

CHARLES BURNAND GALLERY

Presents:

The Ground of Things

Dawn Bendick in collaboration with **FJ Hakimian**

For London Craft Week, Bendick presents her first body of rugs alongside new kiln-formed glass sculptures, exploring a material dialogue between light, glass, wool and silk

On view: 7 April – 17 May 2026, Charles Burnand Gallery



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

London, UK – March 2026 – Charles Burnand Gallery presents *The Ground of Things*, a new exhibition by American, Kent-based artist Dawn Bendick, launching as part of London Craft Week (11–17 May 2026). Marking a pivotal expansion of Bendick’s practice into textile, the exhibition introduces her first body of rugs, developed in close collaboration with New York-based carpet and tapestry specialists FJ Hakimian and realised by master artisans in Nepal.

Best known for her sculptural works in glass, Bendick brings the same intensity, precision, and chromatic control to textile. Her rugs translate a sculptural way of thinking into woven form, works that occupy the ground while retaining a strong sense of volume, rhythm, and presence. Developed alongside her kiln-formed glass sculptures, the rugs explore a dialogue between materials: glass absorbing and refracting light while wool and silk respond through their own luminous qualities. Rather than functioning as accessories to the sculptures, the rugs operate as equal agents within the work, grounding the pieces physically and conceptually.

Dawn Bendick explains, “Textile has always been part of how I think. From fashion and interiors to digital sound and animation, I’ve long been interested in materials that move, shift, and respond. Working with rugs has allowed me to bring that sense of motion and structure into something grounded, a surface that holds colour, light, and time. In this work the rugs and the glass sculptures inform one another, both materials responding to light in different ways.”

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Bendick's engagement with textile spans early studies at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in New York, work within the fashion and interiors industries, and later experimentation with digital media. This trajectory led her to the Material Futures programme at Central Saint Martins, where she began working with light, programming, and glass, developing her now-signature use of dichroic materials. *The Ground of Things* draws these threads together, positioning textile not as a departure, but as a natural extension of her sculptural practice.

Alongside the rugs, the exhibition includes a number of new kiln-formed glass sculptures, the medium through which Bendick's visual language first developed. Produced in England in collaboration with specialist kiln-forming experts, Max Jacquard Glass Studio, these works provide the sculptural context from which the rug forms originate, allowing the exhibition to trace the translation of Bendick's thinking across glass and textile.



The collaboration with FJ Hakimian plays a central role in translating Bendick's sculptural language into textile. With over five decades of expertise spanning antique carpets, early twentieth-century design, and custom handmade rugs, FJ Hakimian provides both technical and historical grounding for the project. Working through their Custom Carpets programme, the rugs are produced by a Tibetan rug-making workshop in Nepal, operating within a lineage rooted in Tibetan weaving traditions that developed following Tibetan migration to Nepal in the mid-20th century.

Roxanne Hakimian, Creative Director of FJ Hakimian, comments, *"What drew us to working with Dawn was the clarity of her vision. Her understanding of colour and form translates beautifully into textile. The process became a true dialogue - between studio and loom, sculpture and surface, contemporary thinking and deeply rooted craft traditions."*

Using traditional techniques such as Senneh looping, high-altitude Tibetan sheep wool, silk, and small-batch pot dyeing, the workshop brings exceptional depth and precision to each piece. The four rugs presented in the exhibition are made from wool and silk and produced through a meticulous, multi-stage process involving many skilled hands, under recognised ethical and sustainability standards including GoodWeave certification.



The rugs are presented across two distinct groupings. *The Rock Rugs*, developed specifically for *The Ground of Things* at Charles Burnand Gallery and never previously exhibited, are offered as open editions. This group includes the *Time Rock Stack Rug*, available exclusively in the colourways shown, and the *Time Rock Boulder Rug*, available to order in

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three additional colourways developed in response to season and location. ARS wool and silk poms will be available on site to support material and colour reference.

