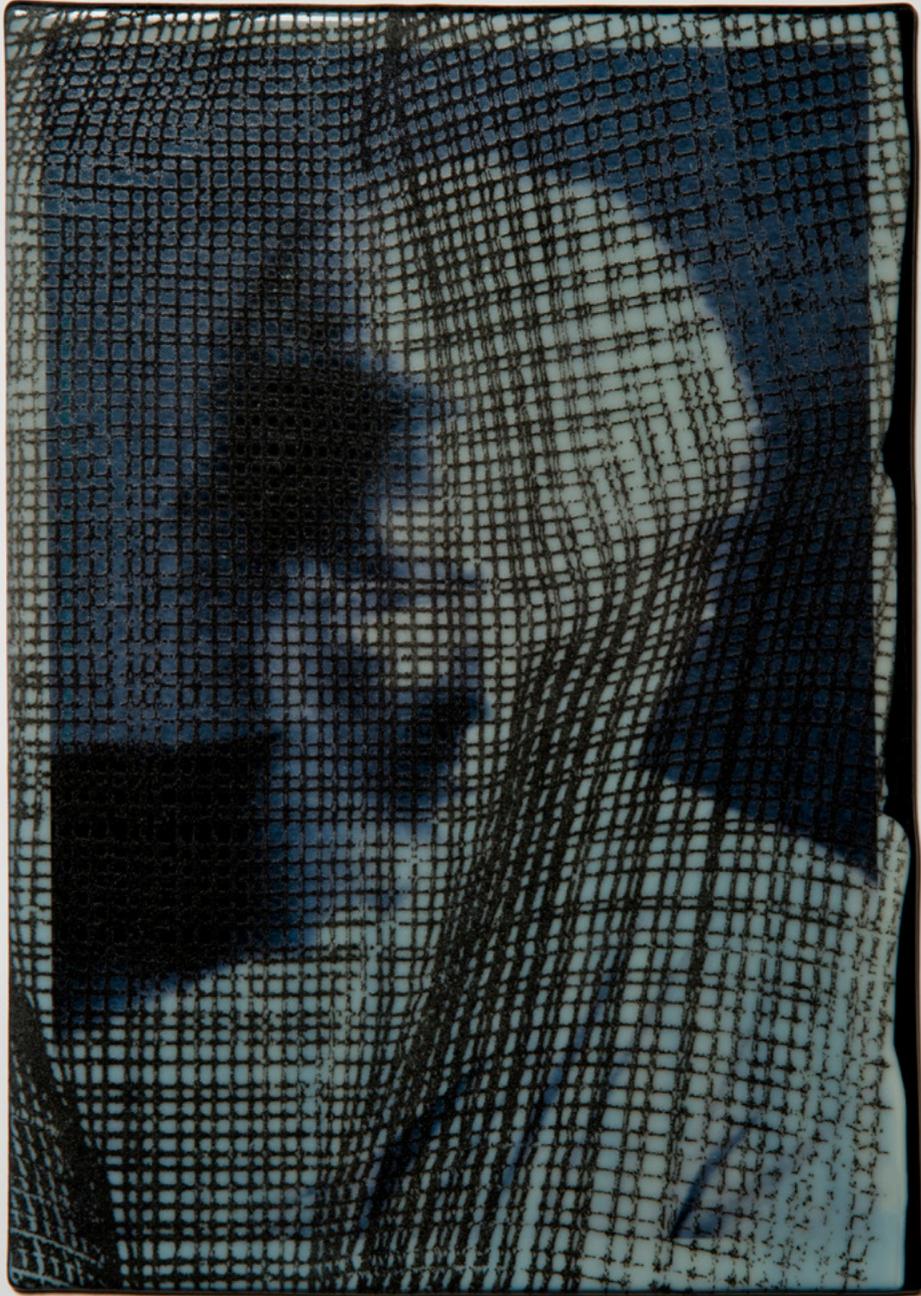


Hidden Gestures
By Cathryn Shilling

Vessel Gallery
CONTEMPORARY ART, CRAFT & LIGHTING

Lybster Harbour silk scarf, 136cm x 136cm





The Intangibility of Sorrow, Unique, 43.5cm H, 31cm W, 2cm D

Vessel Gallery presents Hidden Gestures, celebrating 10 years since the beginning of Cathryn Shilling's professional practice & studio. The first solo exhibition of this internationally renowned and highly revered glass artist, who lives & works in London.

