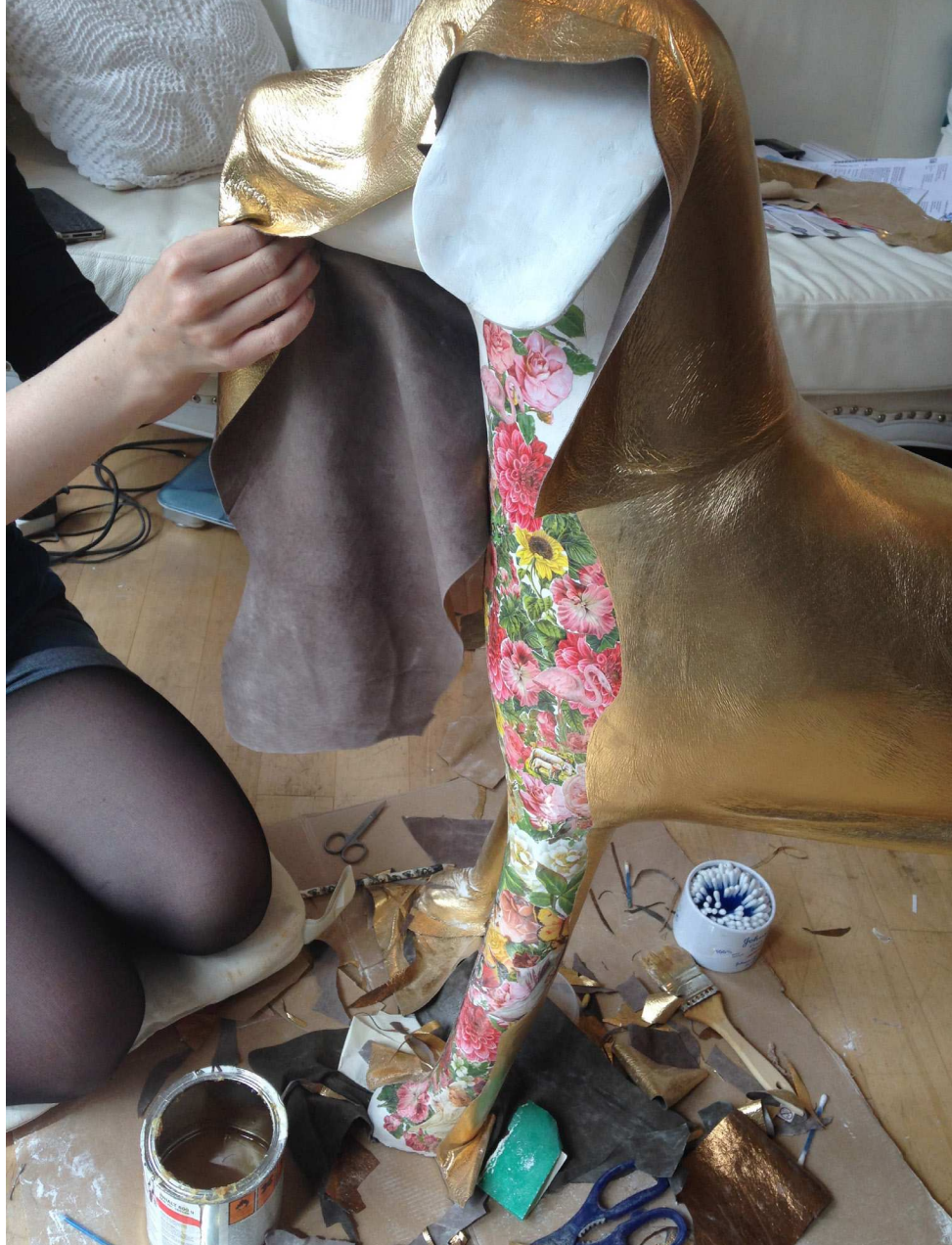
Wide Open, 2015, 80 x 98cm, Leather,
Bookmarks & Zip



My form of self-expression really comes firstly through my choice of media, then I apply that to each sculpture. I collect so many sources of memorabilia and my collections are vast.

The dogs are my 3D canvas, by using special materials that spend most of their life packed away, I can enjoy all of the wonderful stories and images while working, rather than them sitting on a book shelf.

I work on a lot of commissions for people and they love being able to use their own memories on the Dogs. It makes each one so personalised for the new owner and they get to live with a memory that they can see all the time, rather than being tucked away in a box and dusted off every five years.





