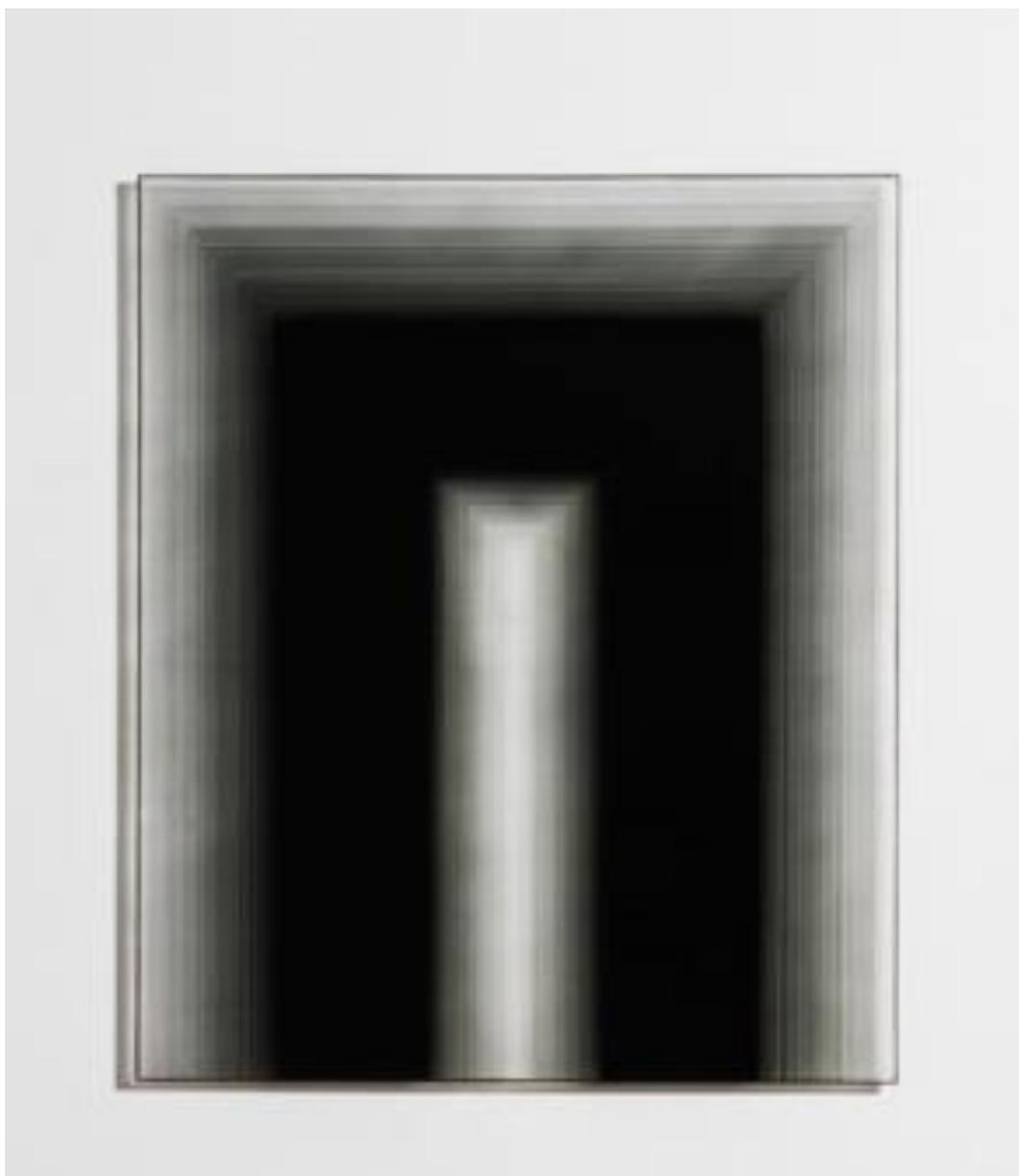


ARTIST REFERENCE SHEET

COBI COCKBURN



Cobi Cockburn
Ascent into darkness #6 2018
hot and cold worked glass

"Ascent into darkness' explores the potential of colour and abstraction as stimulative artistic devices that spur human emotion beyond the inherent constraints of reality." – Cobi Cockburn

ARTIST Q&A

What advice would you give to a person who is passionate about their artmaking but doesn't know where to start?

Just commit to completing a work and go from there. I don't think there is a right or wrong way to explore your creativity – however, the process of actually creating a work will help both inform and guide your way.