After graduating in Graphic Design from the Central School of Art and Design in London, Shilling worked as a Designer until her family's move to the USA in 2001 prompted her to pursue a new and daring creative direction. Having studied the art & craft of Stained Glass in Connecticut, she returned to London in 2004 and began studying and working with kiln formed glass, as well as becoming a student of blown glass at Peter Layton's London Glassblowing Studio. In 2009 She set up her own studio in London from where she has gone on to create an impressive & highly varied body of work.

Shilling experiments with colour & technique to produce beautiful one off sculptures and her innovative pieces push the glass beyond the viewer's usual comfort zones. Employing Venetian cane techniques, diaphanous glass rods appear to be woven together like fabric, mimicking the flexibility and movement of cloth, a technique which has very much become Shilling's trademark. The apparent frailty of the glass is balanced by the strong dynamic forms and when viewed with differing levels of light, the often subtle but vast spectrum of hues of each complex piece are revealed.

Shilling takes inspiration from the natural world and her colour palette and choice of forms are very much informed by the various natural states of water; from icebergs to waterfalls and whirlpools. By contrast, a long standing fascination for Shilling is *Kinesics* or the study of Body Language, by which humans subconsciously transmit and receive non-verbal communication. These physical expressions may reveal our true feelings by signalling the difference between what we say and what we really mean.

In her most recent and ambitious body of work *Cloaked*, Shilling combines many of her ideas. Statuesque blown figures are enrobed in the artist's signature glass, exploring our desire to cover the human form. What does the clothing convey about each individual? Their mood, their emotional state? Not only serving as protection, our clothing can broadcast, often with false judgment, our position and identity in society. It seems therefore only fitting, that these are named after mythical Greek figures, the tragic story for each still very much relevant today.

Shilling's work is shown and represented in collections globally and in 2009 she was the winner of the V&A's 'Inspired By' award for glass. She was listed No 4 in the 'Glassation' 2015 list of 'The Most Game Changing Female Glass Artists' and No 25 in the Graphic Design Hub's list of 'The 30 Most Amazing Glass Artists Alive Today'.

