

Matèria

FRIEZE SEOUL 2026

Bekhbaatar Enkhtur



FOCUS SECTION

Booth F12

ABOUT THE GALLERY

Based in the neighbourhood of San Lorenzo in Rome, Matèria opened its doors to the public in 2015. The gallery proposes an exhibition programme that touches upon all aspects of Contemporary Art. Since its founding, Matèria's purpose has been the furthering and development of the work of its selected group of Artists. The gallery programme features four exhibitions per calendar year, conceived and produced directly with its artists and often in dialogue with the space through a site specific approach. Matèria's gallery shows strive to further the research and experimentation aspects of artistic practice, with the results of this approach often showcased in a growing list of Italian and international art fairs.

Matèria represents the work of Fabio Barile, Karen Knorr, Mario Cresci, Chen Xiaoyi, Giuseppe De Mattia, Sunil Gupta, Marta Mancini, Joachim Lenz, Francisca Valador, Stefano Canto, Bekhbaatar Enkhtur, and Maïmouna Guerresi.



Bekhbaatar Enkhtur, *Imagining for Real* (solo show). Exhibition view, Matèria, Rome, 2023

BEKHBAATAR ENKHTUR

Bekhbaatar Enkhtur (Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, 1994) studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna. He has been an artist in residence at KORA - Contemporary Arts Center (Castrignano De' greci - LE), MAMbo - Museo d'Arte Moderna di Bologna (Bologna), Manifattura Tabacchi (Florence), Fondazione Lanfranco Baldi (Pelago - FI), Dolomiti Contemporanee (Borca di Cadore - BL), and The Ekard Residency (The Netherlands). He has exhibited in galleries, non-profit spaces, and institutions. He is the winner of the 2023 illy Present Future Prize at Artissima and the recipient of the 2024 Future Generation Art Prize Special Award. He is represented by Matèria and Pedro Cera. He currently lives and works in Turin.

Recent solo shows include: Tinct, Pedro Cera Gallery, Madrid, ES (2025); Tempra, ie edificio57, San Gimignano, IT (2025); Hearsay, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, IT (2024); Flux, Pedro Cera Gallery, Lisbon, PT (2024); Imagining for Real, curated by Enrico Camprini, Matèria, Rome, IT (2023); Oasis, a project curated by Ramdom in collaboration with Fondazione Elpis, KORA - Contemporary Arts Center, Castrignano De' greci (LE), IT (2022); Fuocherello, curated by Gabriele Tosi, Fonderia Artistica de Carli, Volvera (TO), IT (2021); Cambio della guardia, curated by Localedue, Bologna, IT (2021); Tsam Marktstudio, Bologna, IT (2021); Zuult (Una boccata d'arte), Borgo Valbelluna (BL), IT (2020).