“I always start with the back and work my way up the tail ending with a particular strip leaving a little message for the viewer to pick up on. I do the same one the ears, chest, bum and always end on the nose like a trail of a new story built in by me.”

Agnetha Sjögren

My old bookmarks from my childhood.

Some years ago my Mother found an envelope made out of an A4 paper folded once and stapled it to make a pocket. On the outside of the envelope with a child's handwriting it said:

Angels
and Jesus
and Father Christmas

It was my hand writing as a 4-5 year old girl and as I know that I liked to organise things into groups (still do), I cannot but to love the idea of me thinking that Angels, Jesus and Father Christmas were in the same category and of equal importance and of course all very real.





All dogs come with its own story within a mini British passport, a book, collar, a name tag and a certificate. All cartoons are covered with first editions or special issues carefully chosen by me.

The dogs are sold and travel all over the world to their new owner so obviously I thought they needed their own passport. Inside each passport is the story of that particular dog and why I made it as well as the photograph, height, name, date of birth and passport issue date. I choose different colours for the passport cover and different metallics for the crest to match each dog.

The book comes in a limited edition and I am working on no. 3 at the moment, I will write a separate post and discuss more of the content then. I finish them off with a collar and a tag with their name and one with my name, a bit of branding never hurts.

“My art is my diary”

As a traveller it felt necessary for me to do a suitcase dog. This dog is made from my old suitcase, and the stickers are from the countries I have visited, lived in or have a strong connection to. Close friends have often nicknamed me the ‘Bag Lady’ and not just because of my love for handbags. I am incapable of packing light, there is never such thing as just one bag!

Weekend bags, will they ever make them the right size?



MARSIPAN

Bronze Sculpture

Lime Patina

Height: 32 cm

Length: 25 cm

Width: 8cm

Weight: 4kg

Limited edition of 50

Signed & numbered



CALVIN

Calvin was a commission and was sold to a lady who bought 4 dogs, he is the 'non-identical' twin to Huebert and is based on 'Calvin and Hobbes' by Bill Watterson. Making twin dogs are a tribute to twins as it runs in my family and it reoccurs often in my work. Reading Calvin and Hobbes really makes me laugh and Calvin reminds me of my Nephew in Sweden so was my first choice of comic when I chose the first dog of this 4 piece commission.

HUEBERT

Huebert, Calvin's twin is based on Donald Duck 'The Golden Christmas Tree', 'Race to the South Seas!' And 'Voodoo Hoodoo' by Walt Disney and Illustrated by Carl Barks.

I was brought up reading Donald Duck comics like many other Swedish kids in my generation and now so is my nephew and his friends. Huey (Huebert's nickname) is one of the three nephews in the books and features a lot all over this dog.





This dog was commissioned in the Chinese year of the Snake 2013. A lady called me and told me she had a 4 metre snake skin from the 60's when it was still allowed to import snake skins. She got the skin from her father who in turn got it in Africa from a tribe Chief as a present.

I don't shy away from working in different materials, however obscure they might seem. Anything from rare first edition comic books to adding real silver on top of a bronze dog which coincidentally was also the first time The Foundry had used these two very difficult materials together.

As my background is designing, no challenge is too big.



enhet
slippen
2
3



“This powers into the realm of kitsch with reckless abandon, and when Sjögren told me she had a background in designing the layout of shop windows a piece of the puzzle fell into place. Given the focus on the artist’s personal experiences...

...this stuff was a welcome break from much of the art I’ve seen lately, which is all-too-often cold, conceptual and abstract to the point of unfriendliness. Here there’s an aura of happiness and innocence that I was powerless to resist. The longer I looked, the more I could feel an oddly festive spirit unfurling inside me.”

London City Nights, Press

“My love of good design”

After selling my first dog I went straight to a Prada shop, as you do, and bought a limited edition Prada handbag that I had been looking at for a long time. I got the last one at Selfridges, London, it still brings me pleasure to this day and it is still one of my favourite handbags.

The Prada dog is a tribute to my love of handbags and good design.





Mr Jude Law came in to the London art gallery to pick up his Snoopy Dog sculpture that he bought.

The dogs are also sold in galleries all over the world such as Zurich Stockholm, Palma and Hamburg to name a few.