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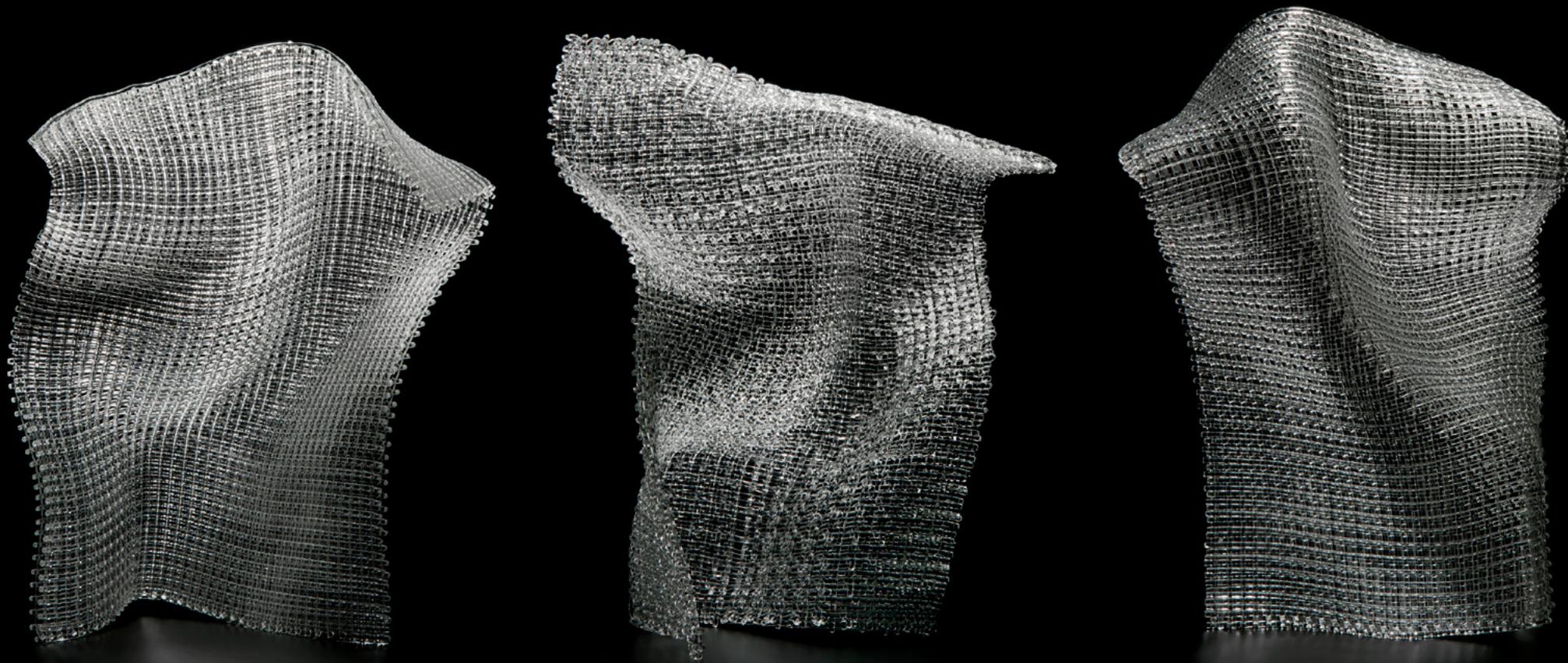
Cloaked Collection 'Gods', Each unique, 62cm - 71cm H



Antarctic Confluence VIII, Unique, 47cm H, 50cm W, 14cm D



Dissonance Triptych, Each unique, 44cm - 46cm H



The Fleeting Nature of Earthly Pleasures with Peaches, Unique, 23cm H, 45cm W, 45cm D
A collaboration with Anthony Scala



