

Surface Levels

Surface Levels are depictions of unobserved and imperceptible realities of many phytoplankton exteriors. The exhibition explores various structures, textures, and repetitious forms from microscopic surfaces of objects that cannot be seen with unaided eyes. Electron microscopy is used to perceive and analyze these otherwise unseeable surfaces in depth. Magnifications provide a reference in creating three- and two-dimensional works that are minimalistic and abstract at a visible level. This abstract 3D/2D image collection is translated into material expressions using acrylic sheets, acrylic ink, and wood as the main media for construction of individual works. Collectively, they serve to make the invisible visible.



Long Frust (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 5 x 18"

Long Frust represents the diatom *Lyrella* and uses the colors of blue and pink of similar intensities and saturation on the exteriors of the fossils. The visual weight of the blue diatom equally balances that of the pink by color and size. The arrangement is asymmetrically balanced, with the pink diatom occupying a larger positive space compared to the blue.



Long Frust Side
(*Noncoc Series*),
2020, Mixed Media,
5 x 18"



Circular Frust
(*Noncoc Series*),
2020, Mixed Media,
5 x 18"

Circular Frust is a representation of a diatom *Arachnoidiscus* which employs an analogous color scheme of orange-red, red and purple. These diatoms are very symmetrical, but the arrangement assists in breaking up the formality. The structure still retains its radial nature and contains many leading lines that carry you throughout the piece and emphasize the center points of each diatom.



Circular Frust Side
(*Noncoc Series*),
2020, Mixed Media,
5 x 18"



Pina (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 6 x 18"

The *Pina* based on non-coccos *Pinaciophora*, applies the warm colors of red, yellow, and orange. The fossils are arranged in a cluster to the top right and is balanced with a single fossil at the bottom left. The arrangement also creates visual tension between the two sides, as though the group may eventually collapse to join the isolated fossil.



Pina Side (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 6 x 18"



Nulus (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 5 x 18"

Nulus, based on the radiolarian *Saturnalis circularis*, utilizes an analogous color scheme of green and yellow. The dark green inner core of this radiolarian is emphasized by the contrasting yellow of the outer core. The arrangement in this relief shows movement and uses the outer rings' lines to create effective continuation.



Nulus Side (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 5 x 18"



Mato (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 5 x 18"

Based on a non-coccos, *Thaumatomastix*, Mato uses monotone color and simple geometric contours to create its form. It's monochromatic color scheme, using purples of different saturation and value. The arrangement of these naturally triangular nanofossils shows movement and rhythm with the altering of the positions between each element.



Mato Side (Noncoc Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 5 x 18"