***“Dogs aren’t just for
Christmas!”***





“I tend to name the dogs as a way to communicate what each sculptured Dog is about. Sometimes this comes from a more personal response to the relevant story or directly from a cartoon I loved. Each dog has an innate gender so the feminine or masculine come through in the titles, as puppies or grown up’s.”

Agnetha Sjögren



This dog is based on 'The Calculus Affair' printed 1960 which was the first time it was printed in Great Britain.

Tintin comic books hold a very special memory for me as a childhood love. Time spent reading them as a child took me away on adventures in my imaginary mind. When I became an adult little was I to know the comics would be intertwined with memories of my own adventures.

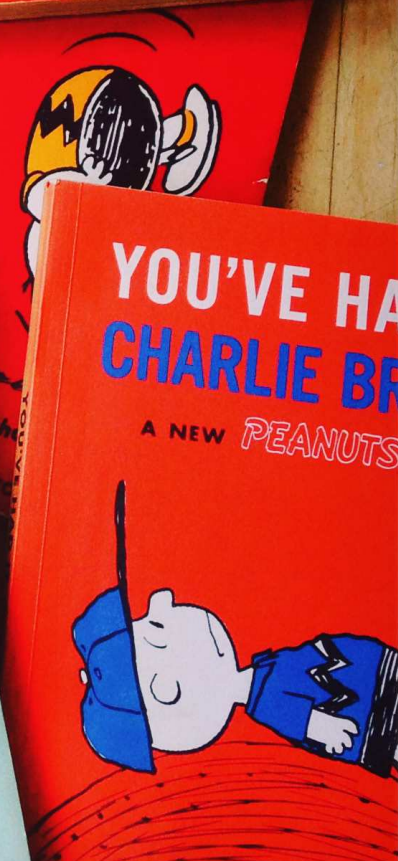
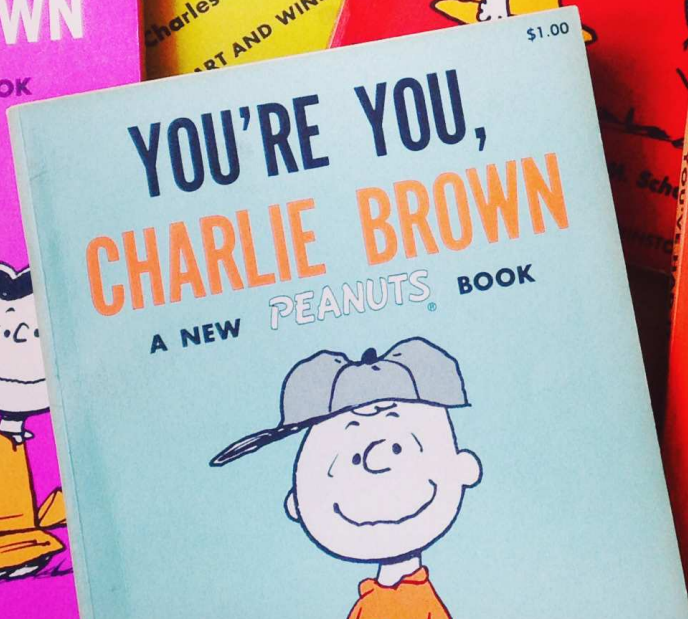
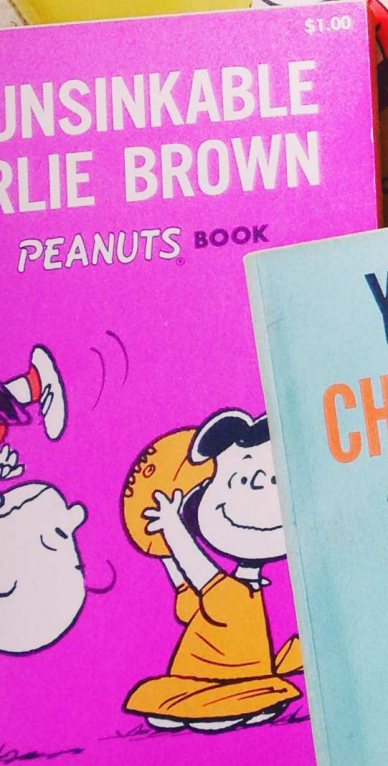
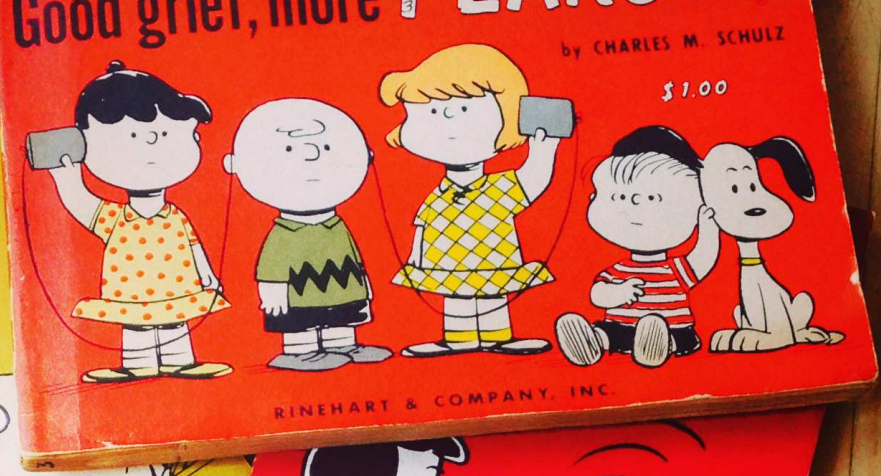
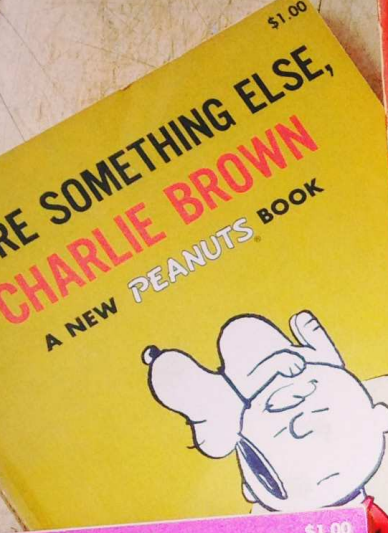
I would often travel to India for work in the search of colour and inspiration, these journeys would always involve my then boyfriend. To escape the hustle and bustle of the city he discovered a favourite coffee shop and found a collection of Tintin comics. This is where I would find him happily reading, consumed by the stories and taken away by the action, where he found his own place of peace.