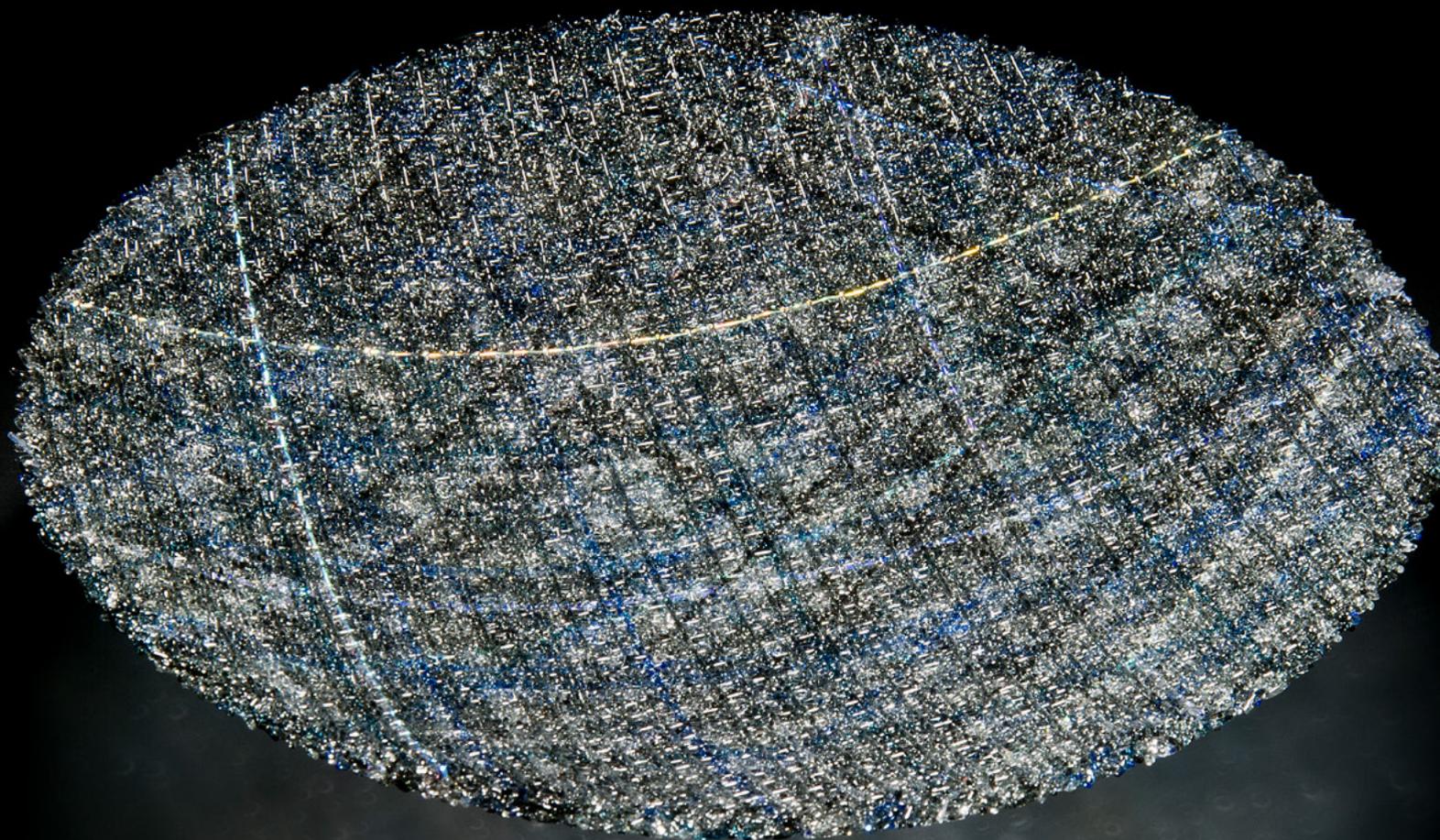
Maelstrom, Unique, 23cm H, 28cm ø



Synergy Series I, Each unique, 42cm - 47cm H



Diorama Moonlight, Unique, 8cm H, 44cm ø



Garniture & Windows Collections, Each unique, 19.5cm - 26cm H