What do you want your work to do? Is there a particular reaction you are looking for?

Contemplation and awareness. I want to encourage individuals to revisit meaningful emotions and memories.

Has your work undergone a particular development or transformation?

No, I don't think there have been any major ones, however I think my work will always slowly evolve. It's a very entwined and slow process and the works will continue to transform as I do.

Do you plan for exhibitions or do you produce works constantly then piece them together?

To be completely honest, I do both. I enjoy the process of transforming a space and taking the work and viewer on a succinct journey. Whether they are conscious or not of this intention is not of concern. It's more about whether they are drawn to walk around the gallery and towards experiencing the next work that intrigues me.

What's next?

I'm excited about creating a body of work for a solo show in Sydney.

MATERIALS & PRACTICE – ARTIST Q&A

Can you explain your technique and how you manipulate the glass?

I use a variety of glass making techniques. I use hot glass, to stretch out and give me fine lineal lines in a similar process to making candy. Then I 'fuse' (melt) the long glass canes together, and finally, I 'cold work' (grind) the surface to give it a frosty, even finish.

Can you give us an insight into your artmaking process? Is your work pre-planned or created intuitively?

My panels are very considered and pre-planned. I make miniatures before creating larger scale panels in order to ensure that the colours and gradations are correct and how I envisaged them. Once started each panel takes approximately 3 – 4 weeks to create, however months can be taken up with colour and pattern testing.

Do you keep some kind of ongoing drawing book or diary, or a collection of images or photographs for inspiration?

Alongside all the drawing books, I keep all my miniatures as a way of remembering and progressing as I continue to develop and refine the panels.

Who are your favourite artists? Who do you draw inspiration from?

I really appreciate loads of artists for different reasons – some for aesthetic reasons, some for their ability to so articulately speak their mind, and others for their continual dedication and perusal of material. Agnes Martin, Ralph Hotere and Rothko would have to be some of the most influential artists I have come across. However, I also gain great fodder and personal content from the in-depth conversations I have with my husband and fellow artist, Charles Butcher.

KEY WORDS

Lineal: Of or pertaining to a line or lines; consisting of lines.

Miniature: Likeness or representation on a small scale; a small-scale model.

Contemplation: The action of beholding, or looking at with attention and thought.

Aesthetic: The philosophy of the beautiful or of art; a system of principles for the appreciation of the beautiful, etc.; the distinctive underlying principles of a work of art or a genre, the works of an artist, the arts of a culture, etc.

FURTHER READING

COBI COCKBURN

Sabbia Gallery – *Cobi Cockburn*

https://www.google.com.au/search?q=cobi+cockburn&rlz=1C1GCEU_enAU822AU822&oq=cobi+cockburn&aqs=chrome..69i57j35i39l2.2422j0j3&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass

<https://contempglass.org/artists/entry/cobi-cockburn>

Video (1.11 min) Bullseye Glass Co. *In the Vicinity of White*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rpKG4L41vjQ>

Video (2.36min) Bullseye Glass Co. *Chick Butcher & Cobi Cockburn: It's Quiet Down Deep*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUCcznt8f2U>

GLASS TECHNIQUES

Corning Museum of Glass – Various videos

<https://www.youtube.com/user/corningmuseumofglass>

Image courtesy of Cobi Cockburn, 2018.

BEYOND THE BOWL

2 February – 18 April 2019

Hurstville Museum & Gallery

Beyond the bowl explores and celebrates the diversity and aesthetics of contemporary ceramics and glass, showcasing the works of Julie Bartholomew, Alexandra Chambers, Cobi Cockburn, Matthew Curtis, Merran Esson, Honor Freeman, Anita Larkin, Eloise Rankine, Kirstie Rea and Emma Varga. These artists push the boundaries as to what can be achieved when working with glass or clay.

This educational resource was created for *Beyond the Bowl*, exhibited at Hurstville Museum & Gallery. It is designed to assist Visual Art and Visual Design teachers and students from years 7 – 12. The images and suggested activities are to be used together with relevant syllabus documents and teaching resources, and should be used as a guide for teachers, adjusting activities to suit the needs of their students.

The efficacy of this resource can be extended by visiting the exhibition with students between 2 February – 18 April 2019. A hard copy of the exhibition catalogue is also available for purchase and is a valuable tool that can be used alongside this resource.

Hurstville Museum & Gallery, 14 MacMahon Street, Hurstville.

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