

# What Are You Up To ?

That's what we asked  
three creative entrepreneurs.



JACLYN SOUZA  
CERAMICIST



Madalina Andronic  
ILLUSTRATOR



SUSANNA BAUER  
Artist





**'MY WORK IS ABOUT TAKING TIME AND LOOKING CLOSELY'**

Susanna is a German artist living in Cornwall, UK



Close-up detail of Moon XXX.



'The focus lies on the fragility of the material.'



Materials at the art studio.



For what binds us.



Work in progress.



Side view of Aligning.

## Susanna Bauer

✕ 49 ➡ Artist 🏠 Lives in Cornwall, UK, with her partner and son 🌐 [Susannabauer.com](http://Susannabauer.com)

### How do you describe your art?

I create artwork with leaves and crochet. We have this perception that a fallen leaf is something perishable, disappearing with the seasons. When I select a leaf, I suspend its natural cycle and my conversation with it begins. By spending a great deal of time on a very detailed level, the work becomes a tribute to the beauty of nature, highlighting the small details that could be so easily overlooked. My work is about taking time and looking closely. The focus lies on the fragility of the material and the inner balance that needs to be found to make the work. The vulnerability and strength of the leaves and the delicate craft of the making process become a reflection of the tenderness and tension found in human connections and our relationship with the natural world.

### How long does it take to complete a piece?

That depends on the complexity of the individual composition. Every piece is different. My bigger projects can stretch out over months, but I never work on just one piece at

a time. There are always several works at various stages of completion at my studio.

### Do you prepare the leaves before you use them?

My leaves are not coated or treated with anything, but they go through a thorough drying process. I have been working with leaves for over ten years and, having refined my crochet skills over time, breakages are now very rare.

### What kind of leaves do you use?

I work with a wide variety of leaves—oak, plane tree, magnolia, ginkgo, beech, eucalyptus. Each leaf has a structure that I am drawn to—the sculptural form, the color, the shape, the stem, all these things play a part in my selection process and the story of each piece. I have a number of trees that I often return to and I also bring back leaves from walks and travels, with memories and the spirit of places attached to them. ●