All cartoon dogs are one off pieces. I only use first editions, special editions or a customers preferred choice.

For the Tintin dogs I have exclusively used first editions. The oldest one dating from 1952 and I have only made one dog per Tintin book.

Some of the dog sculptures get professionally photographed in a studio in London and are available to buy as a limited edition print.





I source the comics worldwide, sometimes this can take a very long time. With the Snoopy books I was very lucky when I came across 10 first editions in America.

I prefer to work with first editions but only the slightly damaged ones as I don't want to cut and destroy a pristine book. So you can almost say that I am recycling...

I still have a few Snoopy sculptures to make.



BLIND LOVE

Bronze Sculpture

Height: 30 cm

Length: 25 cm

Width: 8cm

Weight: 4kg

Limited edition of 50

Signed & numbered

“More than just luxury gadgets these objects enter the gallery space as the alter ego of famous artist Jeff Koons’ inflatable creatures.

Nevertheless the place where we imagine them mostly is a domestic interior...Agnetha’s dogs demands someone to belong to.”

Veronica Giordano, The Positive







Rosa, 2014, 70 x 76cm, Suade & Cowbell



*“My art is not simply about
the process of journeying
around the world;
it is about specific events,
times and places from
my life and each work
encapsulates particular
thoughts, memories
and emotions...”*

Agnetha Sjögren







DOGGY BAG



Doggy Bag was created with a trip to the Philippines in mind where I got to meet a lot of incredible people who were not as fortunate as me. This was a true reflection on the saying 'do not judge a book by its cover' as it is what is inside that really counts.

This dog shows the heart of gold inside a regular 10p bag. This is not only a shout out to the people I met but to remind you that no matter where you come from, everyone deserves the same respect.

Doggy Bag is a Limited edition of 8 and made out of Bronze with Gold Platina. However can be made to order in any colour.



“I love my Superheroes”

Agnetha Sjögren







Superman, 2014, 42 x 50cm, Vintage Comics



This dog is the 1st in a series about Love. Blindfolded and unable to see what is best for you and constantly falling for the wrong person.

The zip runs along the tummy, over the heart and up to the throat to symbolize the protection of heart ache and unable to speak out and be truthful about your feelings.

Blind love is a reminder to open the zip and dare to show your true feelings, to let those butterflies out.

