

Livingetc

These Design Cues We Spotted in Frieze Week's Coolest Projects Might Just Be Your Shortcut to a Home That Feels Like Art

By Gilda Bruno 16/10/2025

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Lifestyle editor Gilda Bruno reports back from the trenches of Frieze London, PAD, and a handful of collateral events to capture the creative moments worth stealing



Danielle Fretwell, 'Superiority', 2025 Oil on canvas, 24 x 20 in | Photo Tom Carter (detail)

For die-hard or aspiring arts connoisseurs, Frieze London and Frieze Masters are two of the most anticipated events on the cultural agenda, gathering thousands of visitors from every corner of the world to take stock of the state of creativity between past, present, and future.

While that's undoubtedly true for us, October in London and, particularly, Frieze Week, isn't just the perfect moment to catch up on some of the most captivating art and design exhibitions in London. It is also a time to explore how painting, sculpture, video, and installation can quietly reshape the domestic environment, too, by prompting us to reconsider how we interact with, decorate, and



experience the most intimate of spaces around us, whether directly or indirectly. And what better way to do so than by coming face to face with the experimentation of today's leading and burgeoning artistic talents?

With 168 galleries from over 40 countries taking part in Frieze London, the contemporary wing of Frieze fairs, and an additional cohort of some 120 platforms represented at its historical and modern sibling showcase, Frieze Masters, at The Regent's Park for the rest of this week (through October 19), The Big Smoke is once again ready to serve as the litmus test for any aesthetic and interior design trends set to define the year ahead. That's why we have spent the past 48 hours rushing about town to attend the previews of both Frieze and the coinciding premier design fair, PAD London, along with a selected series of solo gallery exhibitions, exclusive collaborations, and more: to bring you a curated edit of standout moments worth drawing inspiration from for your home.

DANIELLE FRETWELL: 'TABLESCAPES' AT ALICE AMATI — IS YOUR DINING TABLE STILL LIFE-WORTHY?



Danielle Fretwell's "Orbital (sweet cherries)" (2025), one of the oil on canvas artworks currently on view at Alice Amati as part of the artist's "Tablescapes" solo presentation. (Image credit: Tom Carter. Courtesy of Alice Amati and the artist)

Food isn't *just* food, cocktails aren't *just* cocktails in American artist Danielle Fretwell's second solo exhibition at Alice Amati, *Tablescapes*. An hypnotic collection of still life canvases with uncannily rendered shiny tea cups, serving silver trays, filled-with-fruit plates, and softly glowing candles and lamps as their protagonists, the showcase feels almost didascalic in its title. But in a way, it is the literal description of the paintings contained within it that prompts you to wonder whether, actually, there is more to the show than the eye can see. If Fretwell's ability to portray everyday settings and objects so realistically is in itself impressive, the ease with which she infuses an air of unresolved mystery into each artwork is her ultimate gift.



Dinnerware, it seems, holds stories we barely acknowledge, as do the tables it sits on, which gives us even more of a reason to curate both in our home. From the artist's evocative showcase we love (and steal): color-blocked, lacquered tabletops in colors like blue, red, and forest green; antique silverware reframed in flawless, minimal contexts like in her crab-starring *Superiority* canvas; and the space age-y, sculptural dishes at the center of her *Orbital (sweet cherries)* (2025) and *Orbital (cocktail olives)* (2025), particularly in chrome.

Read more about Danielle Fretwell's exhibition, Tablescapes, which continues beyond Frieze Week at Alice Amati through November 8.