

# CHARLES TREVELYAN VIGNETTES

LADBROKE HALL | 16 MAY – 22 SEPTEMBER



*Charles Trevelyan: Vignettes* presents a juxtaposition of two recent series, *Gyre* and *Fuse*, presented with a selection of maquettes drawn from his London studio. Featuring the artist's experiments alongside completed works opens a window into the creative process, bringing concept and development to the fore.

The exhibition begins on the ground floor of the gallery with the *Fuse* series, including a previously unseen console in a striking Alpi Green marble. As with much of Trevelyan's recent work, *Fuse* stems from a desire to broaden the scope of his practice by setting aside a brief-led design approach to draw inspiration from structured experimentation in both material and process such that uncertainty and unfamiliarity become integral to the creation of the work. Derived initially from a thought experiment involving the fusion of simple forms to create structure, the evolution of this series was informed by both wooden puzzles from childhood and the construction of simple maquettes in which pins were used to temporarily assemble larger structures. Translating the concept from maquette to large sculptural pieces in marble and bog oak required a meticulous design process involving precise sculpting of curved geometries to enable the forms to slot together and lock. As such, the aesthetic simplicity belies a technical complexity and the series exemplifies a blend of sculptural elegance with structural precision.

The exhibition continues on the first level of the gallery with works from the *Gyre* series that meld digital fabrication with meticulous hand-sculpting and finishing. Trevelyan has previously worked largely in bronze – in contrast *Gyre* features works that are characterised by a spontaneous painterly approach to the expression of both form and colour in the finished works. Elegantly looped structures of 3D printed sand and resin undergo a process in which thickened pigmented epoxy is built up in multiple layers over many days to build a surface patina in which colour and texture are interlinked. Cutting back the final surface reveals a stratigraphy of hues from palettes unique to each work that are drawn from personal experience. The accompanying maquettes are selected from various stages of the process, illustrating the exploration of form, texture and colour that informs the development of the works.

Despite their apparent differences in aesthetic and material, *Gyre* and *Fuse* share an underlying commonality in that both are assemblages of uniform morphologies. While *Fuse* merges simple pebble-like forms and *Gyre* consists of concentric hollow structures, both series explore the creation of structures in a manner that exhibits a coherence in their base sculptural language.



CHARLES TREVELYAN

FUSE V  
2022

Bog Oak, Brass  
48.4 x 169.4 x 116.5 cm  
19 1/8 x 66 3/4 x 45 7/8 in





*Fuse V* also features a material selected for its ability to create visual complexity across a broad surface, in this case bog oak, timber that has been submerged under silt for many thousands of years to the point where it is stained almost black throughout and has developed a mineral density and hardness. Angled interlocking forms pinned through with brass rods create a striking cantilevered sculptural assembly that balances visual impact with structural grace.



## CHARLES TREVELYAN

FUSE VI  
2022

Marble (Stone: Verde Alpi)  
104 x 224 x 54.5 cm  
41 x 88 1/4 x 21 1/2 in

*Fuse VI* features an economy of structure and overt simplicity that belies a deep underlying complexity, evoking a conflicting sense of both spontaneity and careful consideration. Elongated irregular forms slot seamlessly together in a manner that would be impossible without the meticulous consideration of curvature through every element. The result is an asymmetric yet perfectly balanced structure in a stunning Verde Alpi marble that features a rich web of complex veining that the artist uses to create visually break the long flowing surfaces.





**CHARLES TREVELYAN**

GYRE I  
2023

Resin  
50 x 30 x 30 cm  
19 3/4 x 11 3/4 x 11 3/4 in

Four graceful concentric looped forms encircle each other creating a sense of rotation from which the Gyre series draws its name. Countering this both visually and stylistically is the central bronze shaft that pins the forms, freezing this movement in a carefully balanced snapshot. The deeply textured surface draws inspiration for both colour and texture from coral – pinks and greys set against darker limestone hues. Overlapping shells prevent light from emanating directly, instead reflecting it back and forth such that the overall effect is warm and diffuse.







**CHARLES TREVELYAN**

FUSE III  
2020

Arabescato Orobico Marble  
48 x 176 x 74 cm  
18 9/10 x 69 14/50 x 29 13/100 in

As the earliest work in this collection, *Fuse III* has an understated elegance with the rounded forms cascading together into a horizontal assemblage that draws the eye along its length. The Arabescato Orobico marble features multiple divergent mineral seams in reds, greys and blacks that cut through each in a rich visual tapestry created by millions of years of geological upheaval.





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