Chrysanthemum Amorus I, Unique, 18.5cm H, 12cm ø



Nestled II, Unique, 9cm H, 19cm ø



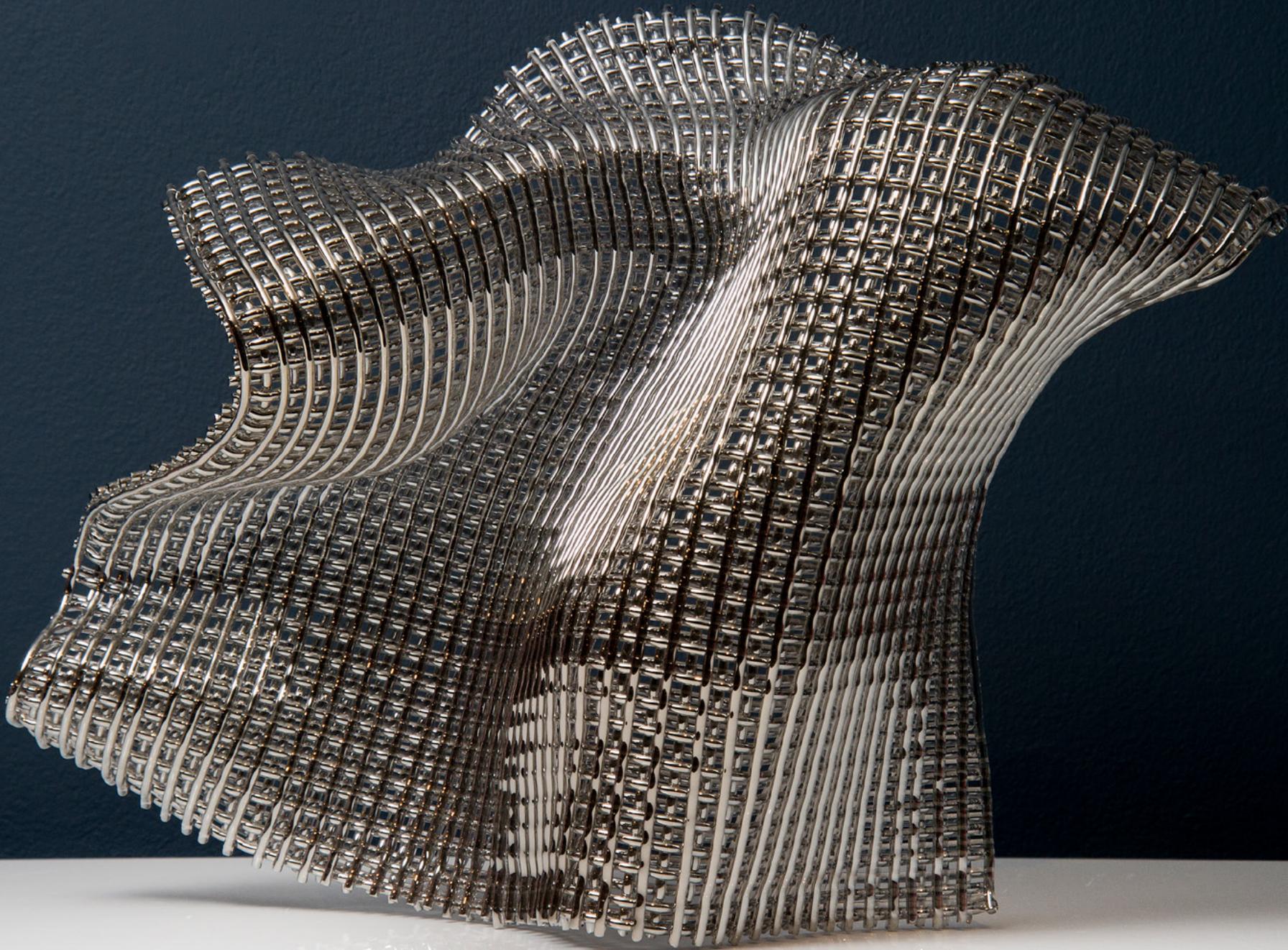
Precious Vessels, Each unique, 22cm - 24cm H



