

Joanne Burke,
Press

Frieze, 2026

Five Emerging Artists to Watch at Frieze New York 2026

Featured in the *Focus* section, supported by Stone Island, these bold new voices offer experimental takes on family, memory, glaciers and hair

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Joanne Burke, *Eave Compass Poynted*, 2025. Cast bronze and aluminium
31 × 6 × 8 cm. Courtesy: the artist and Soft Opening, London. Photo: Eva Herzog

Joanne Burke | [Soft Opening](#), London (Stand F02)

Joanne Burke begins her alchemical sculptural process by dispersing molten wax in water. Shaped into unpredictable forms by its liquid element, the wax becomes the basis for Burke's bronze and aluminium casts. At once abstract and insidiously familiar, Burke's sculptures will sit uneasily within glass vitrines on Soft Opening's stand at Frieze New York.

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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