

Brain Tumour Book - Artist Leah Jensen's Journey Through Cancer Diagnosis to Treatment  
The Fitzrovia Chapel, Fitzroy Place, 2 Pearson Square, London W1T 3BF  
Friday 17th April – Sunday 26th April 2026  
Open daily from 11am – 6pm Monday – Friday (Sunday 12 noon – 5pm)  
Private view Thursday 16th April 2026 6pm-9pm

## PRESS RELEASE

**For immediate release: (10.03.26)** Cavaliero Finn is proud to present, “Brain Tumour Book” a solo exhibition of artwork by Leah Jensen at the Fitzrovia Chapel in London from Friday 17th – 26th April 2026. The exhibition features artwork that chronicles the artist's journey through her recent brain tumour diagnosis and treatment. Through intricate embroidered stitch-work and layered imagery, Leah transforms her vulnerability into visual poetry, offering visitors to the exhibition a window into her process of fear, resilience, acceptance, and hope. A series of artworks will be available for sale to raise funds for The Brain Tumour Charity, Leah's chosen charity.

Like Louise Bourgeois and Tracey Emin, Leah reveals her darkest and lightest moments through her work with humour, sensitivity and an inspiring philosophical approach.

In September 2020 Leah was unable to focus and lost her ability to speak at work. She was rushed to hospital where they discovered an aggressive brain tumour.

During her long stay in hospital, Leah faced her fears and started to reflect on life and death. Being largely bedridden, she was unable to work with clay, a medium for which she is critically acclaimed. Instead, she turned to embroidery, or drawing with thread, to help her process the complex emotions she was experiencing.

Every emotion, thought, memory and feeling has been captured in her deeply personal Brain Tumour Book that is still ongoing, as she deals with a potentially uncertain future. Each check-up and brain scan she goes for brings a sense of dread but Leah has such a calm sense of acceptance and positivity that shines through her work which articulates the ups and downs of her life-changing diagnosis.

“I swapped clay for textiles, something I could do from bed. It became an absolute necessity for me, and genuinely aided my recovery. I often found myself wondering, what do people who don't make things do with their time? How do they cope?” I felt so fortunate. It occurred to me recently that ever since I was a young child I have turned to making for escapism from difficult situations.” Leah Jensen

Curated by Juliana Cavaliero and Debra Finn of contemporary gallery Cavaliero Finn, the exhibition will be held in the beautiful Fitzrovia Chapel.

“When Leah first showed us the book to Debra and me we were both absolutely blown away by it and extremely moved by what we saw. Every textile page is beautifully executed and the messages they contain brought tears to our eyes. The images speak for themselves.” Juliana Cavaliero – Director Cavaliero Finn

“We are delighted to welcome Leah Jensen's exhibition to the Fitzrovia Chapel, the chapel for the former Middlesex Hospital. 2026 celebrates ten years of the Fitzrovia Chapel Foundation and a rich history of providing a space for people in times of illness, distress and needing quiet sanctuary.” Madeleine Boomgaarden – Director of the Fitzrovia Chapel.

Alongside the presentation of Leah's Brain Tumour book will be a series of limited editions taken from the book to raise funds for the Brain Tumour Charity and raise awareness of how the illness affects those dealing with it. Leah is well aware of others going through the same situation and is sensitive to how her work will be viewed by them. She is clear she doesn't want to invoke any fear from this show and intends to imbue honesty and hope in her work.

Also featuring in the exhibition will be a clay vessel that Leah created during what must have been the early onset of her tumour, at a time when she was having severe headaches. Normally, a specific renaissance painting is a starting point for the work but in this case, she has no memory of making this vessel and she has no idea of the source of inspiration for it. This ‘mystery pot’ stands as testament to a major change in her life and health. The mystery pot will be the starting point of the exhibition.

Subsequent to Leah producing the book, the artist has also developed a series of quilts and an embroidered pillow both of which will be on display at the exhibition. There will also be a collection of embroidered handkerchiefs on show. Leah has collected these over her lifetime and they feature some of the artist's one-off embroidered drawings and artworks. These will be available for sale alongside the series of limited edition prints to raise funds for the Brain Tumour Charity.