Woven Chalice, Unique, 18cm H, 39cm ø



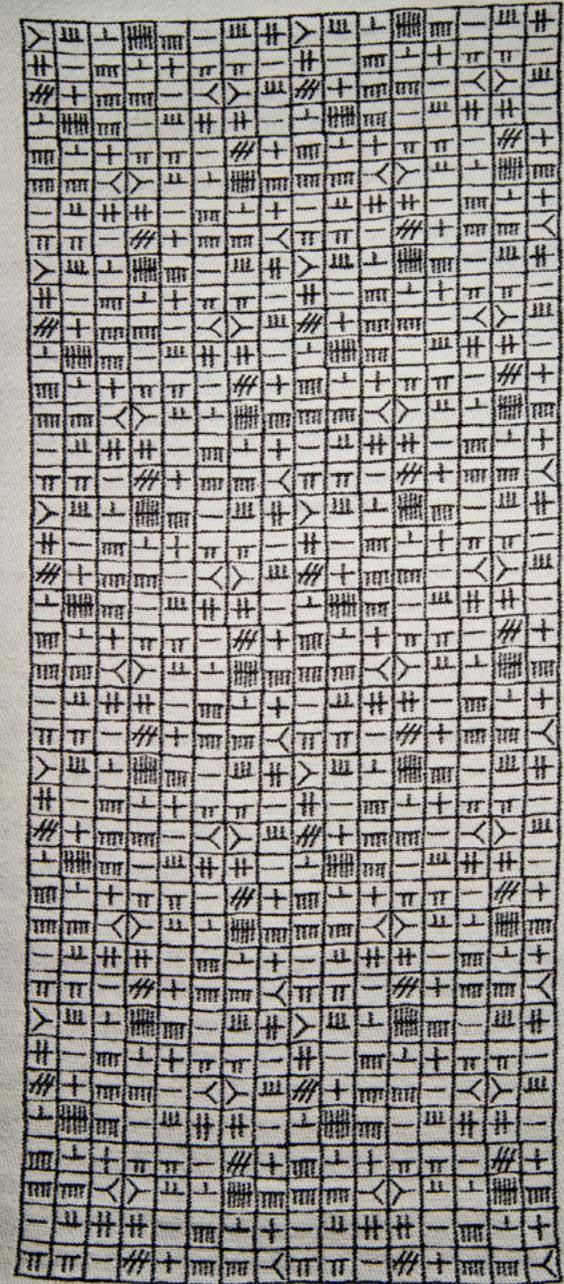
Consonance II, Unique, 36cm H, 50cm W, 15cm D



Cloaked Collection 'Heroes', Each unique, 54cm - 68cm H



This Too Shall Pass, Unique, 146cm H, 70cm W, 3cm D



Hoarfrost, Unique, 13cm H, 55cm ø



Below

Seafoam Collection, Each unique, 20cm - 27.5cm H

Right

Fractured Vessel, Unique, 29cm H, 20cm ø



Washed Up, Unique, 23cm H, 94cm W, 60cm D





Cathryn Shilling, b: 1957, Orpington, England

Selected exhibitions

- TACTILE at Glazenhuis, Lommel, Belgium
- New Aquisitions 2017 at Glasmuseum Lette, Coesfeld, Germany
- Peter Bremers & Cathryn Shilling: A Two Person Exhibition at Schiepers Gallery in Belgium
- The CGS Jubileum 20th Anniversary Exhibition at Etienne Gallery, Oisterwijk, Netherlands
- The Taos Art Glass Invitational, New Mexico, USA
- BODYTALK at the Glasmuseet, Ebletoft, Denmark
- COLLECT at the Saatchi Gallery with Vessel Gallery & London Glassblowing
- East-West Artists Exhibitions in Kyoto, Japan and London
- Hot Glass at Contemporary Applied Arts, London
- Collective Genius at Vessel Gallery, London
- The British Glass Biennale finalist in 2010, 2012, 2015 and in 2017
- Twice exhibited as a finalist in the Emerge Juried Kiln-glass Exhibition at Bullseye Projects, Portland, USA