The last dog sculpture in this series ends with a dog which has grown and opened up the tough layer of skin to show what's underneath; your inner feelings, butterflies, flowers, childhood memories and hope. The zip is open, no longer blindfolded and his name is 'Wide Open'...





Jack Silver, Olympics 2012, 42 x 50cm, Leather

“The most common type of wrapping are vintage comic-books, so we see dogs covered in panels from Tintin, Batman, Modesty Blaise and The Phantom. Others are dressed up as Prada handbags, sprinkled with gold dust, wrapped in designer fabrics, embossed with Union Jacks or dressed in intricate patterned leather to give the effect of chocolate. It's refreshingly upbeat stuff and I found it next to impossible to keep a smile from my face as I moved from dog to dog, each one teaching me a little more about the artist”

London City Nights, Press



*“The Swedish designer
Agnetha Sjögren
instead has literally made up
the design accessory of the
21stCentury.”*

Veronica Giordano, The Positive





Rioja, 2009, 51 x 41cm, Cork with Gold Inlay



Chocolate, 2009, 51 x 41cm, Embossed Leather



Coffee, 2008, 51 x 40cm, Sparkle fabric & Leather

RIOJA

My family's long standing links with Spain, where my parents have lived for over 20 years, has nurtured my palette for Rioja, my favourite wine. As a designer I'm always looking to work with unusual materials. While enjoying a glass of wine, the idea of using cork seemed like a great way to portray this part of mine and my family's connections with that part of the world.

CHOCOLATE

One of my first memories of chocolate is the one where my grandmother always made hot chocolate for us after a cold day out in the Swedish snow. We mixed the cacao with sugar and a little cream while Gran heated the milk. Every time she came to pour the hot milk over the mixture that we had made, she noticed that we had already eaten it! She let us repeat this indulgence a few more times before she managed to make the proper hot chocolate. We loved our Grandma.

COFFEE

My relationship with coffee is innate and intense, I have grown my own connoisseur's style in the art of coffee making. I have evolved a routine with my coffee that changes to suit my mood and get me through the day.

The perfect temperature and taste alludes a deeper need for this daily fix which makes life just that little bit more worth living!



“My wardrobe is a real mixture of old and new. Thanks to my mum’s fashion sense my wardrobe is filled with vintage designer hand-bags and jewellery from the sixties ranging from Dior to Gucci. This is for my mum and her twin sister.”

Agnetha Sjögren

I start by having an idea that comes from my childhood or from a memory, I want each sculpture to be a fragment from my diary. I make a sculpture out of wire and plaster, sculpting the form carefully. This then goes on to become a mould and out of the mould I make an edition of 8 dogs in a material called Jesmonite which is known as an eco friendly and incredibly dense and heavy plastic. I then go back over each sanding them smooth so that I can work into them using different media and materials such as first edition comics, vintage leather, sparkly fabric and items from my childhood. I also work in bronze and stainless steel.

I decided to do the Moomin dog to coincide with the celebration of the Author Tove Jansson who would have turned 100 years old in 2014.

“Mr. Moomin and the Golden Tail Moomin’s tail gets its fifteen minutes of fame. One day Moomin notices that his tail seems to be thinning. Worried that Snorkmaiden will no longer love him if his tail goes bald, he consults the family doctor and several tail specialists, and even gets an X-ray. Nothing helps! Finally Moomin’s mamma cooks up a magic potion, and it works like a charm, but now Moomin’s lustrous new tail is, well, solid gold! Moomin becomes the toast of society, and the target of numerous journalists and money making schemes. Moomin and the Golden Tail takes a long hard look at the consequences of fame.”

As relevant now as it was during the 60’s when it was written by Tove Jansson.



When I look for a company to work with it's with a view to building a strong business relationship and working together on a long term basis which makes work so much more fun, as well as making the product first class.

All my Giclee prints are printed on Hahnemühle archival paper which is renowned to be one of the world's best high quality Museum papers.

I particularly like to work with German Etching which is 310 gsm and 100% α -Cellulose white.

Print sizes are 90 x 90cm in an edition of 8.

All prints are numbered, signed and embossed by me and come with a Certificate of Authenticity.



SILK SCREEN PRINT



“It’s so hard to show it’s real beauty but if you can imagine walking from one side to the other, it goes from almost white silver to dark grey silver. When standing in front of it, it becomes slightly gold.”

