

Joanne Burke,
Press

From sexed-up suburbia to sculptural alchemy: our pick of Condo London 2025

The gallery-sharing event, spread across different parts of the UK capital, features participants from Guatemala, Lebanon, Los Angeles and more



Joanne Burke, *Festival 2* (2023), 925 silver
Courtesy of the artist and ADZ Gallery, Lisbon. Photography Vasco Stocker de Vilhena

Joanne Burke at Soft Opening

Soft Opening took part in Condo for the first time in 2024 and this year it is hosting the New York gallery Derosia. Soft Opening's Condo exhibition, titled *Oes with Works Like Esses*, features a new group of metal sculptures in bronze and silver by the London-based artist Joanne Burke, presented within a glass vitrine. Burke's alchemical process starts with hydromancy, a 17th-century divination technique whereby molten wax is dropped in cold water and allowed to form unpredictable shapes. Those shapes are then cast in bronze or silver to form the basis of Burke's intricate sculptures. Derosia, meanwhile, will exhibit dyed fabric works, largely canvas, by the US-based artist Kern Samuel. A mutual interest in craft and process can be seen between Burke and Samuel's work, says Antonia Marsh, Soft Opening's founder. For example, "the connections to craft techniques from the past in their work—Samuel works with hand dyeing and quilting while Joanne works with techniques gleaned from basketry, costuming and weaving."

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