



COX LONDON LOUNGE AT COLLECT  
INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY CRAFT & ART FAIR  
SOMERSET HOUSE LONDON, 3 - 5 MARCH 2023

**Cox London, VIP Lounge Partner**

Cox London have built a reputation for creating elemental and remarkable pieces of lighting, furniture, and artworks. Everything Chris and Nicola Cox design is handmade in their own studio, workshops and bronze foundry in London, making Collect the perfect platform, and the VIP room at Somerset house the ultimate showcase, for their unique brand of interior landscaping.

Chris Cox, creative director comments:

“At Cox London, we are foremost artists and makers and so have a true affinity with Collect. From the handmade, soul-nourishing work it showcases, to the extraordinary artisans it celebrates. To partner with Collect is the most natural alliance. For two years we have been working with our in-house team of artisans, to create new pieces specially for Collect 2023.”

The lounge at Somerset House will be an immersive woodland setting creating a rich narrative for the new interior artworks. Each one-off or limited-edition piece shines a light on the power of craft and the energy of the maker's hands.



Queen of the Night chandelier with Folly Sofas



There are recurring nature themes in their work. Major new pieces are the Queen of Night chandelier running the whole length of the room. Burr wood realised as two grand consoles take root on the ground. It is rare to find walnut burr on this scale with such an extraordinary surface texture.

Here is a special preview of the new work:

**Queen of the Night** is a free-form sculptural light that the Cox's have been working on since April this year. The idea, as with most Cox designs, began with a hand drawing by Christopher and Nicola in their studio. The image shows a beautiful interpretation from this drawing, an initial prototype raised by expert craftsmen in their workshops, located next door to their studio. The actual piece, a wild vine-like composition, at approx. 26 feet long (8 metres) will ramble the entire length of the lounge.

Each leaf has been individually hand-forged and soldered into languid groups that punctuate wildly meandering stems and tendrils. This dark yet beguiling design will be lit and lifted with gently flickering candles and rare floral appearances. The Queen of the Night is a species of cactus which rarely blooms and only at night. This work also refers to an Aria sung by the Queen of the Night in the second act of Mozart's Magic flute. Dark but beautiful, beguiling, winding, rambling, free ranging this chandelier is Cox London's aria of virtuoso forging, welding, soldering and hand finishing. Each piece commissioned going forwards will be a unique version, site specific for each project.

Image: Wisteria Mirror with Lily Pad Console



**Burr Consoles** will be cast in pure white Jesmonite and the Bronze Wisteria Vine mirrors will be spectacular sculptural mirrors adorning the piers. Generously proportioned, hand metal work floral displays will sit in the windows.

**Folly** furniture such as the sofas and armchairs are also the result of many months work: sculpture meets decorative arts meets high comfort lounge seating.

“Since founding Cox London we’ve found ourselves increasingly drawn to a very particular aesthetic and-one centred on the orders and design of the natural world. We strive to unlock the nature within every piece we create and illuminate and animate the spaces they inhabit.”

Image: Burr Consoles and Burr Mirror



#### **With thanks to**

Atelier Ellis for creating a custom colour with Cox London for the Collect VIP Lounge

“Creating a bespoke colour for Nicola and Chris at Cox London was an absolute delight. Their own work is beautifully detailed and deeply nuanced. Working with samples of their materials and understanding the story behind their Collect installation provided the perfect back story to develop a colour that furnishes - I hope - the perfect container for their work and them to be within.”

Cassandra Ellis, Colourist and Founder of Atelier Ellis

Rupert Bevan for creating custom antique mirrored glass

“Rupert Bevan is delighted to be partnering with Cox London for Collect. Rupert Bevan has established a reputation as a supplier of the finest antiqued mirror glass in the industry. Everything is made and finished in Britain. The glass will be designed and customised with a unique patina to meet Cox London's aesthetics.”

Rush Matters for making custom rush matting rugs

The core of Rush Matter's work is traditional rush floor matting. The rush is plaited by hand and hand sewn together with jute twine. All edges of the rugs are bound in a rush plait interwoven with herbs, lavender, southernwood, wormwood and camomile.

#### **Note to Editors**

Nicola and Chris are available for interview

Editors can visit Cox London's studio and workshops by appointment

Images of new pieces available in the making and in their finished form.

Images of Lounge ready after the media preview day on Wednesday 1 March

Image: Cassandra Ellis with Nicola and Cox London in Cox London's private studio



## ABOUT COX LONDON

Cox London create exceptional interior artworks. Founded by sculptor makers Nicola and Christopher Cox in 2006, this British company has forged an ability to divine natural forms of interior beauty that stirs the nature within through form, finish, patina, and palette. They have built a reputation for creating remarkable pieces of furniture, lighting, mirrors, and ornamental objects inspired by the flow and structure of natural design and order using artisan and craft skills both ancient and modern. Their specialist artists, artisans, and highly skilled makers hand-produce a unique offering that treads the fine line between art, design, and craft.

Cox London outstanding workplace programmes are recognised in HRH The Princess Royal's prestigious training awards. Cox London are the Crafts Council's 2022/23 Learning and Business Skills Supporter. This is the fourth year of their partnership with the Crafts Council, a true reflection of their ongoing commitment to helping support the future generations of craft.

Cox London serve a global clientele of private clients, collectors, interior designers, galleries, and institutions from both their north London studios and the 46 Pimlico Road showroom.

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