

Lucy Orta.

"The Lost Species", Mallorca- Ibiza 2022, MARLANDS Hand-coiled terracotta, glaze, engobe, gold luster, hand-blown glass, Height 2,5 m Workshop: 2-3 hours

The Lost Species: Corallium rubrum It is colorful long coral chain, which optimistically affirms life on this planet, but at the same time shows its fragility through the materials used – ceramic and glass. For Marlands, 'The Lost Species' project focuses on the loss of biodiversity and the cultural and symbolic meanings of species endemic to the Mediterranean islands. Corallium rubrum ("red gold") has held religious and apotropaic meanings for millennia. Even today amulets and good luck charms are offered to infants and newlyweds across the Mediterranean. The chain takes inspiration from Phocaea coins (600 BC) depicting the Mediterranean monk seal swimming with strings of pearls.

The Lost Species: Sphâ Known under many guises as the sea-calf, sea wolf, fin-foot, monk, or phoca, the monk seal *Monachus monachus* has occupied a special place across Mediterranean culture, myth and folklore yet it has been consistently persecuted throughout history. The recent deliberate killing by fishermen, alongside the destruction of its natural habitats due to tourism and urbanisation, has pushed the marine mammal to the verge of extinction, with around 400 couples recorded across the Mediterranean. The title of this work is taken from the Sanskrit sphâ, meaning to swell up. The sculptural representation of a beached seal (adult and child) have been moulded using the traditional technique of hand-coiled terracotta chamotte pots.



The Lost Species: Corallium Rubrum, 2022



The Lost Species: Sphâ, 2022