

For Immediate Release

Sóla Saar

92 Tarot Collages and a Dollhouse

17 January – 14 March 2026

Opening Reception: Saturday, January 17th, 5:00 – 7:00pm

Walter Maciel Gallery is pleased to present *92 Tarot Collages and a Dollhouse* by Los Angeles based artist and writer, Sóla Saar marking her first solo show with our gallery. Our exhibition contains two interconnected bodies of work, *Solita Tarot Deck* and *The Dollhouse: Pain, Pleasure, and the Four Elements*, both of which explore systems of symbolism, ritual, and psychological archetypes. With the use of collage and immersive sculptural environments, the exhibition examines how myth, astrology and the natural elements intersect with desire, identity, and transformation. Together, these works create a cosmology that is uncanny and deeply introspective.

The *Solita Tarot* series consists of 92 original analog collages representing the 78 cards of a traditional tarot deck, some with two versions to expand on the themes explored in the cards. Drawing inspiration from the Rider-Waite and Thoth decks, the collages maintain fidelity to early tarot symbolism while adopting a surrealistic and cheeky tone. Imagery sourced from classical mythology, Old Hollywood, vintage girly magazines, and the natural world is layered to create compositions that feel both familiar and subversive.

Beginning with The Fool and ending with The World, each Major Arcana Tarot card is a step in a metaphorical journey towards self fulfilment. In this deck, the journey continues and dialogues with the 56 Minor Arcana cards, which incorporate motifs of snakes, jewels, floral material, feathers, and natural elements such as shells. In this deck, the suit of wands is represented by feathers, emphasizing the nature of flight. The suit of cups is represented by shells and mushrooms, nature's version of the traditional chalice. Pressed flowers are incorporated into several cards that correlate to rebirth and growth, such as the Ten of Swords, traditionally associated with ruin and bloodshed, and the Hanged Man, a card featuring a man in a state of crucifixion. A complete 78-card tarot deck featuring printed images of the original collages is also available in a limited edition.

In the dollhouse installation, a room is devoted to each of the four natural elements (air, fire, water, and earth), as well as pleasure and pain. The elements also correlate to the twelve astrological signs and the four suits in the Tarot deck. Swords represent the element of air, which is associated with intellect, and the zodiac signs Libra, Aquarius, and Gemini. Wands represent fire, which is associated with energy and the zodiac signs of Aries, Sagittarius, and Leo. The suit of cups represents the element of water, which is associated with emotion, and the zodiac signs Cancer, Pisces, and Scorpio. The suit of pentacles represents Earth, which is associated with the material world, and the zodiac signs Capricorn, Taurus, and Virgo.

The pleasure room is an absurdist baroque brothel, complete with miniature sex toys, champagne bottles, erotic art and general decadence. It is the polar opposite of the pain room, which incorporates themes of sadomasochism, the inevitable passage of time (as shown by the multitude of cuckoo clocks), and drab decor. Upstairs, the air room is intentionally simple, intending to evoke celestial purity and peace. A solitary woman plays a ukulele surrounded by lace, mirrors and shells. The fire room portrays a homicidal maid in a fit of mania. Books on the occult, spells and poison litter the red velvet floor, as though she is in the midst of plotting someone's downfall. Fire rages behind her, intending to evoke energy in its most extreme form. Downstairs, the water room incorporates symbols of emotion, such as piano music, blue calming hues, and the Yemaya figure. It is intended as a kind of altar. The earth room, surrealistically covered in moss, reflects the untouched landscape of nature. The outside of the colonial style dollhouse is painted black and adorned with miniature charms- skeleton keys, Milagros, and other vintage pieces that give the historical dollhouse a spiritualist twist.

Sóla Saar is a collage artist, arts writer, and novelist. She completed her undergraduate degree at University of California, Berkeley and received her MFA in Fiction from Columbia University in 2018. Saar's tarot card deck will be shown at The Morgan Library and Museum in New York later this year. Her collages have been included in exhibitions at Harkawik, Roberts Projects, Orange County Center for Contemporary Art, Dominique Gallery, and Head2Head Salon.