

Emma Hart



Emma Hart

Born 1974, London, UK
Lives and works in London



Emma Hart uses her ceramic sculptures to perform, play out and question the power dynamics that structure a class-based society. Hart probes how our social background is transmitted through verbal signals and physical gestures, especially speech. Going beyond making vessels or pots, Hart's risky approach to working with ceramics pushes the technical limits of clay, setting it to make 'situations' in which the viewer finds themselves centre stage. Starting with the idea of manipulating 'signs' such as pointing fingers, speech bubbles and targets, Hart produces imposing sculptures that tell you where to look, where to go and forcibly put words into your mouth that may not form part of your own vocabulary. Her new series *Jokers* consists of 17 unique 'thumbs-up' vases, each one hand-painted in vibrant, hand-painted patterns that transform the familiar gesture into playful, functional sculpture.

In 2017, Emma Hart won the Max Mara Art Prize for Women in collaboration with the Whitechapel Gallery. In 2015 she was awarded a Paul Hamlyn Foundation award for Visual Art. In 2020 Hart was commissioned to realise her first permanent sculpture for the public entrance of the UCL East, Pool Street West building, on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Recent exhibitions include *Time for Women! Empowering Visions in 20 Years of the Max Mara Art Prize for Women*, Palazzo Strozzi, Florence, 2025; *Club Together*, Modern Art Oxford, UK, 2024; *Big Time*, Hospitalfield, Scotland, UK, 2023 and *Frieze Sculpture 2022*; *Big Mouth*, Barakat Contemporary, Seoul, South Korea 2021; *Be Some Body*, The Sunday Painter, London, UK 2020; *Banger*, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh 2018; *Mamma Mia!* Whitechapel Gallery and the Collezione Maramotti, Italy 2017; *Commercial Breakz*, Frieze Art Fair, London 2017; *Love Life with Jonathan Baldock*, Peer, London, The Grundy Gallery, Blackpool and De Le Warr Pavilion, Bexhill 2016, 2017; *Giving It All That*, Folkestone Triennial 2014; *Dirty Looks*, Camden Arts Centre 2013.





Joker (Yellow, Orange & White Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Red, Black & Purple Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Red & Teal Harlequin), 2025

Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Purple, Teal & Black Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Red, Purple & Black Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Black, White & Teal Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Orange & Pink Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Yellow, Orange & Black Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Pink, Blue & Red Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Yellow, Orange & Blue Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Black, White & Red Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Red, Blue & White Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Orange, Red & Black Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Black, White & Blue Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Blue, White & Red Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)



Joker (Red, Teal & Blue Harlequin), 2025
Ceramic, unique
Approx H 32cm x W 20cm x D 11cm
£1,250 (including VAT)