A second group of works, the *Dawn Bendick x FJ Hakimian Rugs* - including *Pond* and *Zag* - are new additions to FJ Hakimian's line of Tibetan wool and silk rugs and are available to order as presented.



In Gallery 1, Bendick's rugs are presented in direct dialogue with her sculptural glass works. One rug is installed on the wall, immediately situating textile within the same sculptural register, while an extra-large Time Rock Stack with colour-shifting glass reinforces the lineage between form, material, and colour.

Gallery 2 expands this dialogue through a restrained material landscape bringing sculpture, textile, glass, light, and colour onto equal footing. Rugs sit alongside raw rock, plaster moulds, casting glass, and clear Perspex stacks containing yarn, wool, silk, and dyed liquid. These elements operate as material presences rather than didactic displays, allowing process to be sensed rather than explained.

Founder of Charles Burnand Gallery and exhibition curator Simon Stewart comments, *"This exhibition was conceived as a continuation rather than a shift. Dawn's work has always been about material intelligence and colour as structure. Textile allows that thinking to unfold horizontally, across space, while remaining deeply sculptural."*

Together, *The Ground of Things* offers a quietly powerful meditation on how colour, matter, and form move between mediums - and how sculptural thinking can be translated, with clarity and authority, into textile.

- ENDS -

Notes to Editors

High-resolution artwork images.

Installation images available early April.

Exhibition Details

Dates: Tuesday 7 April – Sunday 17 May 2026

London Craft Week: 11–17 May 2026

Opening Hours

Monday–Friday: 10am–6pm

London Craft Week weekend (16–17 May): 11am–5pm

Charles Burnand Gallery, 27 Whitfield Street, London W1T 2SE

Press Enquiries

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About Dawn Bendick

Dawn Bendick is an American-born, UK-based artist working across glass and textile, whose practice explores colour, light, and perception. She studied at the Maryland Institute College of Art and completed an MA in Material Futures at Central Saint Martins, London.

Known for her use of dichroic glass and transitional materials, Bendick examines the shifting relationship between natural and artificial light and the experience of time. Her work has been exhibited internationally, including at the Design Museum Gent, Le Tripostal, Lille, and the Pittsburgh Glass Center, and is held in collections such as the National Museum of Norway and the ACNE Studios collection. With a background in fashion, including work with Calvin Klein, Prada, and WGSN, textile and materiality remain central to her practice.

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About FJ Hakimian

Founded over 50 years ago, FJ Hakimian is a leading New York-based gallery specialising in antique carpets, tapestries, and exceptional hand-made rugs from the world's major weaving traditions. Renowned for its pioneering collections of Art Deco and early twentieth-century design carpets, the gallery has played a key role in advancing the appreciation of historic and modern textile works.

In 2001, FJ Hakimian launched its Custom Carpets programme, developing contemporary, hand-made rugs in collaboration with artists and designers. Its collections have since expanded to include Moroccan tribal weavings, hand-woven fabrics, and plant fibre mats produced by artisans across South America and South Africa, reflecting a continued commitment to craftsmanship, material excellence, and innovation. 145 E 57th St, New York, New York 10022

www.fjhakimian.com | [@fj_hakimian](#)

About Charles Burnand Gallery

Charles Burnand Gallery champions collectible design and Art Furniture that fuses radical material integrity, emotional resonance, and intellectual rigour. Founded in 2009 by Simon Stewart, the gallery presents both emerging and established contemporary artists and designers, curating monumental, sculptural works that push the boundaries of function, perception, and craft.

Known for its forward-thinking programme and sculptural focus, Charles Burnand Gallery exhibits internationally at leading fairs including Design Miami, PAD London, Salon Art + Design, and Collect Art Fair. Alongside its exhibition programme, the gallery operates an in-house design and production studio, delivering bespoke commissions through a global network of master artisans.

Charles Burnand Gallery continues to shape the future landscape of contemporary collectible design and Art Furniture.

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