

ivorypress

Ivorypress Gallery presents

HANNAH COLLINS

*the fragile feast*



Hannah Collins | Portrait of Ferran Adrià | Courtesy Ivorypress

**Exhibition:** From 12 January to 4 February 2012

**Venue:** Ivorypress Gallery C/ Comandante Zorita 46 (Madrid)

**Official Opening:** 12 January 2012, 7.30 pm

**Launch of the book *The Fragile Feast*:** 24 January 2012, 7.00 pm with Hannah Collins and the Chef Ferran Adrià at Ivorypress Bookshop C/ Comandante Zorita 48 (Madrid)

On 12 January 2012, Ivorypress Art + Books Space II is opening *The Fragile Feast*, an exhibition by the photographer Hannah Collins (London, 1956). Following a series of conversations with Ferran Adrià — founder of the restaurant elBulli — on the importance of sourcing the perfect ingredients, with the maximum quality, the British artist set out on a journey through Europe, Latin America and Japan to photograph thirty of those carefully chosen ingredients from Adrià's cuisine. The project has been sponsored by Fundacion Banco de Sabadell.

Memory and background are key in understanding the creations of this chef, as one can appreciate in the images coming from Collins' culinary voyage. The photos capture the place of origin, the process of transformation and the preparation in the kitchen of each one of the ingredients, most of which are produced by small family-run businesses.

In documenting the creation of 35 dishes by the world-renowned Catalan chef, the photographer has portrayed anemones from Cadiz, kudzu from Japan, honey from nomadic bees in Italy, or pines from the Pyrenees, among other raw materials. In this process, these local delicacies are co-opted into a much wider culinary language.

'Whenever we analyse a dish or a style, we focus on composition and techniques, even on the precision in the combination of products, but you rarely stop to think that there is a story behind each ingredient', Ferrán Adrià explains when describing Collins' photographic commission. 'And that is precisely what Hannah has done: to portray the behind-the-scenes of each one of these ingredients, to follow the thread of a whole series of emblematic products all the way back to the origin, each one with its own specific area, people who have worked with it for a long time, very often following techniques and processes handed down from generation to generation,' he adds.

The outcome of this work by Hannah Collins are 250 photos, a selection of which can be seen at Ivorypress Art + Books Space II until 4 February 2012. Banco Sabadell has sponsored the Spanish edition of the book and this exhibition, which was seen at the Banco Herrero art centre in Oviedo in 2011. At once, Collins' work is the subject of a book published by Hatje Cantz, to be launched on 24 January at Ivorypress in the presence of the artist and Ferran Adrià. Together with the photos, each ingredient in the book is accompanied by a text describing the work of the hunters, farmers or gathers behind it, as well as maps pinpointing the origins of the products.



For further information, interviews and image request:

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