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#### Further press information:

Juliana Cavaliero – [juliana@cavalierofinn.com](mailto:juliana@cavalierofinn.com) <https://cavalierofinn.com/exhibitions>

Debra Finn - [debra@cavalierofinn.com](mailto:debra@cavalierofinn.com)

Madeleine Boomgaarden - [Madeleine@fitzroviachapel.org](mailto:Madeleine@fitzroviachapel.org) <https://www.fitzroviachapel.org/exhibitions>

Donate to raise funds for this charitable exhibition and the Brain Tumour Charity.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/braintumourbook-charityfundraisingexhibition>

#### Listings details

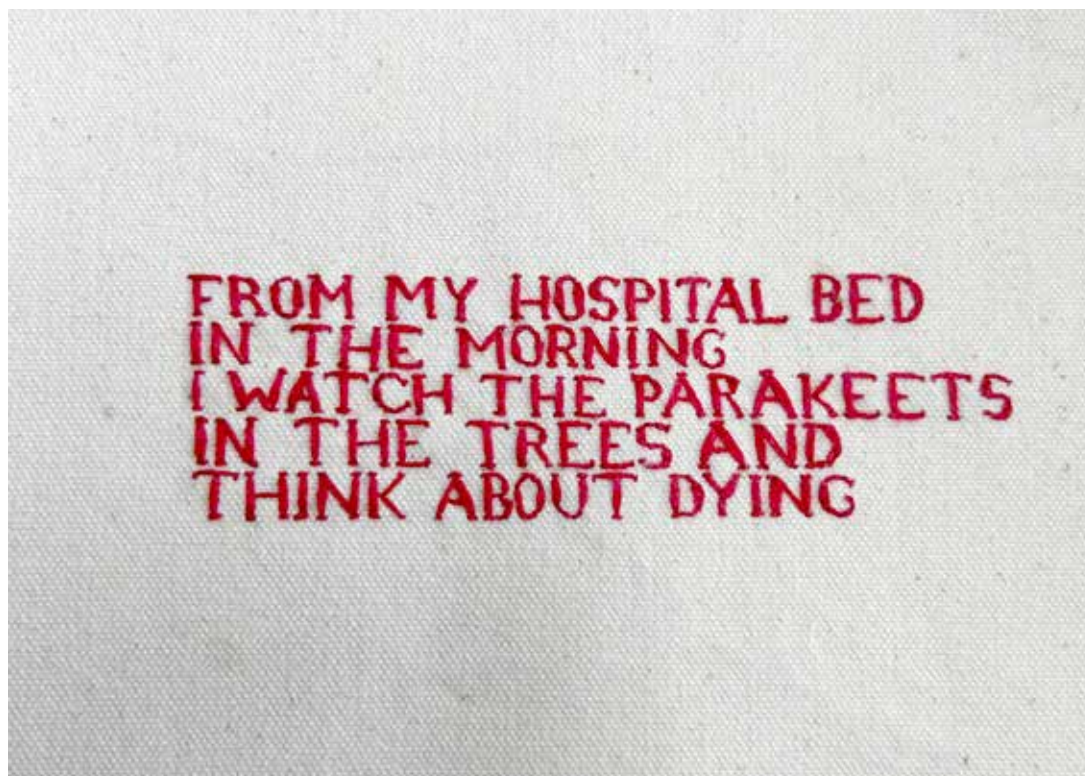
Brain Tumour Book - Artist Leah Jensen's Journey Through Cancer Diagnosis to Treatment

Presented by Cavaliero Finn at The Fitzrovia Chapel, Fitzroy Place, 2 Pearson Square, London, W1T 3BF

Exhibition open April 17th- 26th 2026 - Monday – Saturday 11am – 6pm, Sunday 12 noon – 5pm

Admission free | [fitzroviachapel.org](http://fitzroviachapel.org) | [@fitzroviachapel](https://www.instagram.com/fitzroviachapel) | [cavalierofinn.com](https://www.instagram.com/cavalierofinn) | [@cavalierofinn](https://www.instagram.com/cavalierofinn)