Corinne Smith, Graphic Designer

PRADA LOVE SILK SCREEN

The print consists of
3 different silver metallic leafing elements
2 x screen printed layers of ink
Somerset Satin white 410 gsm paper
Finished off with a swarovski crystal stone, one colour for each print.

All Signed, numbered and embossed by me.
Limited edition of only 8.

HOME & COUNTRY

Inredning & livsstil

148
SIDOR

inspiration

Mys & värme I VINTERHEMMET

3 HEM
ATT ÄLSKA!

LANTLIGT INNANFÖR TULLARNA
GAMMALDAGS CHARM VID HAVET
BARNSPRING PÅ VENDELSÖ

**PROFFSKOCKEN
FRÅN BJÖRKHAGA**

Laga Jakob Cervalls
specialkomponerade meny

**DINA DRÖMMARS
SOVRUM!**

Stort special med ljuvliga
bäddar, linne och detaljer

**ULRICA
HYDMAN-VALLIEN**

Glaskonst för ett
gott syfte

INRED VINTERLYX • ÄLSKADE KAKELUGN • HAVSNÄRA INREDNING • KOCKENS EGNA RECEPT • GASSPIS HEMMA



En hund, med mycket lång svans,
vaktar entrén. Skulptören heter
Agneta Sjögren.



The dog sculpture Linnea was proudly picked for Aesthetica Magazines Wish list amongst Style Icons such as Iris Apfel, Stella McCartney, Louis Vuitton, Norwegian Photographer Elin Høyland and Apple Designer Tony Fadell to name a few.





Pink Lady was a commission and is based on the 1st Edition Tintin 'The Castafiore Emerald' first printed in Great Britain in 1963.

Tintin comic books hold a very special memory for me as a childhood love. Time spent reading them as a child took me away on adventures in my imaginary mind. When I became an adult little was I to know the comics would be intertwined with memories of my own adventures.

Someone once told me there are not enough divas in the world and certainly not in the comic world. This comic is about Castafiore, the diva opera singer, one of the most popular Tintins.

On the heart you will find Castafiore declaring her love for Captain Haddock through a song. It was a huge thrill to create my first big size Tintin sculpture dog.

P.s. I had to find 4 1st edition books to cover this dog

This Marsipan Dog is made out of bronze with a special patina finish that sparkles in gold, green and red.



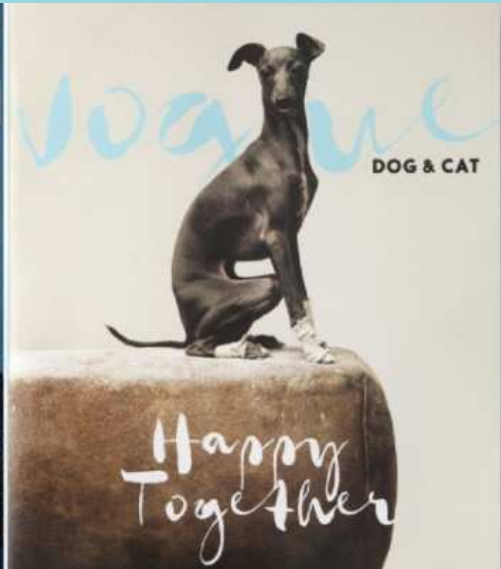
MARSIPAN BRONZE



Marsipan, 2016, 42 x 49cm, Bronze & Patina

“You’ve created your own ideal dog. When you first started this project, was there a real dog that was a model to your work?”

-Yes, the model is a mixture between a Labrador, a Dalmatian and cartoon dogs, the only dogs I am not afraid of. I wanted to make the nicest dog in the world.”



Editor in Chief of Vogue in Korea, Lee Myung Hee got in touch with me about featuring in the first ever Vogue Dog & Cat book. The book consisted of 312 pages of famous people and their animals.

We were 14 worldwide artists selected and we all had a 2 page spread including an interview and pictures of our artwork.





Tintin Pharoah, 2015, 41 x 57 cm, Vintage Comics



HAPPY CUSTOMERS

Your work make people happy. Where do you think you earned that talent from?

-I love making people smile. Life is hard enough and we all need to remember our love of life, whether it's nature or happy memories. Even though I am afraid of dogs it doesn't mean I don't like them! It's a way of turning a worry into a smile.