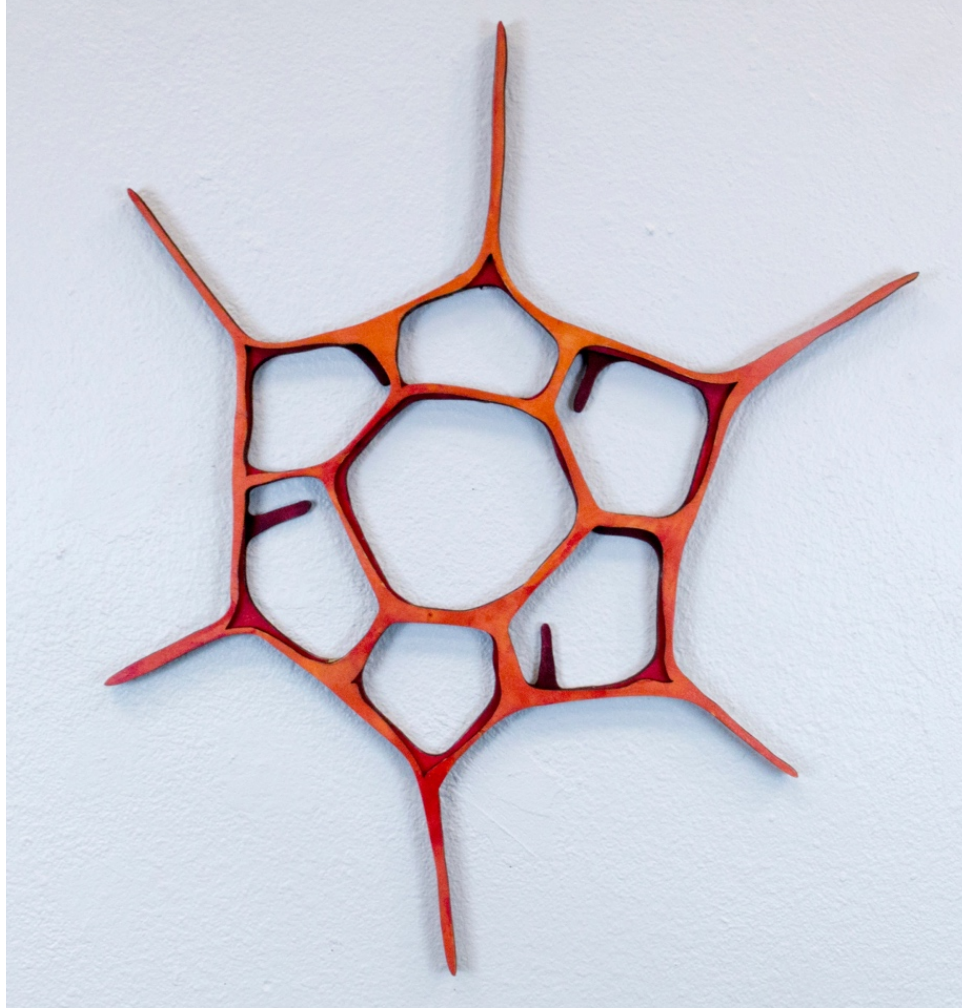
*Fragments #1
(Noncoc Series),
Mixed Media, 2 x 30"
(each)*

Fragments #1 are broken pieces of unknown phytoplankton structures. The left side applies the complementary colors of purple and yellow while the right uses analogous colors. Arranging the yellow layer as the top and the darker colors of purple and orange below, emphasizes the structure of the pattern and creates depth.



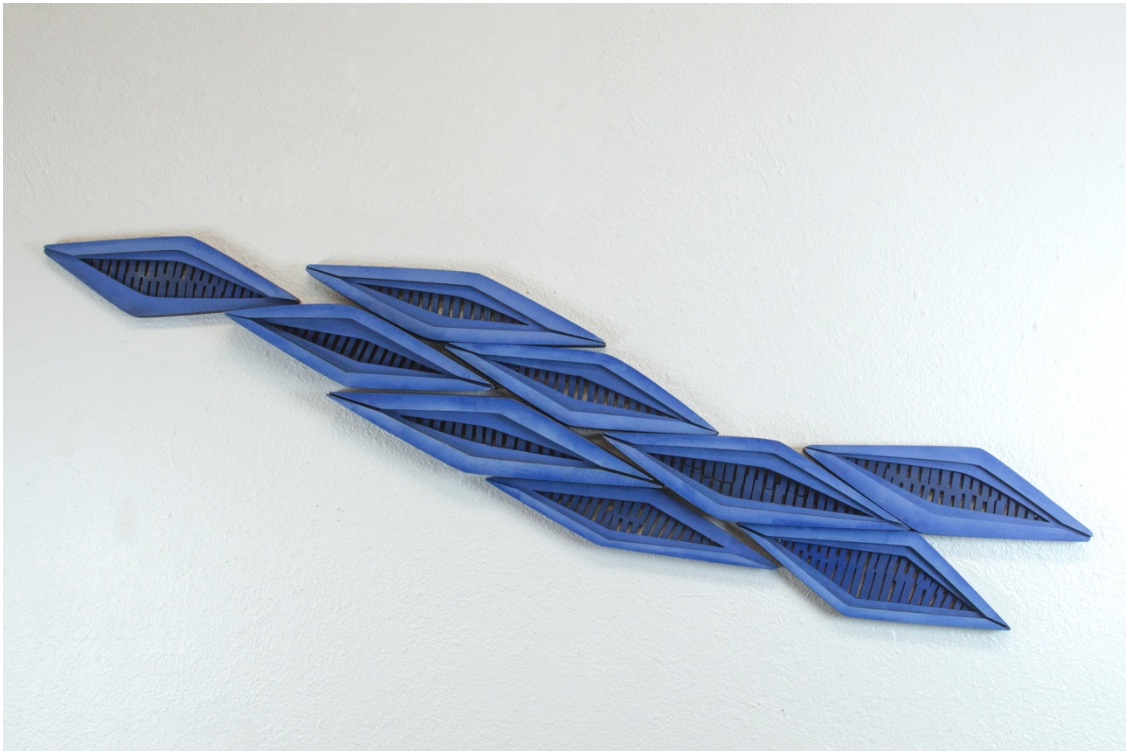
**Fragments #2
(Noncoc Series),
Mixed Media, 2 x 30"**