#### SCROLL DOWN FOR IMAGES, CAPTIONS & NOTES TO EDITORS



From my hospital bed I watch the parakeets - Cotton, Linen



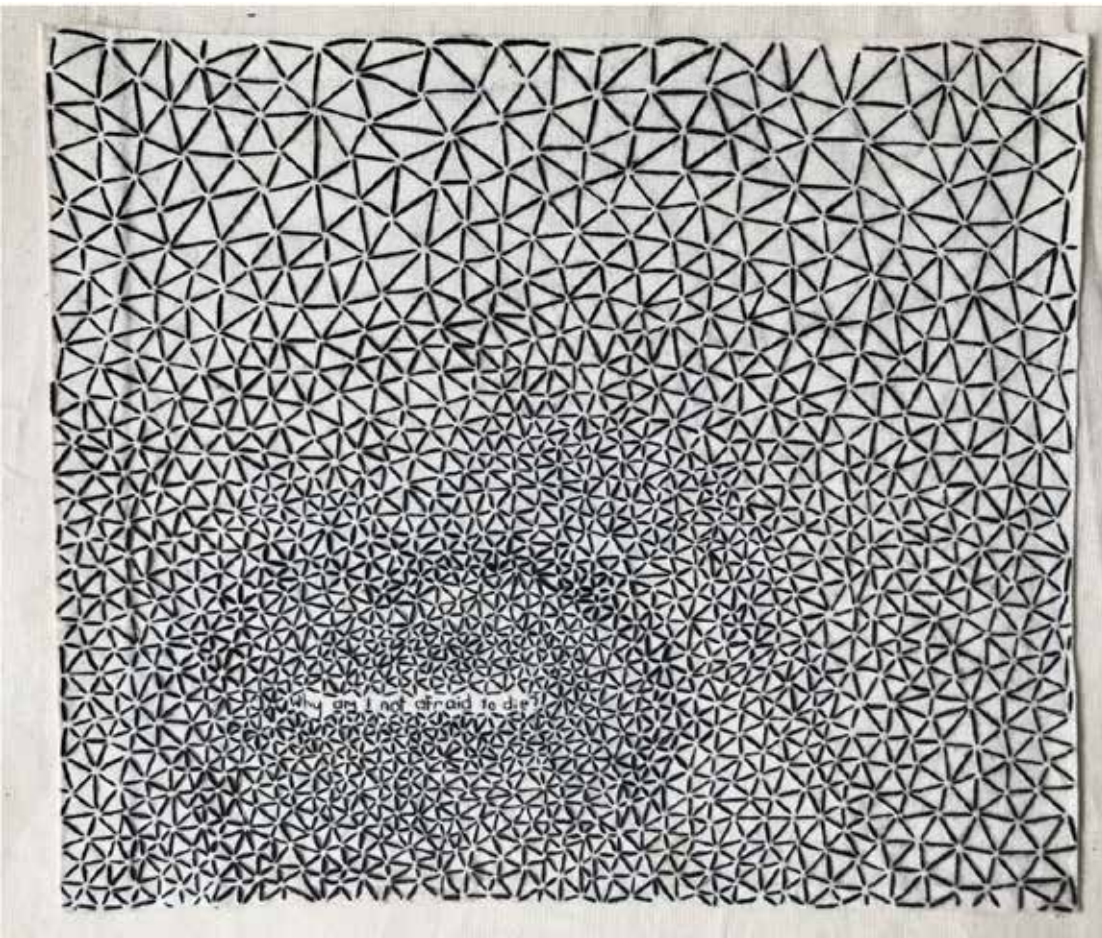
From my hospital bed - Cotton, Linen