Interview with Vogue Korea





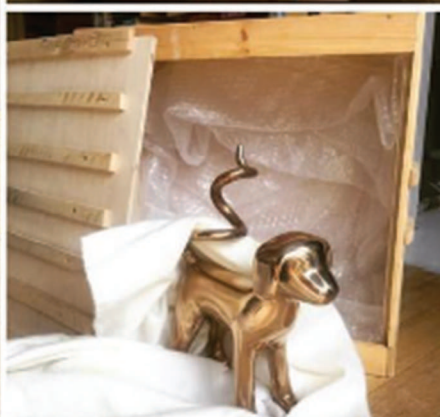
Doggy Bag, 2016, 38 x 48cm, Bronze



V&P Tassis is a family run business in Greece who I work closely with to produce all my bronze and stainless steel dogs. They have been with me from the beginning and I am excited about what the future will bring.

Finding good people to work with is crucial, especially as an artist as they almost have to read your mind. So when you refer to a colour they need to know exactly what shade of that colour you are talking about, or indeed what shape and material.

It's a jungle out there, so when you find good people to work with that understand you, whatever you do, stick with them. Sir Peter Blake, Dan Baldwin and Stavros Kotsireas are among the Artists who have also chosen to work with them.





Marsipan Gold, Marsipan Bronze, 2016, 32 x 25cm, Bronze



Sir Ollie Olympic, 2012, 70 x 76 cm, Sparkle Fabric

“This event, organised in collaboration with the Qingdao Museum and its director Mrs Dongwei Ye based on an original project proposed by Yan Chen and Christophe Menager, showcases established artists and talented newcomers representing the diverse world of contemporary European culture.

We were particularly impressed by the high level of quality that governed the choice of these talented multi-identity individuals bursting with vitality.

This Museum which houses some major works is an ideal setting for these artists who, in one way or another, embody our ancient heritages and therefore a kind of “transfer”, through an anthology of avant-garde views underpinned by astonishingly fertile and bold creative feats.”.

“...Stars from Coronation Street and Manchester City Football Club attended the launch night last month, held in a pop-up gallery at the New Cathedral Street store, installed by Bar Lane Studio in conjunction with City goalkeeper Shay Given’s charity, Fashion Kicks, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Rock icon Bob Dylan, illusionist Derren Brown, Stone Roses guitarist John Squire, jungle musician Goldie, Scottish singer Edwyn Collins and Swedish artist, sculptor and fashion designer Agnetha Sjögren were among the exhibiting artists, alongside original works by David Hockney, Henri Matisse, a signed print of Andy Warhol’s Interview and York’s very own memorial artist Dexter.”

Charles Hutchinson, THE PRESS





Shay Given's Charity, Fashion Kicks that supports Macmillan Cancer. Agnetha with Shay Given and his wife Jane. Buddha Dog Sculpture, 2010.

It means a lot to me to work with charities and to give back to those less fortunate, these are a few I have worked with:

MISSING PEOPLE SWEDEN

A 24hr non-profit organisation helping police and families puplicate information and arrange searches for missing people.

MISSING TOM, ART WARS

Established to raise funds and find missing Thomas Moore founded by his brother, Art Curator Ben Moore

SHAY GIVEN'S CHARITY, FASHION KICKS

Helping to fund Macmillan Cancer Support

SHELTER FOR HOMELESS

An Organisation for the homeless in London

WORLD CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION

Founded by H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden

OPERATION SMILE

International medical charity for children and young adults born with cleft lip or other facial deformities

As an Artist I have been given an opportunity to work with unusual art pieces, here I am being interviewed next to my Storm trooper helmet for ART WARS. A charity where artists such as Anish Kapoor, Dan Baldwin, Damien Hurst, Jake and Dinos Chapman, Mr. Brainwash and Schoony to name a few are selected to create a storm trooper helmet of their choice to sell at art auctions around the world.





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Facebook: Dogs by Agnetha

Twitter: doartltd

SIE AN! ... OOK
NCHT GEFASST



WAU!*



*
ENDE

ZU SPÄT!



NIKO, SIE
KOMMEN!

WIR VERSTEHEN
SIE DA DRÜßEN



WENN WIR SIE
HILFEN WIE!
SIE WERDEN SIE
HILFEN SIE!
SIE WERDEN SIE
HILFEN SIE!

ETWAS SPÄTER UND DIE
STRAßEN

EIN AUTO! ... DAS MUßTE
NEHMEN. SORRUM



