

Joy Millett's postmodernist, semiotic practice is essentially minimalist, colourful and playful. Her geometric sculptural forms reference neo-classical architecture that houses ambiguous signs and symbols drawn from forms found in nature. The symbols invite the viewer to take time out to contemplate their own meaning of them. Paradoxically, the simplicity of them provides a salve to our snappy, emoji-driven, fast-paced world. She crafts organic shapes from the modernist material Perspex and supports them in metal or wooden geometric structures and semiotic space to create a crisp, pared down, rhythmic, graphic design aesthetic. In the construction process, particular attention is given to the balance of colour, space and form to create harmony.

Often site-specific, the works draw on the architectural style and ethos of a particular arts hub. They can also incorporate movement, either kinetically or as a trompe l'oeil. Experiments in layering to create a kaleidoscopic visual effect; extending the lines of form to create possibilities for new architectural forms; paying attention to precision and the edges of shapes and consistency in the use of materials all add interest to these works.

*BioArch* represents the existential dichotomies of the Apollonian built environment (or indeed, other manufactured systems) juxtaposed with Dionysian nature and of our rational and instinctive inner worlds. The double layered arch form makes for a kaleidoscopic visual effect - by viewing overlapping layers together as the viewer moves around the work, new shapes, colours and possible symbolic meanings are created.

In *3 Pillars*, the three tessellated, architectural, geometric columnar forms use primary and secondary colours to form a Trompe L'oeil that indicates movement - a twisting streamer, revolving spirals and pulsing directional arrows. The blueprint lines extending from the *Pillars* suggest cyanotypes for architectural drawings, all rendered with careful proportion and balance of colour to create a harmonious whole.

The artist's *Zine* mimics the *BioArch* on the front cover opening to reveal the columnar form of the *3 Pillars* that contains the following artists' quotes in relation to space, colour and form, surrounded by the cyanotype lines found on the wall work:

*"Air is material. The nothing that is something. Viewers moving through air perceive every edge as a space, not a line .... "*, Richard Serra

*"Colour is stronger than language. It's a subliminal thing that people recognize and respond to."*, Ellsworth Kelly

*"The first hole made through a piece of stone is a revelation."*, Henry Moore

The bespoke shelf unit is made from the same materials and colours employed in both *BioArch* and *3 Pillars*, to create a consistent design aesthetic.

<https://www.instagram/millett.joy/>

<https://www.joymillett.com>

[joymillett@joymillett.com](mailto:joymillett@joymillett.com)