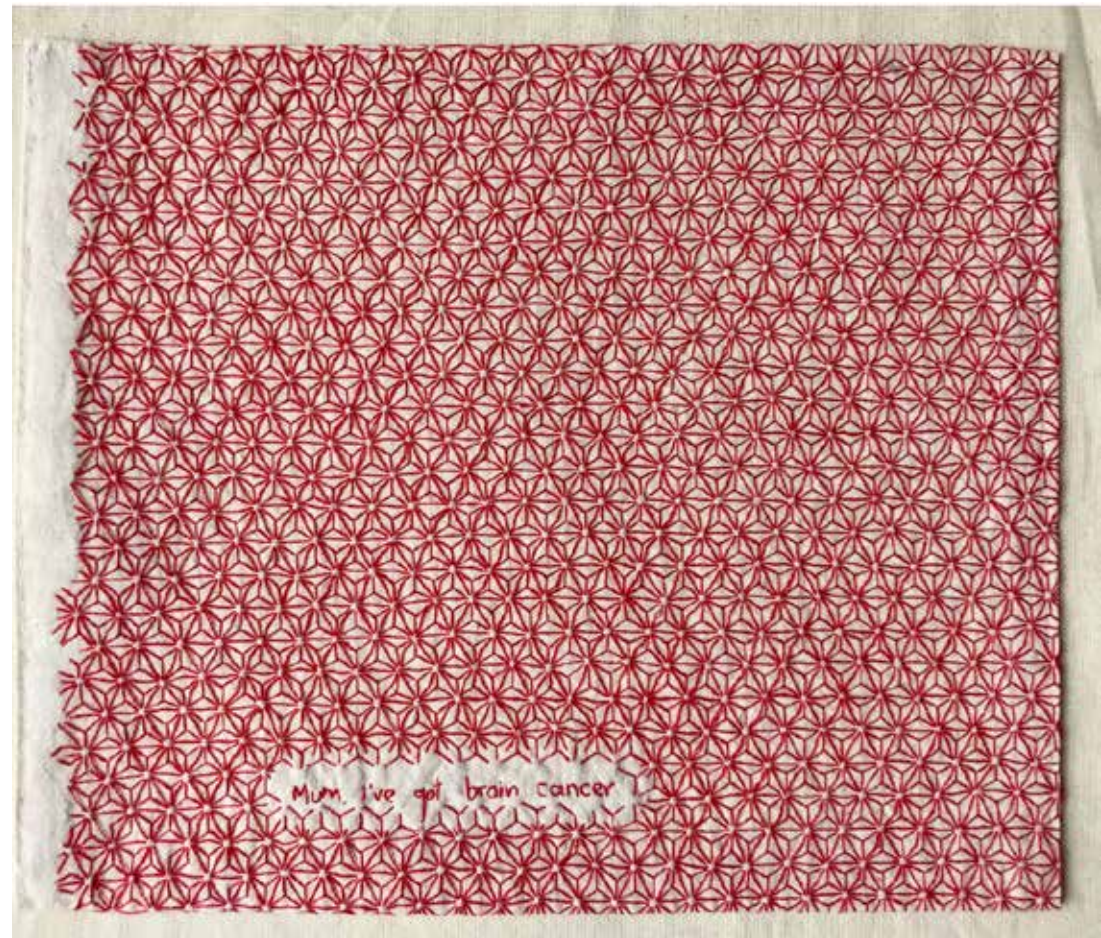
Clay - Cotton, Linen, Wool and Acrylic Paint



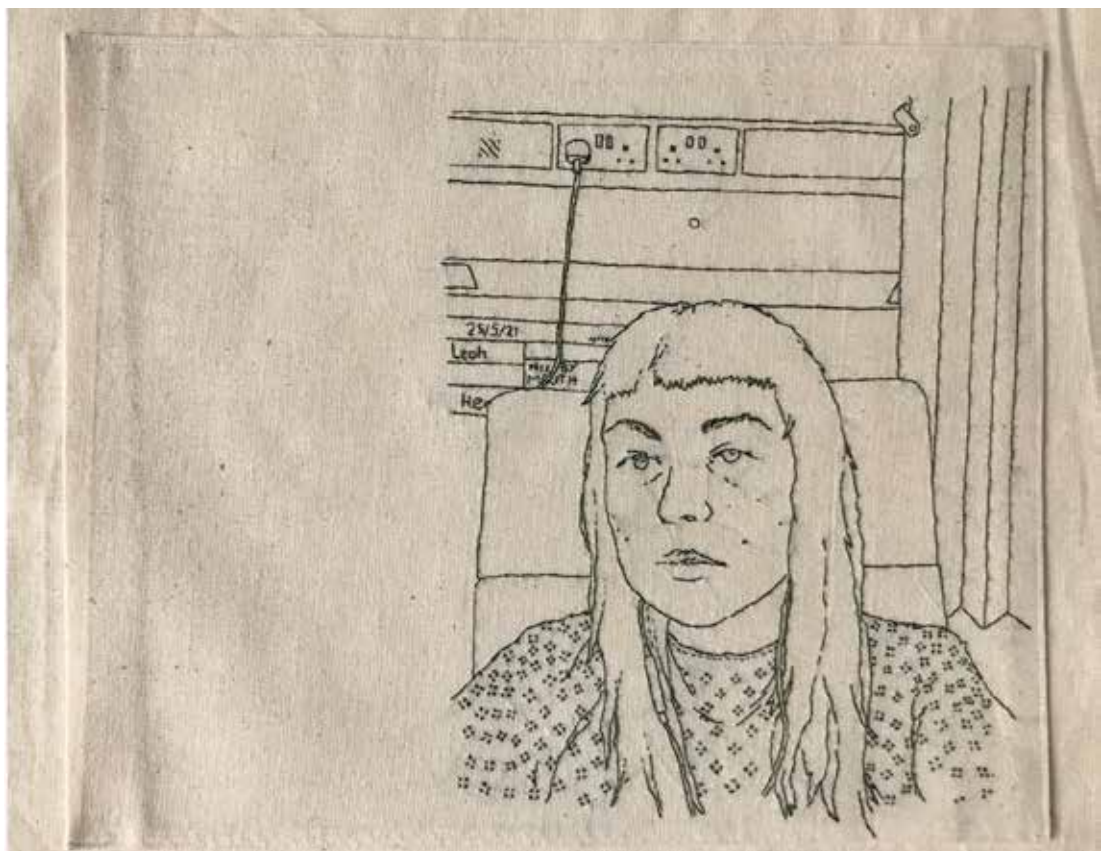
Medication - Cotton, Linen, Acrylic Paint



