



Matthew Curtis

Segmented Structures.

This body of sculptural and segmented works is influenced and inspired by the architecture of organic and biological structures. The ambiguity of these forms invites a journey of the imagination, perhaps it is into the structure of a diatom, or the thorax of a beetle, or into the very structures of cellular growth. These forms reflect a desire to delve into the interior of some of the strange riches of nature.

The scale of the glass sections partially distorts the details that these forms might suggest. Magnified microscopic undulations become the macroscopic texture of these slightly irregular segments. The restricted glass bubbles form an internal fluid structure within the repetition of the constructed form. The muted surface provides a sense of erosion, a lapsing of time.

The constructed bowl series is a dance of light. Here the internal form is pixilated through the defraction of the constructed float glass. They can be seen as shimmering gems or as the patterns of light racing through shattered glass.

This piece continues a material dialogue between surfaces, form and colour, whilst intangibly exploring the ephemeral nature of human expression and experience. The opaque skin of the glass object is perforated in a reductive and controlled grid. These intersecting lines are expressed repetitively by a point, a fundamental mark, expressed with meditative precision. This device opens the vessel to allow the transparent interior to be experienced through shifting light, at times quiet and still, in other moments bursting with vibrancy and energy.

Selected Training, Professional Positions And Activities

- 2004/2005 Construction and running of own Hot Studio Queanbeyan. NSW.
- 2003/2004 Hot glass tutor, Vetreria Artigiana, Switzerland.
- 2001 Hot glass tutor, Creative Glass Center, Switzerland.
- 2000 Hot glass tutor, Sydney College of the Arts.
- 1999 Village Fellowship and demonstration. Milleville, NJ.
- 1998 Hot glass tutor, Sydney College of the Arts.
- 1998 T.A for Ben Edols and Kathy Elliott, Corning Studios, NY.
- 1994-2000 Team working with Ben Edols, Kathy Elliott, Bettina Visintin, Thomas Rowney, Denizen Glass Studio, Sydney
- 1991-1998 Assistant to Robert Wynne, production work and studio construction, Denizen Glass Studio, Sydney.

Selected Exhibitions

- 2006 "Collect" V&A, England, co. Raglan Gallery Sydney
- 2005 "Segmented Structures" solo exhibition, Axia Modern Art, Melbourne.
- 2005 Canberra Glass 2005, Beaver Gallery, Canberra.
- 2005 Glass Survey Exhibition, Sanske Gallery, Switzerland.
- 2005 Collect, V&A, England. co. Raglan Gallery.
- 2004 SOFA Chicago, Bullseye Gallery.
- 2004 "Something Different", Glass Pyramid Gallery, Budapest, Hungary.
- 2004 Solo Exhibition Sanske Gallery Zurich, Switzerland.
- 2003 "Grid Lines" Solo Exhibition Axia Modern Art, Melbourne, Australia.
- 2003 "Tactile" Solo Exhibition at Quadrivium Gallery, Sydney.
- 2003 National Sculpture Prize Exhibition, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.
- 2003 "Surveying the Surface" solo exhibition at Beaver Galleries, ACT.
- 2002 "Material Culture" National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.
- 2002 "Transparent Things" National Gallery of Australia Travelling Exhibition, in collaboration with Wagga Wagga Regional Art Gallery and The Thomas Foundation.
- 2001 Solo Exhibition, Sanske Gallery in collaboration with Creative Glass, Zurich.
- 2001 "Symmetry x 2" Australian Art Resources, Axia Modern Art, Melbourne.
- 1999 "Weekend 99", Wheaton Village, Milleville, NJ
- 1998 "Past Tense/Future Perfect" National Tour, Craft West, Perth.

Awards, Collections

- 2004 New work Grant, Australia Council.
- 2002 New Work Grant, Australia Council Grant.
- 1999 Thomas Foundation Grant.
- 1999 Fellowship, Creative Glass Center of America, Wheaton NJ.
- Art Trust. Australia.
- National Gallery of Australia.
- Wagga Wagga National Glass Collection.
- Mobile City Art Glass Museum Collection, America.
- Ernsting Stifting, Glass Museum, Coesfeld Germany.

