

Galerie MINIMASTERPIECE



COMMUNIQUÉ DE PRESSE

# SOPHIA VARI

*Free*

Exhibition from February 3 to March 25, 2023  
Opening Thursday February 2 from 5 to 8 PM



**Sophia Vari**

Necklace « Chios »

Cork painted green, red wool end golden brass

32 x 27 x 6 cm

2022, Unique

© MiniMasterpiece

For her fourth exhibition at the MiniMasterpiece gallery, **Sophia Vari** has chosen to reveal a completely new set of 15 jewelry-sculptures made between 2020 and 2022 in the privacy of her studio.

Allowing herself for the first time the use of natural materials - leather and cork - **Sophia Vari** worked in total freedom, without constraint of volume or weight. The result is breathtaking in strength, creativity and audacity. Inspired by ethnic sculptures and freed from more complex production constraints (mold, cast iron, cutting, etc.) which require numerous intermediate interventions, the artist was able to develop her imagination as she wished. Since her first tests in 2020 on corks from red wine bottles, the composition of jewelry has become more complex at the cost of demanding daily physical experimentation. In the end, a set of necklace, pendants, bracelet, rings and earrings of XXL size and unbridled sophistication.

**Sophia Vari**, free!

HD IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST  
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**Sophia Vari**  
Ring « *Ikaria* »  
Black leather, cork  
and golden brass  
7 x 4,5 x 5 cm  
2022, Unique  
© MiniMasterpiece



**Sophia Vari**

Earrings « *Folegandros* »

Cork, golden sterling silver and golden brass

10,5 x 5 x 2,7 cm each

2022, Unique

© MiniMasterpiece



**Sophia Vari**  
Necklace « *Tinos* »  
Black leather  
and golden brass  
37 x 28 x 6 cm  
2022, Unique



© Richard Gianorio

Born in Athens to a Greek father and a Hungarian mother in 1940, **Sophia Vari** is a painter and sculptor. She lives and works in Monaco, Italy and Greece. She is married to Colombian artist Fernando Botero.

Since the mid-seventies, her monumental and polychrome works have been exhibited all over the world through personal and collective exhibitions, public commissions and participation in major international fairs.

**Sophia Vari** began painting at the age of sixteen but quickly felt the need to express herself through another medium. A trip to Egypt in 1978 led her to understand the importance of monumental sculpture, from then on she included bronze and marble in her work repertoire. To develop the pleasure of working with color, she turns to the creation of assemblages on canvas, in which she no longer « creates with volume but with color, maintaining the sculptural awareness of form ».

**Sophia Vari** is also recognized for her jewelry creations. As for its sculptures, Vari borrows from Greek mythology the titles of its jewels. Her wearable sculptures gracefully blend geometric lines and sensual curves, and have been using a wide variety of noble and surprising materials for more than twenty years.



**Galerie MiniMasterpiece**, created in the Spring of 2012 by Esther de Beaucé, is the first Parisian gallery exclusively dedicated to the edition and sale of jewellery by renown contemporary visual artists and designers.

Like a very private collection that one wears and carries along, artists jewellery first strike by the love, the friendship and the challenge that have preceeded their existence. These miniature works of art tell us about another History of Art, that of intimacy and passion. For collectors, choosing an artist or a designer jewel, wearing it around the neck, the wrist or the finger, is a statement. For the artists it is both a pastime and a challenge, that is to achieve the successfull confrontation of their monumental work to the scale of the body.

Those who have so far worked directly with the gallery include the artists Joana **Vasconcelos**, Wang Keping, Jean-Luc **Moulène**, Julio **Le Parc**, François **Morellet**, Katinka **Bock**, Barthélémy **Toguo**, Françoise **Pétrovitch**, Véra **Molnar**, Nicolas **Buffe**, Carlos **Cruz-Diez**, Philippe **Ramette**, Phillip **King**, Miguel **Chevalier**, Pablo **Reinoso**, Sophia **Vari**, Andres **Serrano**, **None Futbol Club**, Faust **Cardinali**, Jacqueline **de Jong** and designers Christian **Ghion**, Pierre **Charpin**, Constance **Guisset**, Pierre **Gonalons**, Nestor **Perkal**, David **Dubois**, François **Azambourg**, **A+A Cooren**, Frédéric **Ruyant**, Maurice **Marty** and Cédric **Ragot**.