

ELAINE PAMPHILON AND CHRISTOPHER MARVELL

1 - 17TH APRIL 2026

PRIVATE VIEW: TUESDAY 31ST MARCH
6-8pm

PRESS RELEASE

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It is not often we have the opportunity to present two artists together, let alone two whose work actively informs the other. Artist duo Elaine Pamphilon and Christopher Marvell have returned to Portland Gallery with an exhibition opening this Spring.



objects and marigolds on the black table
mixed media on wooden panel, 100 x 120 cm

From depictions of decorative ceramics and still lifes to seasonal landscapes, Elaine's paintings are rooted in the tradition of folk art; celebrating simplicity and the everyday, using objects that have a personal connection to the artist's life. Her affinity for British design is evident in paintings such as *objects and marigolds on the black table*, where a collection of vases, jugs and mugs in neutral tones adorn the composition. In addition to the charm of still life painting, Elaine

explores land and seascapes. Works such as *china boat* and *porthmeor* are reminiscent of Alfred Wallis' own naïve-style imagery of boats and coastal scenes.



tiger and tree
bronze, edition 1, 41 x 48 x 20 cm

There is a symbiotic relationship between man and nature which Christopher Marvell exudes in his sculptures. Cast in bronze and accompanied by earth-toned patinas, the works celebrate natural materials in reimagined forms of familiar creatures. By hand he carves into moulds before casting, imprinting on prowling tigers and elegant birds, using scratching and etching techniques to emulate fur and feather. His seemingly folk-art style is complimentary to Elaine's paintings, further emphasizing the way their individual outputs inform one another.

*Elaine Pamphilon and Christopher Marvell:
Painting & Sculpture*

Exhibition 1-17 April 2026

Artist Biography

Elaine Pamphilon (b. 1948) and Christopher Marvell (b.1964)

Inspired by many visits to Jim Ede at Kettle's Yard, encouraged by his personal art collection and the stories that went along with them, Christopher and Elaine bought a house in St. Ives where they lived and created for twenty-five years. It was in the picturesque Cornish town that they gained so much influence and knowledge meeting artists such as Alan Davie, Sandra Blow and Wilhelmina Barns-Graham. The artist pair have settled in Cambridgeshire, each with their own studios that overlook a beautifully curated garden. Although cementing their own artist practices, the pair offer advice and critical opinions to influence one another: "We trust each other to say exactly what we think and know that advice will be honest and valuable".

- High resolution images are available on request
- Advanced viewings of artworks can be arranged on request
- The artist is available for interview
- An illustrated catalogue will support the exhibition

About Portland Gallery

Portland Gallery was established in 1984 and are leading dealers in Modern and Contemporary British Art. Located in St James's, the gallery is spread over two floors and plays host to fourteen exhibitions a year, principally solo presentations of represented artists and estates. The gallery is operated as an Employee Ownership Trust.