Recent group shows include: Animacies, KUNST MERAN MERANO ARTE, Merano, IT (2026); QUI.Kora, KORA - Contemporary Arts Center, Castrignano de' Greci, Lecce, IT (2026); Atlas of Mythology, curated by Kasia Sobczak, Goyki 3 Art Incubator, Sopot, PL (2026); When the Center Moves, curated by Chiara Zampetti Egidì and Darkhijav Jadambaa, Zanabazar Museum of Fine Art, Ulaanbaatar, MN (2026); Invocazioni. Divenire Animale., curated by Benedetta Casini, BIENALSUR, Milano, IT (2025); What the Eye Brought Back, P420, Bologna, IT (2025); Recipes for Broken Hearts - Bukhara Biennial, curated by Diana Campbell, Bukhara, UZ (2025); Survival Kit 16: House of See-More, curated by Slavs and Tatars and Michał Grzegorzek, Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art, Riga, LV (2025); Musafiri: Of Travellers and Guests, HKW, Berlin, DE (2025); 10 on Paper, Matèria, Rome, IT (2025); Shortlisted artists of the Future Generation Art Prize 2024, PinchukArtCentre, Kyiv, UA (2024); Sleep!, Kunsthal KAdE, Amersfoort, NL (2024); La sostanza agitata, curated by Saverio Verini, Palazzo Collicola, Spoleto (PG), IT (2023); Anthropocene, curated by Vladimir Sludskiy, Artbat Festival, Almaty, KZ (2023); Enkthur - Francesconi - Siedlecki, curated by Enrico Camprini, Galleria de' Foscherari, Bologna, IT (2023); Chi ghe pi Nisün! (Qui non c'è più Nessuno!), in collaboration with Ramdom, Fondazione Elpis, Milan, IT (2023); Fiammiferai, curated by Gabriele Tosi, Fuocherello, Volvera (TO), IT (2023); Biscotto, curated by Thomas Ba, spazio contemporanea, Brescia, IT (2023); An Ocean Standing, Lc Queisser Gallery, Tbilisi, GE (2022); Il rituale del serpente, Animali, simboli e trasformazioni, Ex Convento di San Francesco, Bagnacavallo (RA), IT (2021); Room 114 XY, curated by Massimo Bartolini, CAR DRDE, Bologna, IT (2019); La pratica quotidiana, Oratorio di San Sebastiano, Forlì, IT (2019); Un anno lungo un giorno, Centro Pecci, Prato, IT (2019); Tragitti divaganti, distrazioni da una meta, curated by Davide Ferri and Francesca Bertazzoni, P420, Bologna, IT (2018).

In 2025, Enkhtur was included in Recipes for Broken Hearts, the first edition of the Bukhara Biennial, curated by Diana Campbell (Bukhara, UZ), and in BIE-NALSUR (Milan, IT).

FRIEZE SEOUL 2026

For Frieze Seoul 2026, Matèria presents a solo booth by Bekhbaatar Enkhtur (b. 1994, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia), featuring a selection of new, unseen works conceived and produced specifically for the fair.

The presentation includes drawings on sandpaper, beeswax lotus sculptures, mixed media works on canvas and pewter sculptural compositions. Together, these works reflect Enkhtur's ongoing exploration of transformation, impermanence, and the material processes through which images and forms emerge.

A central reference in the presentation is the artist's memory of the domestic altar as a site of ambiguity and exchange, where objects appear animated by invisible forces. This informs his drawing practice, in which repetitive gestures of marking and erasing on sandpaper generate images that seem to surface gradually from within the material. Faces and figures emerge in a state of instability, oscillating between appearance and disappearance.

This interest in the emergence of images also informs a the artist's distinctive pewter sculptures comprising of a single wall installation. Their point of departure is the Mongolian Shireg ritual, in which the shape of a child's fear is read in molten pewter, and the Bardo Thodol (Tibetan Book of the Dead), where fear takes the form of hybrid deities encountered in the intermediate state between death and rebirth. Although the sculptures belong to neither tradition, they draw on the shared gesture that underlies both: giving form to what terrifies so that it can be seen. Cast in pewter, these ambiguous figures resist fixed interpretation. Neither fully recognizable nor entirely abstract, neither protective nor threatening, they inhabit a suspended state in which fear has acquired form but not yet meaning.

The beeswax lotus sculptures extend these concerns into three-dimensional space. Built around modified steel mountaineering crampons, the works combine beeswax with industrial metal structures. Installed directly on the floor, they introduce a spatial counterpoint to the drawings and pewter sculptures, emphasizing the relationship between organic and industrial materials, as well as processes of transformation, construction, and decay. Beeswax also plays a central role in a new series of mixed media works on canvas, presented here for the first time. Bringing together the tactile and transformative qualities of the material with painting, underscoring Enkhtur's ability to move fluidly between mediums while preserving a coherent visual language rooted in material transformation, ritual association, and fragmented memory.

