Sarmiento, Jeffrey (2012) Books and Buildings Solo Exhibition. [Show/Exhibition]

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Jeffrey Sarmiento is Reader in Glass at the University of Sunderland. A Filipino-American artist, his work centers on constructed ethnicities, expressed through collisions of layered images within glass.

He has worked widely in the US and Europe, including fellowships at UrbanGlass New York, and a Fulbright to Denmark. He was a finalist for the 2008 Bombay Sapphire Prize and has shown in Collect at Saatchi Gallery. His work is in the collection of Sunderland Museum, UK, and the Speed Museum, USA. He has recently installed a monumental glass sculpture for the new Museum of Liverpool, UK.

Artist Statement

Inspired by ethnography, my artwork visualizes a search for belonging—the attempt to understand my place in the world.

"Research" takes place in cultures foreign to me. I observe, translate, and participate, and struggle to comprehend and fit in. This process forces me to evaluate and question what I know. I collect and build up layers of information to show the density of my experience. I carve it away to reveal new and complex readings. Comprised of multiple images embedded in the glass object, my work is quite literally the fusion of form and content.

As I move from place to place the work takes on the characteristic of mapping.

But the maps I make don’t always point from one place to another. Instead, the works show a cultural terrain. Histories are brought together, and what is foreign is transformed into the familiar. The work is my way of creating a unique connection with the local.
Centre, 2012
Waterjet cut and fused Bullseye glass
200 x 104 x 4 cm
Estate, 2013
Screenprinted, waterjet cut and fused glass
140 x 63 x 4 cm
Hotel (white), 2012
Fused, waterjet cut and fire polished glass
46.5 x 50 x 4 cm
Hotel 2 (black) 2012
Fused, waterjet cut and fire polished glass
55 x 48 x 4 cm
Dundee, 2012
Fused, waterjet cut, fire polished and sandblasted glass
66 x 41 x 4 cm
Tower Block 2, 2012
Screenprinted, fused, waterjet cut and fire polished glass
39 x 140 x 4 cm
Encyclopaedia
2010-2012
Screenprinted, fused and polished glass
21 x 15 x 5 cm each
CURRICULUM VITAE

JEFFREY R. SARMIENTO
Born Chicago, IL, 1974
Currently Artist and Educator, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

EDUCATION
2011  PhD Glass, University of Sunderland, UK
2000  MFA Glass, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
2006-  Research Councils UK Academic Fellow/Reader in Glass, University of Sunderland, UK
2005  Instructor, Pilchuck Glass School, Stanwood, WA
2005  Lecturer, School of Art and Design, San Jose State University, CA

SOLO EXHIBITIONS
2008  Translations, Bullseye Gallery, Portland, OR
2007  Encyclopædia, Robert Lehman Gallery at UrbanGlass, Brooklyn, NY
2004  Flow (Strøm), Dansk Kunstindustrimuseet, Copenhagen, Denmark

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS
       Dual Visions, Wing Luke Asian Museum, Seattle, WA
       Craft Meets Technology, Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, KY
2010  British Glass Biennial, Stourbridge, UK
       Invisible Cities, Bullseye Gallery, Portland, OR
2009  Bullseye Gallery at Collect, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
       Collected Fragments, Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, UK
2008  Bombay Sapphire Prize, Salone Del Mobile, Milan, Italy; Not Printed on Paper, Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Norwalk, CT
2007  Stiklo Sodas, Galerija XX, Panevezys, Lithuania; Content Driven, Art Mur, Montreal, Canada
2006  Building Bridges through Art, Galerie les Atlassides, Marrakech, Morocco
2005  Paper Maché, Nordjylland Kunstmuseum, Aalborg, Denmark

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS
Museum of Liverpool, UK
Speed Museum of Art, Louisville, KY
Glasmuseet Ebeltoft, Denmark

SELECTED AWARDS
2010  Runner Up, Glass Sellers Prize, Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London
2008  Finalist, Bombay Sapphire Prize
2005  Visiting Artist Fellowship, UrbanGlass, Brooklyn, NY
2004  Fulbright Fellowship to Denmark, Danish-American Fulbright Commission

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS
2012  Monthly Ceramic Art (Korea)
2011  Journal of Museum Ethnography 24, New Glass Review 32
2008  Blanche Craig ed., Contemporary Glass, Black Dog Publishing
2007  Lena Vigna, Trinh Nguyen, Emily Benz, Encyclopædia, University of Sunderland

Photography: David Williams