



JOSEPHA GASCH-MUCHE

'As an artist, placing truth in the work of art is a demanding aim. Glass provides me with the means to do so.'

Josepha Gasch-Muche

Gallery FUMI is delighted to exhibit an ambitious corpus of six works by Josepha Gasch-Muche, marking the first presentation of the artist's oeuvre in London. Executed between 2007 and 2017, at the height of Gasch Muche's creative maturity, this elegantly curated suite presents a unique opportunity to discover the artist's mastery of her signature medium: glass.

Although initially trained as a painter, Gasch-Muche's approach to making art fundamentally shifted when the artist abandoned the two dimensionality of the flat picture plane to explore a new, highly sculptural idiom dependent upon non-subjective forms and industrial materials. Following the decisive encounter with the masters of American Minimalism, Donald Judd and Sol Lewitt, whose vocabulary of pure geometrical abstraction imbued within hypnotic optical experience is unmistakably distilled within her oeuvre, Gasch-Muche turned to experimenting with translucent glass. The reflective device was soon to become the central tool in her artistic arsenal, capable of transforming monochrome painted surfaces into three-dimensional sculptural reliefs.

Straddling the polarities of painting and sculpture, Gasch-Muche rehearses the optical play of essential geometric forms, spheres, cubes, pyramids and squares, set against a restrained palette of saturated black and white monochromes. Fractured into a myriad of irregularly shaped fragments, using fine, precision pliers, glass is manually layered with bristling precision onto wood or aluminium supports, projecting at progressively graded angles and igniting a swirling vortex of optical vibrations.

Unparalleled in their sophisticated layering and complex texture, Gasch-Muche's works invite a meditative pattern of swirling glass shards and dynamic optical vibrations. Evincing a sculptural, dramatic chiaroscuro effect, they attain a masterful synthesis of the most primal facets of visual creation: light, shadow and motion, as if imbued with an autonomy and life of their own.



Josepha Gasch-Muche studied painting and drawing at Academy of Fine Arts in Trier.

Although originally trained as a painter, Gasch-Muche ultimately focused on glass as her favoured medium, in an effort to expand beyond the two-dimensional confines of the canvas. Inspired by primal geometric forms, Gasch-Muche creates three-dimensional glass sculptures and wall pieces, exploring calculated patterns of light and shadow and triggering optical sensations of vibration and movement.

The recipient of prestigious awards, such as the Silver Prize at The International Exhibition of Glass, Kanazawa (Japan), the artist's work has been featured in important group exhibitions, most recently *Glasstress* at 57th Venice Biennale, 2017, and is included in the collection of international institutions, such as Corning Museum of Glass, NY, Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, VA, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH, Shanghai Museum of Glass, Shanghai, China, Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt am Main, Germany and Musée Mudac, Lausanne, Switzerland.