Awards, Accolades & Residencies

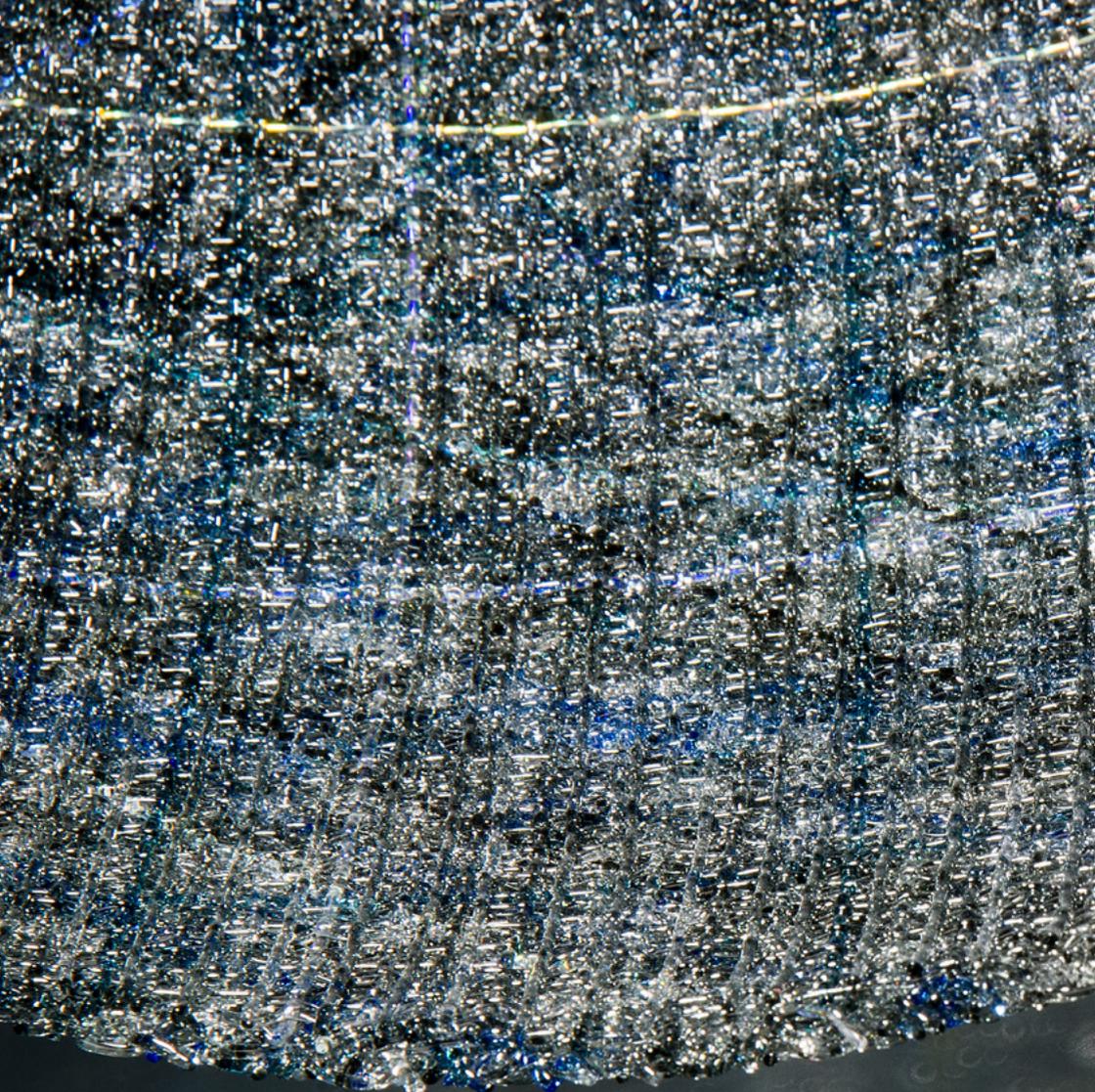
- Winner of the V&A's 'Inspired By' award for glass in 2009
- No 4 in the Glassation 2015 list of 'The Most Game Changing Female Glass Artists'
- No 25 in the Graphic Design Hub's list of 'The 30 Most Amazing Glass Artists Alive Today'
- Winner of the 2013 international Warm Glass Artists Prize
- Nominated for the SUWA Garasuno-Sato Glass Prize, 2014 and 2015
- Finalist East West Artist Award, 2014 and 2015
- Nominated several times for the Arts & Crafts Design Award
- Represented in New Glass Review 33
- Winner the 2017 Craft & Design award at the British Glass Biennale in collaboration with Anthony Scala
- 2018 Artist in Residence at North Lands Creative, Lybster, Scotland

Professional Membership

- Art Workers Guild, UK
- Fellow of the Society of Designer Craftsmen, UK
- Crafts Council Directory, UK
- Contemporary Glass Society, UK
- Just Glass Society, UK
- Scottish Glass Society, UK
- American Craft Council, USA
- Glass Art Society, USA

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