

PIPALUK LAKE

Configurations
sculpture

2 February - 17 March 2012

OPENING: Thursday 2nd February 2012 from 6- 9pm, the artist will be present.
The exhibition ends Saturday 17th March 2012

One day when she found herself in a field, the glass artist, Pipaluk Lake saw three parachutists appear. This vision of the inflated parachutes in an upwards move whilst the power of gravity simultaneously pulled the men downwards, fascinated the artist. Since then, her pursuit has been to give form to these movements and opposing notions of elevation, lightness, suppleness as well as their contrary: the weight of the invisible force of gravity. Whereas the notion of weight is associated with glass, lightness and suppleness scarcely are...

Configurations

The exhibition *Configurations* brings together two manifest tendencies in Lake's recent work: on the one hand, works with a predominant textile quality (draperies, warps and threads) and organic aspect. On the other hand, the *Layers* series: superimposed thin glass plates are combined with other materials; these fuse together during the firing and then open up and are deployed or, on the contrary, are densely folded. Water, ice, air, wind, fabric, flesh, vegetation or rock, many associations to suggest the immaterial, movement, substance and the living. Forms are born from a sharp and open dialog between matter, process, strength of will and experience. Those who have an a priori about glass being a cold, static and purely decorative matter will discover a dreamlike world where humor, originality and unconventional beauty cohabit. Lake's acute plastic sense allows her to play with tensions and the surprising harmonies between rigor, geometry and the suppleness of a material that is pushed to its extremes. The aim is never to reproduce or represent. If a sculpture reminds us of certain objects or named forms, its true designation is more sensorial. Confronted with Lake's works, it's as if a desire to perceive, observe and feel differently is materialized in one go. Thus, the eye is willfully projected into the soft movement of a luminous *Cradle*, just as it travels, (for a long time no doubt), into the complex depths of *Layers*...Fragile, dense, raw, sometimes all of these together, Lake's sculptures seem infinitely evocative.

Lake's working method

With her training spanning over four disciplines : wood sculpture, textiles, metalware/jewellery and glass, Lake plays with a large scope of knowledge in order to fuse glass plates (windowpane), metals (plates, thread or oxides), enamels, colourings and atypical materials. Her sculptures are the result of a learned preparatory process: hammering, cutting, piling or sewing of materials (glass, metals...) presented like packages which she then suspends in the kiln. Heat but also gravity work together and stretch the matter until the artist decides to stop this process where experience and alchemy meet. Lake then reworks, polishes and cuts in order to obtain her final piece.

Publication

A leaflet with reproductions of a selection of works and a text by the art historian Louise Mazanti is published.

Background

Lake's very atypical universe (born in 1962) has been widely recognised and awarded (Hempel Glaspris 1999 - honorable mention for the 2nd Chongju Int. Crafts Competition 2001, Korea, - silver medal for Kunsthåndværkerprisen af 1879). She is represented in numerous public collections: V&A, London, - Corning Museum of Glass, New York State - Glasmuseum Alter Hof Herding, Germany - Boston Museum of Fine Arts - Kunstindustrimuseet (Decorative Arts Museum), Copenhagen - The Danish Arts Foundation and the New Carlsberg Foundation. Lake has exhibited throughout Scandinavia, the Baltic countries, Germany, Slovenia, the Czech Republic as well as in China, Korea, Canada and the United States. In 2006, the Chappell Gallery, New York held a solo show of her work and in 2011 the Danish Glass Museum Glasmuseet welcomed an exhibition (*Drops*) of her recent works prized by the Danish Arts Foundation. *Configuration* is Lake's third exhibition at the GALERIE MARIA LUND since 2008.

Other events

Pipaluk Lake will be participating in the *Perturbations* exhibition at the Musée Fabre, Hôtel Sabatier d'Espeyran, in Montpellier from March 30th through September 16th 2012.

For further information and visuals please contact:

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