The Things You Can't Say Out Loud no.2, cotton on cotton



The Things You Can't Say Out Loud no.3, cotton on cotton



Terror - Cotton and Cotton Thread



3 Days After - Unfinished - Cotton and Cotton Thread



The Queen of Losing Needles In Bed While Sewing  
- Cotton, Linen and Hospital Gown



Toast - Cotton, Paper, Cotton Thread and Plastic

**BOREDOM IS A GIFT**

Boredom is a Gift - Cotton and Cotton Thread



Sick Bed Pillow - Cotton and Cotton Thread



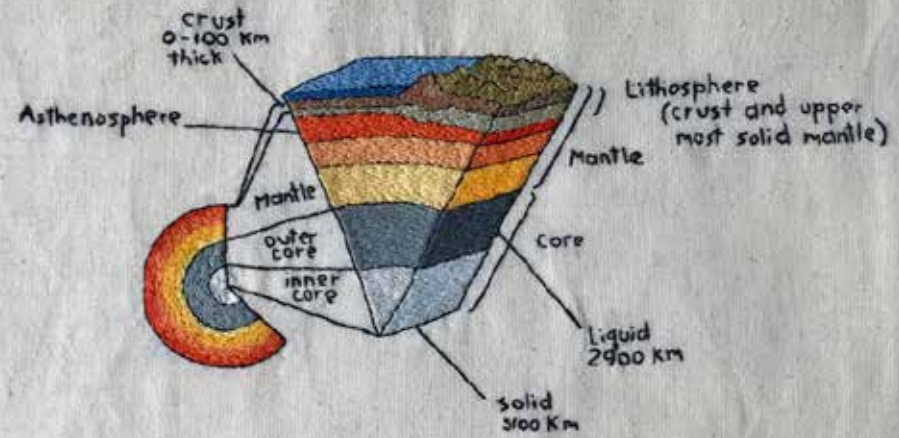
In This Moment - Cotton On Cotton with Rose Thorns



Cross Stitch in Fallen Hair (detail)  
Cotton and Leah's Hair



Anaplastic Astrocytoma - Coton on Cotton on Linen



As the pressure inside my skull adjusts, it causes the bone flap made by the surgeons during my craniotomy to move. It makes a clicking sound with the regularity of the second hand on a clock, ticking. Click, click, click, I hear it inside my head for months.

