



Public Service Gallery & V1 Gallery presents

**Jag Gillar Dig**

A solo exhibition by Emma Kohlmann

OPENING RECEPTION THURSDAY MAY 11. 18.00 – 20.30  
EXHIBITION PERIOD: MAY 12 – JUNE 2. 2023

Public Service Gallery  
Storgatan 1  
114 44, Stockholm  
Sweden

Plants sprouting human flowers. Roots connecting everything living. Hybrid creatures; half-angels, part-butterflies, semi-felines and demi-bats. Couples embracing and holding hands. Blue leaves embracing naked souls. Suggesting an organic interconnectivity. A painterly appeal to cherish what is around, above and below us. A holistic artistic vision of our universe and existence.

During the last decade, Kohlmann has developed a distinct visual universe, easily recognizable for its amorphous figures and imaginative vegetation. Rendered in an evocative color scheme and often framed in pyrographed cherry wood frames, her signature style has now settled into an almost naïve, folksy symbolism.

A large part of Kohlmann's practice is dedicated to the process of image gathering. From books on architecture, erotica, spirituality, mythologies and ancient cultures, online resources, or photos she has personally taken in museums or in various historical sites. This collection contains images of ancient Roman and Greek pottery, Egyptian hieroglyphs, Mesopotamian sculpture, Japanese fantasy, European modernism, Amish quilts and Norse symbolism.

Kohlmann is drawn to the naiveness of art making. Searching for crudeness, simpleness, the imaginary pureness of learning how to draw. The energy of being. She works from intuition in one instant motion. Never revisits or retouches a work. She works with an idea on various materials until she is content with the results. If she is not content – she will start over – except this time the tenseness of the canvas, ceramic, cloth or paper won't hold her.

Kohlmann's work can be viewed as a collection of lost and found ideas, objects and images. Retrieving them from wherever they live in the depths of her mind. Subconsciously and consciously, she creates patterns of symbols, shapes and figures, which then become part of an unspoken narrative. A lineage from primordial times, through ancient cultures and into the present. Kohlmann guides the connection between the unspoken with form.

Emma Kohlmann, born in New York, USA, in 1989, lives and works in Western Massachusetts, USA. She holds a BA from Hampshire College, Amherst, MA, where she composed her own major in aesthetics, feminist theory and drawing. Kohlmann publishes her own artist zines and other ephemera such as records, books and wearable artworks. She has exhibited extensively in the past years, including Silke Linder, New York, USA, V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark, MOCA, Tucson, USA, Jack Hanley, New York, USA and Tennis Elbow/The Journal, New York, USA. Emma Kohlmann is represented by V1 Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark.