

MARK GUEST
LINES OF DESIRE

Introduction

I first met Mark Guest when I visited Canterbury School of Art in 1991. At the time he was enrolled in the Fine Art (Sculpture) BA Hons course and I am pleased to say that we have remained friends ever since.

Of all of the fine art disciplines students can undertake perhaps the most challenging and commercially difficult to succeed in is sculpture and it is to his credit that he has remained focused on, and successful in, his artistic endeavors in the intervening years.

Born in Jersey Mark has intellectually pursued his own aesthetic interests whilst also collaborating with artists in Australia, Africa as well as in the UK where he has shown extensively whilst undertaking numerous public commissions. Here in Jersey Mark's large scale, hand carved stone sculptures, are on public display around the island and in many important private collections.

Mark now works exclusively in a diverse range of stone including granites and exotic coloured marbles. His sculptures are always carved in an immediate and intuitive fashion leaving beautifully considered and balanced forms which sit still, silent and emanating a calming and ethereal beauty. The pioneer of modernism, Constantin Brancusi, is always a reference point.

There is also a timeless quality to Mark's sculptures which seem to transcend millennia. Engraved classical Roman marble is transformed into contemporary sculpture through the artist's amazing ability to carve stone so thin, in negative relief, that the medium becomes utterly translucent. The alabaster windows of the Valencia's gothic Cathedral are the only other examples I've seen in western art that can compare.

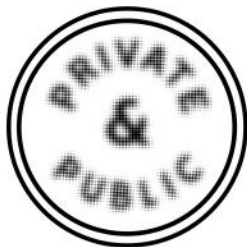


A perfectionist Mark is obsessed about getting his sculptures to look and feel right and what excites and rewards him most is working with stones that are not always compliant or carved in traditional ways, the ones that misbehave, which are unpredictable or obstinate.

Whilst putting this exhibition together Mark said "Marble, one can endlessly caress but it is easily hurt. Granite won't let you push it too far. Sometimes it is enough to find expression in just a few marks or in a myriad of cuts which is something a bit more akin to painting. **Storm** is just the same engraved line repeated endlessly. **Flock** is simply punched marble that bruises the surface to create points of light and shade. And then there is light itself that plays its own big part, either through pierced holes or honing the material so thin to a state where it is vulnerable, translucent but radiant."

It is always a great pleasure to collaborate with Mark Guest. He has consistently high standards, is totally professional and his sculptures provide joy, aesthetic beauty and contemplative reflection in equal measure.

Chris Clifford BA (Hons) MA, Director – Private & Public Gallery





ORIGIN

St. Hubert's Limestone, 2016
30x3cm

£650 + GST



SHOAL

Liquorice, 2020

52x28x2cm

£250 + GST



SIX FISH

Portland Whitbed Limestone, 2020

35x12cm

£1,200 + GST



EMERALD WAVE

Emerald Pearl Granite, 2017

57x94x3cm

£1,500 + GST



FIGURE OF EIGHT

Carrara, 2016

40x28x3cm

£375 + GST



HEAD (MOON MAN)

Estremoz, 2012

80x4cm

£1,500 + GST



DISK

Carrara, 2016

53x3cm

£750 + GST



FLOCK

Arabascata Marble, 2017

80x3cm

£1,500 + GST



CHAINED

Maltese Limestone, 2020

20x20x20cm

£375 + GST



FIBONACCI TALE

Carrara, 2019

27x3cm

£500 + GST



FLOWER

Bonaccord Granite, 2016
46x3cm

£450 + GST



DRAGONFLIES

Statuary, 2020

60x2cm

NFS

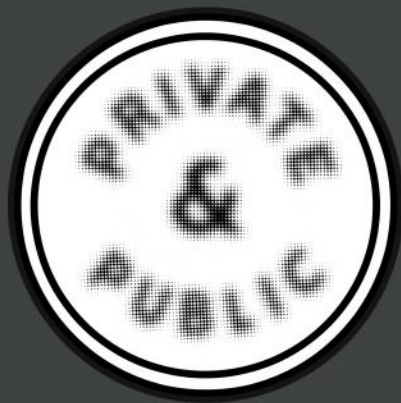


STORM

Carrara, 2019
40x3cm

£750 + GST





MONDAY 29 JUNE – SATURDAY 18 JULY
OPENING TIMES: MONDAY–FRIDAY, MIDDAY TO 6pm
OR AT ANY OTHER TIME BY APPOINTMENT

To arrange a private viewing contact Chris Clifford, BA (HONS):
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