Craniotomy- Cotton On Cotton



I Wrote My Will Today - Cotton On Linen



The Worst Part of Having Brain Cancer is Being An Unemployed Disabled Working Class Renter  
Cotton, Wire, Lace and Rust

## **About Leah Jensen's acclaimed ceramic work**

Leah Jensen's incredibly intricate, hand-carved porcelain and stoneware vessels have been exhibited widely and feature in private collections around the globe. The works are inspired by Renaissance painters who used the golden ratio, a mathematical equation used to create balance, order and symmetry in their work. Leah Jensen uses these patterns and forms within particular paintings to pinpoint and carve out her abstract patterns into the clay, creating a unique, meticulously planned contemporary object, very much influenced by the past where the narrative is hidden within a contemporary surface. Using just a scalpel, she often carves for over 100 hours to achieve these results.

Leah obtained a BA (HONS) Contemporary Crafts in 2014 from Falmouth University. A year later she was selected to be part of the Craft Council's Hot House Programme. Leah has exhibited widely and internationally. Her work can be found in the permanent collection of the Manchester Art Gallery. She was shortlisted for the Whitegold International Ceramic Prize in 2019. Leah was one of ten finalists selected for the 2025 edition of AWARD for the British Ceramics Biennial in Stoke-on-Trent.



The Healing of Justinian by Saint Cosmas and Saint Damian, Fra Angelico - 1438-40, Tempera on wood, 37 x 45 cm, Museo di San Marco, Florence



Leah applies images of the painting using pins and paper on to a hand-built, unfired clay vessel, using the clay as a canvas.



She then carves out these precise yet abstract patterns, creating a unique, meticulously planned contemporary object very much influenced by the past.



The Healing of Justinian 2019

Once the vessel is complete the narrative is hidden, just as in the geometric structure of the painting before it.