Lotus flower #01 - #09

2026

Beeswax, modified steel mountaineering crampon

Approx. 20 x 13 x 15 cm (each)

9 sculptures, offered in sets of 3

€ 6500 + VAT, if applicable (3 sculptures*)

*Variable dimensions available upon request for collectors wishing to develop a larger-scale installation or spatial configuration of multiple sculptures, as presented at the fair.





Lotus flower #01



Lotus flower #01



Lotus flower #02



Lotus flower #02



Lotus flower #03



Lotus flower #03



Lotus flower #04



Lotus flower #04



Lotus flower #05



Lotus flower #05



Lotus flower #06



Lotus flower #06



Lotus flower #07



Lotus flower #07



Lotus flower #08



Lotus flower #08



Lotus flower #09



Lotus flower #09

Untitled

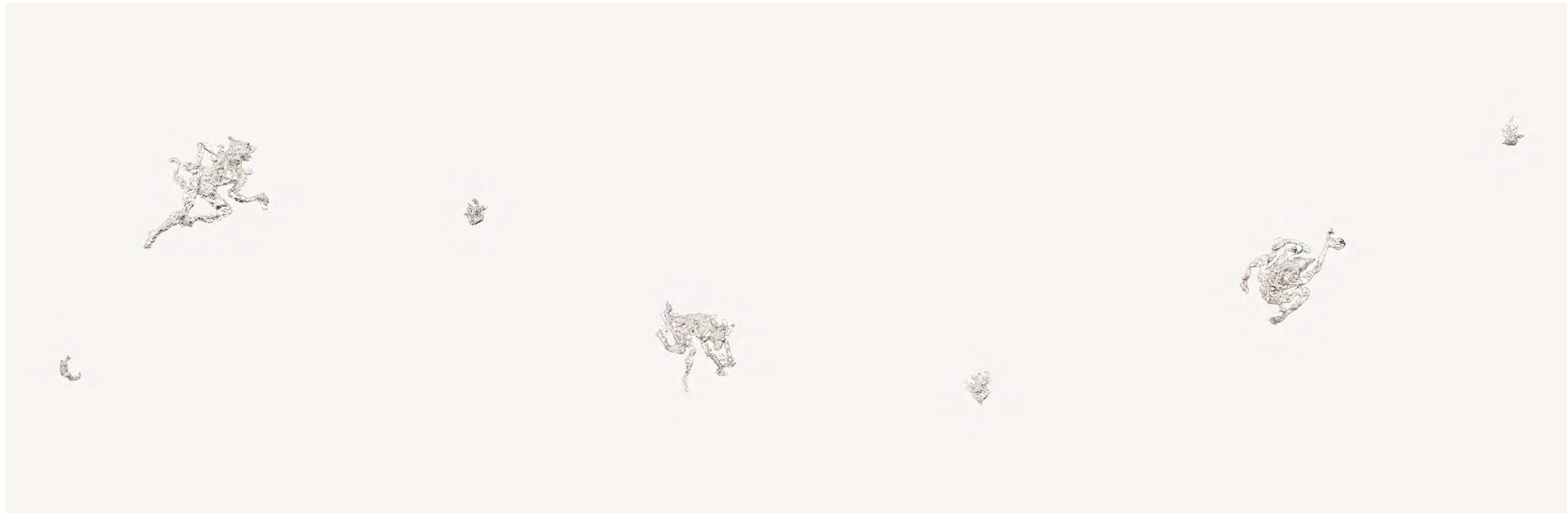
2026

Pewter

7 sculptures - Variable dimentions

€ 15000 + VAT, if applicable







42 x 31 x 2,5 cm





32 x 20 x 2,5 cm





33 x 30 x 2,5 cm



Untitled

2026

Colored pencil on sandpaper

9 drawings

28 x 23 cm (each)

€ 8500 + VAT, if applicable

















Untiled
2026

Beeswax and pigments on canvas

30 x 40 x 2 cm

€ 3500 + VAT, if applicable





Untiled

2026

Beeswax and pigments on canvas

30 x 40 x 2 cm

€ 3500 + VAT, if applicable



Untiled
2026

Beeswax and pigments on canvas

30 x 40 x 2 cm

€ 3500 + VAT, if applicable



BEKHBAATAR ENKHTUR

Bekhbaatar Enkhtur's sculptural work delves into the mythological and cultural heritage of Mongolia. His practice embraces the multifaceted nature of sculpture, while also engaging more broadly with the processes through which matter is shaped, and how it interacts with space and the viewer. By deeply exploring the transformative potential of materials, Enkhtur crafts layered narratives that intertwine cultural memory with a contemporary sensibility.

