

Anna-Rose Stéfátou  
*Glow-in-the-dark Stars and Blu Tack*  
24 January – 15 March 2025  
PV: Thursday 23 January, 6–8pm



Image credit: Anna-Rose Stéfátou, *Glow-in-the-dark Stars and Blu Tack I*, 2025. Image courtesy of the artist.

San Mei Gallery is delighted to host a solo presentation by Athens-based artist Anna-Rose Stéfátou in our public-facing window gallery.

This presentation features a new series of photographic works that reference the ritual of coffee reading and occult diagrammatic constellations. Overlaying photographic print onto photoluminescent paper, framed by hand-embossed metal, the works reveal and conceal themselves as the window lighting changes.

Much like the hauntings of an image hovering in the back of the eye's retina, obfuscating our vision of what we actually see, the disparate yet interlinked symbolic visual and diagrammatic languages in Stéfátou's works open up a space where our own beliefs can start to take hold. Through her process of gathering and repositioning various forms of knowledge and knowledge sharing, Stéfátou accumulates research from archival footage, interviews, collected objects, and location visits. Interested in the motifs of constellations and mapping, and how they are informed by lore, rituals, and contemporary narratives, this body of work overlays references to multiple disparate belief systems, from the religious to the occult to the scientific.

As the title *Glow-in-the-dark Stars and Blu Tack* hints at, the craft-based materiality of the works is left evident rather than concealed. Several works play with the materiality of embossed orthodox iconographic imagery produced from the 1980s onwards, often found decorating Greek Orthodox homes and made on cheaply pressed tin to mimic silver. Just as the grains of coffee are only imbued with deeper significance through the reader's interpretations and the receiver's choice to take or leave the signs, the artwork offers itself to be taken at face value or with the mystery imbued by its shifting image appearing from the dark like a floating wavering mirage.

## Sales

All the artworks in this exhibition are for sale. As a non-profit organisation, any profits generated through sales are directly reinvested in San Mei Gallery's ongoing artistic and educational programmes.

For sales enquiries, please contact [rufus@sanmeigallery.co.uk](mailto:rufus@sanmeigallery.co.uk).

## Artist biography

Anna-Rose Stéfátou (b.1996, Athens) is a Greek-British artist based between Athens and London, working between moving image, installation, photography, and writing. Stéfátou's interdisciplinary works attend to stories attached to place and beginning to exist through writing, whether they become a structure to hold it, or whether language simply runs through them. Language is used both as an outset and as a distillation mechanism for ideas, with materials and imagery in visual works responding directly to the text. Gathering and repositioning knowledge guides her creative process: research includes archival footage, taking interviews, collecting objects, and location visits. This process is made visible through her material approach to the photographic image, transformed through different materials, forms and uses, as it unfolds and re-invents itself within new contexts. Stéfátou graduated from the Slade School of Fine Art in 2019. Recently, she undertook a residency at Hospitalfield House, Scotland in 2023. Upcoming projects include an exhibition at Pharmakeion, Athens in 2025 as well as a publication *Dregs, Beacons* that will be realised in 2025.

## Notes to editors

For further information and high resolution images please contact:  
Eleanor Wang, [eleanor@sanmeigallery.co.uk](mailto:eleanor@sanmeigallery.co.uk)

## San Mei Gallery

San Mei Gallery is an independent non-profit space for contemporary art in South London, committed to research-led, educational and collaborative exchanges. Operating with an artist-led approach, we support artists and curators to experiment with new ideas.

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## Support

Drinks at the opening reception are kindly provided by Brixton Brewery.