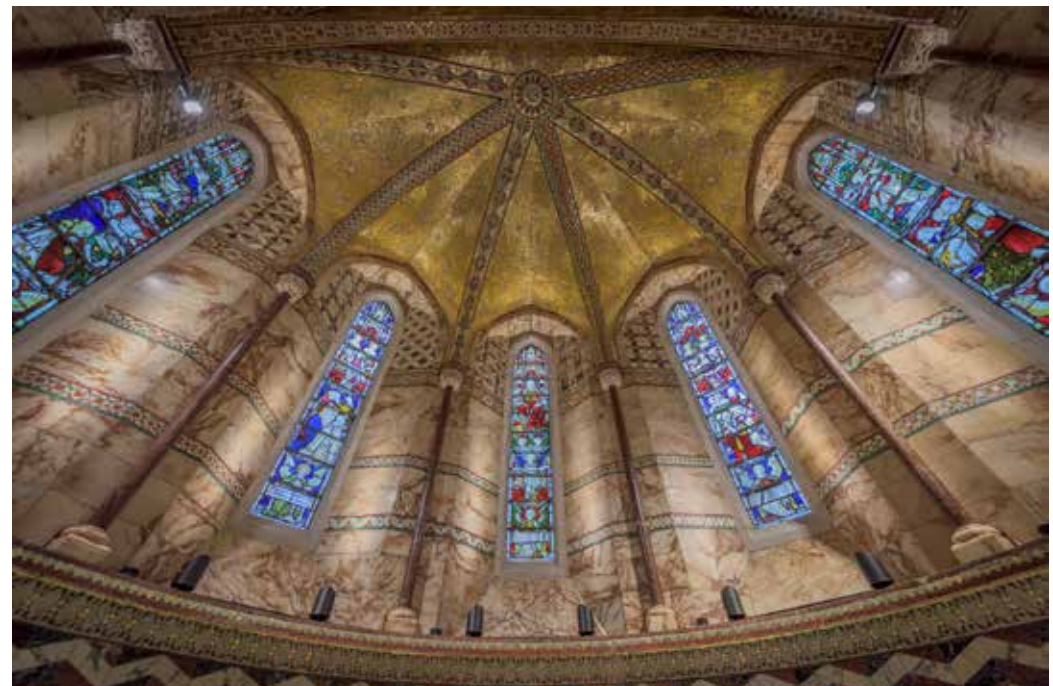


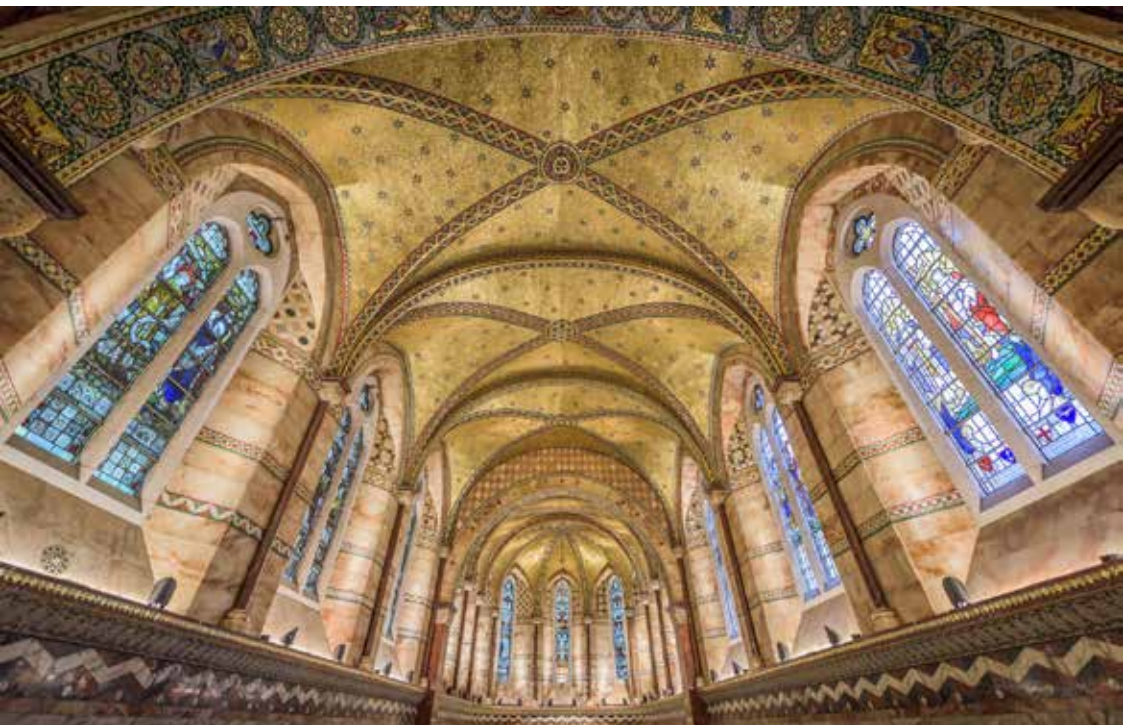
Leah Jensen alongside her presentation for the AWARD British Ceramics Biennial 2025 - It Was Lost In The Move, 2025 - an installation which deals with housing insecurity and the far reaching effects of the housing crisis.

## About the Fitzrovia Chapel

The Fitzrovia Chapel is located in the heart of London's Fitzrovia community. As the former chapel of the Middlesex Hospital, it is a place of meaning, memory and sanctuary for many. Today the chapel is an enriching cultural space for health and wellbeing, hosting concerts and exhibitions, free to visit and open to all. The Chapel offers a distinctive artistic programme, supporting emerging and established artists and learning opportunities. It is a space for quiet reflection, discovery and celebration, connecting a diversity of communities, visitors and partners. A registered charity, the Chapel is a secular space, open to everyone of all faiths, beliefs, backgrounds and cultures.

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## **About Cavaliero Finn**

Cavaliero Finn has been exhibiting work by Leah Jensen since 2019. Established in 2004 the gallery is renowned for its carefully curated portfolio of expertly crafted contemporary objects and award-winning art. The gallery works with leading museums and institutions and provides consultative services to interior designers and architects worldwide as well as commissioning bespoke artworks for corporate and private collectors. Many of the gallery's artists have work in public collections including; the V&A, Fitzwilliam Museum, National Museum of Wales, National Museum of Scotland, Ulster Museum and The Goldsmith's Company Collection in the UK, and the Irish State Collection, the Musée Ariana in Geneva and the Musée National de Céramique de Sèvres in Paris.

Cavaliero Finn is still passionately run by the founders Juliana Cavaliero and Debra Finn who first met studying art at Warwick University.

In addition to the curated selection of art and design available through the online gallery, [www.cavalierofinn.com](http://www.cavalierofinn.com), the company curates regular pop-up exhibitions in London in carefully chosen venues. These one-off exhibitions, programmed throughout the year, are complemented by participation in contemporary art fairs such as the London Art Fair, Collect, British Art Fair and events at Design Centre Chelsea Harbour.