



**University of
Sunderland**

Thompson, Brian (2010) River Journeys. [Artefact]

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Washington DC Exhibition - Exhibition List, Brian Thompson.

Glass and Clay 2013, Pepco Edison Place Gallery, 702 Eighth street Washington DC 20068, USA. - 1st March 2013 - 22nd March 2013

Background.

This 'Collection' of sculptures is topographical in nature and is part of a project drawing together interests in revealing the northern landscape with the developments of new crafts in making sculpture. The inspiration comes from the idea of journeys and in this case celebrating the great northern rivers of the Tyne, Wear and Tees as they travel to the sea.

These 'journeys' are recorded through tracings from aerial photographs of the rivers. The traced images are used to make precision digital templates from which layers of sheet glass are cut using a water-jet cutter, each layer becoming a template for the succeeding layer. Through small increments of size, introduced by the process, the sculptures evolve tapering downward from top to base; marking, layer upon layer, in geological fashion, the time of their making.

I am interested in how journeys explore landscapes; how paths get worn, compress and build up over many generations; how rivers cut and change course as they journey to the sea. These routes and points where they cross reveal the topography of the world and tell us something about how we come to know and navigate it. These sculptures extend an ongoing engagement with landscape and through sculptural metaphor seek to give the *genius loci* or a sense of the chosen places.

Exhibiting the work

My contribution to the exhibition is 3 Water-jet cut UV adhesive bonded glass sculptures based on the course of 3 rivers from the Pennine watershed: The River Tyne, River Wear and the River Tees. The sculptures exist as separate pieces but benefit I think from being shown as a "Northern Rivers collection" of sculptures all on one plinth size;

Height: 36 ins (90cms)

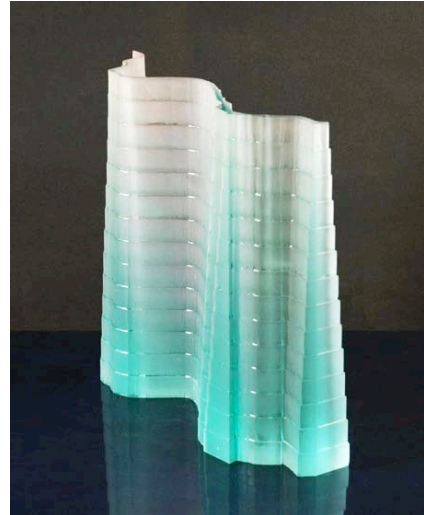
Length: 36 ins (90cms)

Width: 18 ins (45 cms)

The Sculptures



Brian Thompson
Northern Rivers; Wear at NGC 2012
UV Bonded Float Glass
32.8 x 15.2 x 9 cms
(Collection: The Artist)
Weight: 3.7 Kgs



Brian Thompson
Northern Rivers; Tyne 2010
UV Bonded Float Glass
26 x 30.8 x 12.2 cms
(Collection: The Artist)



Brian Thompson
Northern Rivers; Tees 2010
UV Bonded Float Glass
30.4 x 26.2 x 12 cms
(Collection: The Artist)
Weight: 5 Kgs