

PAM
HAWKES



MODERN GOTHIC – PAM HAWKES & GEORGE UNDERWOOD

In 1968, when George Underwood was designing record covers, he was asked by Marc Bolan to work on the first T Rex album: 'My People Were Fair and Had Sky in Their Hair... But Now They're Content to Wear Stars on Their Brows.' Yes, it was the perfect title for those very psychedelic times. And George did an amazing job, creating a vision of comets, winged angels and ghost riders.

But does that title suggest anyone else? Regular Catto visitors will think: Pam Hawkes! The album name instantly brings to mind Pam's ethereal women with their ornate headwear and jewellery. She would also have been a perfect choice for the job. Lucky for George that Pam was a toddler when Marc Bolan got in touch.

Evidently, George and Pam each belong to a particular strain of European art – one that focuses on the senses and the mind over pure logic and realism. It's a fine tradition, stretching back to the dark ages via Fuseli, Bruegel and Bosch. So we thought it would be a good idea to bring them together in one show. Here it is.



Forest Songs, 20 x 20cm, Oil on Copper Leaf on Linen

Pam Hawkes

This new collection of work by Pam Hawkes is an absolute treat for her many fans. Let's call it classic Hawkes. Why? Because it dials up all the elements that make Pam one of the most beloved artists in the UK. Here is a series of paintings that focuses on women wearing halos of flowers, and shrouded in outrageously colourful wraps. They are placed in front of glittering gold-flecked walls, and they frequently stare at the viewer with inscrutable expressions. These are the elements that make Pam's work – frequently called 'modern gothic' – immediately identifiable.

Pam has developed a style that combines the majesty of Byzantine icons with the mystery of the modern. Yet for all the fantasy, the work is always beautifully composed and technically immaculate. Pam says: "The characters in my paintings don't readily give away their stories...it is a seductive world that they seem to hint at, a place of myth-making and mystery. They invite us in at some level to speculate on the idealised memories of their lives and to give a second thought to the half-forgotten fables we each collect and carry through our own world."

Front Cover: Beloved,
70 x 50cm, Oil on Copper Leaf on Linen



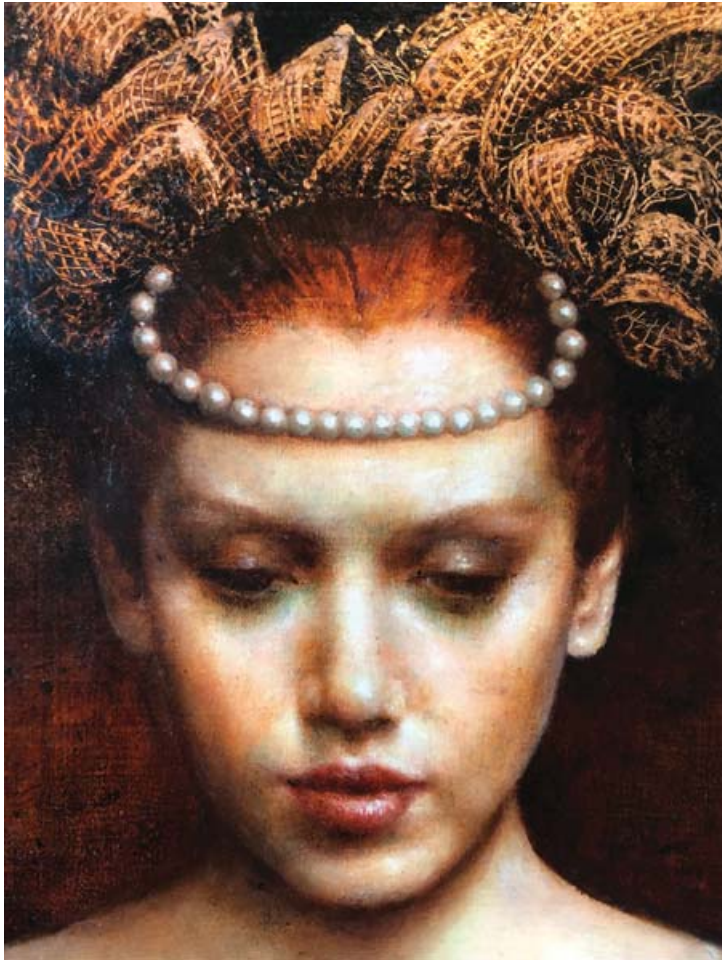
Dreaming of Winter,
38 x 33cm,
Oil on Copper Leaf
on Linen



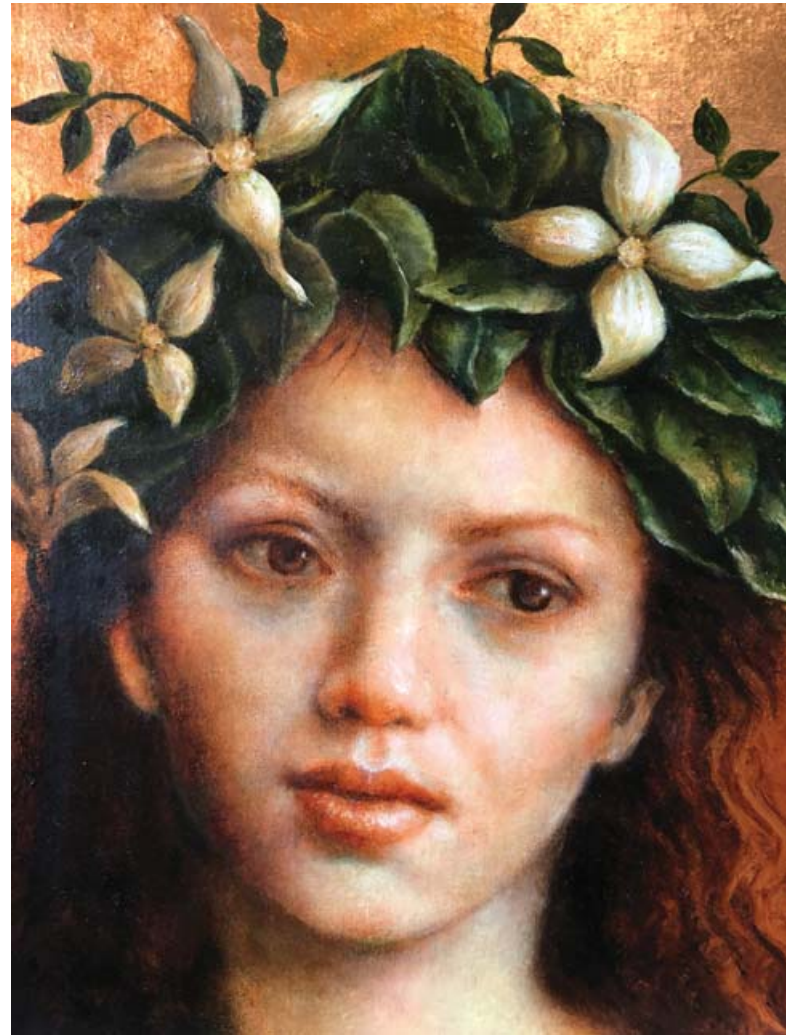
Midsummer Eve, 65 x 50cm, Oil on Metal Leaf on Canvas Board



Here's come Summer 63 x 48cm, Oil on Copper Leaf on Linen



Pearl, 31 x 23cm, Oil on Copper Leaf on Linen



If I had Forever, 36 x 30cm, Oil on Copper Leaf on Linen



Morning Star,
65 x 50cm, Oil on Metal Leaf on Canvas Board