

# Rowena's House Warming

**Host Artist:** Rowena Liangru Lu

**Date:** Sep 13th - 21st, 2025

**Address:** Rowena's Living Room, (6 Hester Road, London, SW11 4AL)

**A very homy exhibition in artist's own home,  
and, an actual House-Warming.**

**Experience design where it belongs:**

**"After all, where else should furniture live, if not in a home?"**



As part of LDF 2025, Rowena Liangru Lu will present her new works from 2024-2025 in exhibition: Rowena's House Warming, hosted in her home / studio on Hester Road, upstairs of Royal College of Art (Battersea).

Well, it is an exhibition, and an actual House Warming (relatively quiet) Party.

The main body of works comes from Serious Play, a furniture and home accessory series she began in 2022 and has since developed into a personal language of material and form.

She wrote then:

" Serious Play series started from my research in IKEA and consumerism. With an intention of bringing autonomy back to shopping experience, I proposed to shop in IKEA as shopping in a DIY store.

Supported by: Museum Room



& Studio Eastedge



Partner with: London Design Festival



The materials I used are PYSSLA beads, a type of toys that are commonly played in America and Europe. Kids are instructed to place the beads orderly on a pin board to make a pattern, and then iron it, after cooling down, the pattern is settled, kids can then take the pattern as a decoration. As an Asian kid, when I first saw them in Ikea, I didn't know the 'correct way of playing' with it. I was just intrigued by the scene of particles with different colours squeezing together.

The beads stayed on my desk in RCA studio for a long time, till one day my friend Raya placed her heat gun on my desk, and out of boredom, I blew the beads with the heat gun in a baking mould. Beads melted, stuck to other beads, became bigger and bigger entity. Soon it exceeded the baking mould, I started looking for bigger and bigger moulds.

I was soon banned by RCA's security guard due to health & safety hazard, so I had to move the 'beads lab' back home. I grabbed everything I had that could be used as moulds: wok, pan, boiler, baking tray, chair legs, lamp shade, vases, coke can, wine bottle... I borrowed shapes from those daily objects, as if I borrowed part of their souls, as if I preserved some souls of my daily life. I assembled shapes from different objects together, turned them into new 'object beings'."

**The obsession with casting beads on daily objects lasted. Since 2024, Rowena has considered this way of making she invented as a new craft, with what she calls the "natural" materials of 21st century: plastic. With this mindset, Rowena started to borrow tools and techniques often used in well-established crafts, like ceramics and glass-making, to expand the potential of plastic beads crafting.**

**No work is born out of the blue. Here, you will see not only Rowena's new furniture and paintings, but also the tools and materials she uses, the sketches she draws, the books she reads, the food she eats, the music she listens to – connecting points from her daily life to her creation. Here, you will see the works in the exact setting where they accompany Rowena's daily life.**

**After all, speaking about showing furniture pieces, is there anywhere better than showing it at the actual home? After all, where else should furniture live, if not in a home?**

**Appointment (for public) via: <https://rowena.me/>**

**Shop: <https://rowena.me/shoproom>**

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### **About Living Room:**

Rowena has long been questioning the line between private and public space. In 2021, inspired by Virginia Woolf's A Room of One's Own, she co-founded Museum Room with her family.

As part of Museum Room, Living Room is an art & design salon that brings people together through conversation-driven events – from seminars and workshops to film screenings, all within the realms of art, design, and craft. Rowena's House Warming marks the launch of Living Room, with many more events to come. Save the booking page and stay tuned!

## **About Rowena Liangru Lu:**

Rowena Liangru Lu (born 1997) is a London-based interdisciplinary artist and maker, originally from Rizhao, China. Rowena is an artist who constantly flirts with the design world by creating artworks about design, her mediums span from furniture, painting to exhibition, toy...

Rowena holds a BA in Industrial Design from Emily Carr university of Art and Design (Vancouver), a MA with distinction in Design Products from Royal College of Art (London), and she's currently a PhD candidate in Communication Research, Royal College of Art, where she explores toys as a medium for storytelling.

As an artist, she has exhibited internationally in more than 30 exhibitions, has been sponsored by the Swatch Art Foundation for its residency programme, and is now represented by Yuan Museum in Beijing. As a designer, she founded Studio Eastedge, and has been recognised by French Design Award. As a curator, her clients range from NGOs to tech companies, as well as medias including Marie Claire.

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to Editors**

**For further information, images or to arrange media preview / interviews please contact:**

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### **For other works / portfolio please visit:**

<https://rowena.me/museum-room>