His works reveal an ongoing exploration of the threshold between the familiar and the unknown, inviting viewers to engage with overlapping layers of belief, tradition, and material presence. Although references to Mongolian history and culture are a recurring thread in his work, the core of Enkhtur's artistic vision centers on ideas of transience, transformation, and rebirth.

These themes are embodied in the materiality of his sculptures, drawings, and engravings - created using beeswax, clay, and the delicate surfaces of aluminum or copper. Through these media, Enkhtur investigates impermanence, drawing attention to the fleeting nature of all objects and underscoring the idea that all experiences, phenomena, and states of being are inherently subject to change or eventual disappearance.

At the heart of his research is a meditation on change as a fundamental condition of existence. Over time, every object and being sheds its original meaning, only to take on new significance, new functions. Energy, rather than vanishing, shifts and transforms. And while meaning may evolve, essence endures.

Enkhtur's practice seeks to reveal the innate qualities of his chosen materials - both organic and inorganic - endowing them with a quiet, perceptible vitality that transcends their physical form.

BEKHBAATAR ENKHTUR	
(1994, Ulaanbaatar, MN, lives and works in Turin, IT)	
SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS	
2025	Tinct, Pedro Cera Gallery, Madrid, ES Tempra, curated by Gabriele Tosi, ie edificio57, San Gimignano, IT
2024	Hearsay, Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo, Turin, IT Flux, Galeria Pedro Cera, Lisbon, PT
2023	Imagining for Real, curated by Enrico Camprini, Matèria, Rome, IT
2022	Oasis, curated by Ramdom, in collaboration with Fondazione Elpis (Milan), KORA - Contemporary Arts Center, Castrignano De’ greci (LE), IT
2021	Fuocherello, curated by Gabriele Tosi, Fonderia artistica de Carli, Volvera (TO), IT Cambio della guardia, curated by Gabriele Tosi and Flippo Tappi, historical garden of Villino Giulia, Bologna, IT Tsam, curated by Marktstudio, text by Enrico Camprino, MARKT studio, Bologna, IT
2020	Zuult, exhibition project curated by Giovanni Paolin within Una boccata d’arte, a project by Fondazione Elpis in collaboration with Galleria Continua, Borgo Valbelluna (BL), IT

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2026	Animacies, KUNST MERAN MERANO ARTE, Merano, IT QUI.Kora, KORA - Contemporary Arts Center, Castrignano de’ Greci, Lecce, IT Atlas of Mythology, curated by Kasia Sobczak, Goyki 3 Art Incubator, Sopot, PL When the Center Moves, curated by Chiara Zampetti Egidi and Darkhijav Jadambaa, Zanabazar Museum of Fine Art, Ulaanbaatar, MN
2025	Invocazioni. Divenire Animale., curated by Benedetta Casini, BIENALSUR, Milan, IT What the Eye Brought Back, P420, Bologna, IT Recipes for Broken Hearts - Bukhara Biennial, curated by Diana Campbell, Bukhara, UZ Survival Kit 16: House of See-More, curated by Slavs and Tatars and Michał Grzegorzek, Latvian Centre for Contemporary Art, Riga, LV Musafiri: Of Travellers and Guests, HKW, Berlin, DE