Fragments #2 are broken pieces of unknown phytoplankton structures. The concept of the reverse grounds is at play. Both the light blue-green and yellow colors are reversed on opposite ends. The yellow on the top section looks much brighter in contrast to the yellow at the bottom. The opposite can be said for the light blue-green color in the top and bottom sections.



Nocha (Blooms Series), 2020, Wood and Acrylic ink, 21 x 25"

Nocha, based on non-coccos *Stephanocha speculum*, utilizes warm colors of yellow-orange, orange, and red. This single structure also incorporates the concept of simultaneous contrast with slight halation occurring near the edges where the color interacts.



Corsellii (Blooms Series), 2020, Wood and Acrylic ink, 41.25 x 15.5"

Corsellii, based on the coccolithophore, *Calcosolenia corsellii*, contains several simplified forms and incorporating multiple lines creating an abstraction, having rhythm and movement. Each cell is individual but together as a whole, harmoniously forms its own patterned structure. *Corsellii*, a multi-structured larger relief, employs the concept of simultaneous contrast with different cobalt blue values. Halation can be seen occurring through the layers with the change of value from lightest at the top, to darkest blue towards the base.



Laris (Blooms Series), 2020, 2 x 30" Wood and Acrylic ink, 14 x 24"

Laris, represents a combination of radiolarians and uses the concept of the reverse grounds. The ashy-green color on the bottom layers of both pieces was made from a mix of purple and bright green seen on the top layers. When against the purple, the ashy green color looks brighter than when it is against the bright green. The purple is subtracting the dark tones from the ashy green while the bright green is doing the opposite, hence making it appear darker. *Laris's* bloom or cluster is asymmetrically balanced and creates rhythm with the positioning of the fossils against each other.



Peta (Blooms Series), 2020, Wood and Acrylic ink, 21.5 x 13.5"

Peta, representing the non-coccos *Petasaria protruberans*, applies analogous colors of yellow, bright green, and dark green. The piece displays movement with the placement of the fossils and rhythm with the blends of the analogous colors applied on the exoskeletons.



Circcoccos (Liths Series), 2020, Mixed Media, 16 x 30"

Circcoccos consists of the coccolithophores *Pontosphaera discopora*, *Emiliana huxleyi* Type O, and *Alisphaera gaudii*. The coccolithophores in *Circcoccos* all form circular coccospheres. Each contains a uniquely shaped coccolith that is recurring in the body of the coccolithophore.



The Sphere (Liths Series), 2020, Corkboard and Acrylic Ink, 12 x 22"

The Sphere represents coccolithophores *Emiliana huxleyi* Type A on the outermost shell, and *Emiliana huxleyi* Type O on the most inner shell. Frequently under the SEM mixtures of nanofossils can be observed and fragments of various types stacked on each other. *The Sphere* simulates that structure.



Towerco (Liths Series), 2020, Corkboard and Acrylic Ink, 15 x 42"

Towerco consists of coccolithophores *Helicosphaera carteri* and *Toweius serotinus*. The coccosphere of *Helicosphaera carteri* is elongated compared to other coccospheres, such as *Emiliania huxleyi* Type O. The elongated feature is used as the basis for the *Towerco* sculpture. *Toweius* though part of this sculpture, doesn't produce an elongated coccosphere but was still incorporated to show its coccoliths repetitious elements.