	BLUE SUN, MAXI.kunst, Nurnberg, DE 10 on Paper, Matèria, Rome, IT
2024	Shortlisted artists of the Future Generation Art Prize 2024, PinchukArtCentre, Kyiv, UA Sleep!, Kunsthall KAdE, Amersfoort, NL
2023	La sostanza agitata, curated by Saverio Verini, Palazzo Collicola, Spoleto (PG), IT Anthropocene, curated by Vladimir Sludskiy, Artbat Festival, Almaty, KZ Enkthur – Francesconi – Siedlecki, curated by Enrico Camprini, Galleria de’ Foscherari, Bologna, IT Chi ghe pi Nisün! (Qui non c’è più Nessuno!), in collaboration with Ramdom, Fondazione Elpis, Milan, IT Fiammiferai, curated by Gabriele Tosi, Fuocherello, Volvera (TO), IT Biscotto, curated by Thomas Ba, spazio contemporanea, Brescia, IT
2022	An Ocean Standing, Lc Queisser gallery, Tbilisi, GE Who Killed Bambi? Dolomiti Contemporane, curated by Gianluca D’incà Levis, Borca di cadore (BL), IT
2021	Il rituale del serpente. Animali, simboli e trasformazioni, curated by Velentina Rossi and Viola Emaldi, Bagnacavallo (RA), IT Colle desiderio, Traffic festival delle anime gentili, curated by Bianca R.Schröder, San Lorenzo in campo (PU), IT
2020	Room 114 XY, curated by Massimo Bartolini, CAR DRDE Gallery, Bologna, IT La pratica quotidiana, curated by Davide Ferri, Ipercorpo, Oratorio di San Sebastiano, Forlì, IT Nomadiuk, Un giorno, un luogo, curated by Pier Luigi Tazzi, Pecci Museum, Prato, IT
2018	Tragitti di vaganti, distrazioni da una meta, curated by Davide Ferri, P420, Bologna, IT

ARTIST RESIDENCIES AND PRIZES

2025	The Ekard Residency, The Netherlands, NL
2024	Future Generation Art Prize (Special Prize), Kyiv, UA
2023	illy Present Future Prize, Artissima 2023, Turin, IT
2022	A Sud Di Marte, KORA - Contemporary Arts Center, in collaboration with Fondazione Elpis, Castrignano De’ greci (LE), IT
2021	Dolomiti Contemporanee, curated by Giovanni Paolin and Gianluca D’incà Levis, Borca di cadore (BL), IT Art4Future Award by UniCredit Art Management, Nuovo Forno del Pane, MAMbo – Museo d’Arte Moderna di Bologna, Bologna, IT
2020	Nuovo forno del pane, curated by Lorenzo Balbi, MAMbo – Museo d’Arte Moderna di Bologna, Bologna, IT
2019	La Meraviglia, curated by Sergio Risaliti, Manifattura Tabacchi di Firenze, Florence, IT
2018	Making of an Artist, as Nomadiuk, curated by Pier Luigi Tazzi, Fondazione Lanfranco Baldi, Pelago (FI), IT

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

MAO - Museum of Oriental Art, Turin, IT
KORA - Contemporary Arts Center, Castrignano de’ Greci, Lecce, IT
UniCredit Art Collection, IT
Cheng-Lan Foundation, HK

PUBLICATIONS

2023 Imagining for Real, edited by Bahut Studio, produced by Matèria, Rome, IT
2021 Nuovo Forno del Pane - A Logbook, curated by Caterina Molteni, Bologna, IT
 Il rituale del serpente. Animali, simboli e trasformazioni, curated by Viola Emaldi and Valentina Rossi, Danilo Montanari Editore, Ravenna, IT
2020 Una Boccata d’Arte: 20 artists 20 villages 20 regions, curated by Marina Nissim - Fondazione Elpis, Milano, IT
 La Meraviglia, curated by Sergio Risalti, Manifattura Tabacchi, Florence, IT
2018 Making of an Artist 3, curated by Francesca Bertazzoni, produced by Fondazione Lanfranco Baldi onlus, Pelago (FI), IT