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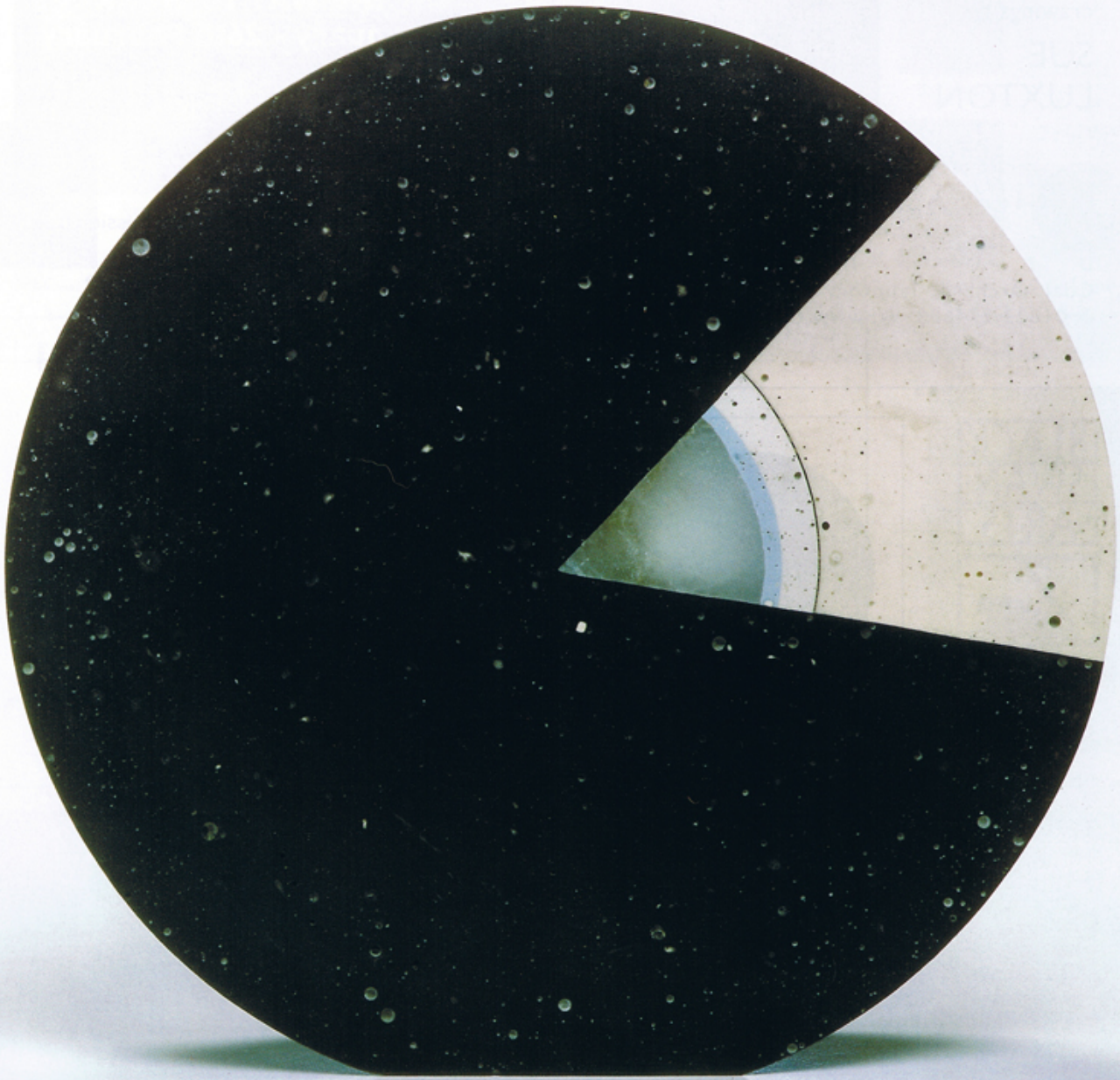


PRESS RELEASES

'Co-ordinates'

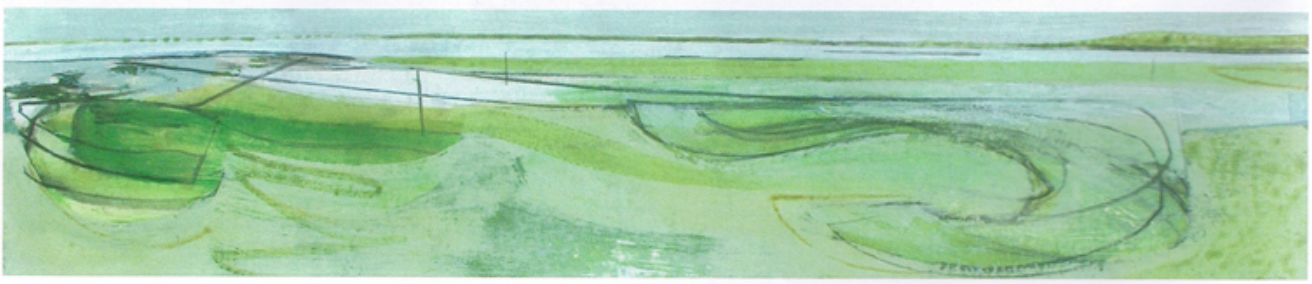
PETER JOYCE developed the concept of 'CO-ORDINATES' to accommodate a need to break from his usual artistic practice. Initially he hadn't considered including other artists, that idea came later, he simply wanted to allow himself some time to explore the possibilities of working differently. With the backing of Arts Council England Joyce wrote an itinerary giving him forty days in which to produce ten works at a single location. Working 'in the field' and recording directly was a new challenge, as was the nature of the location itself, Stanpit Marsh, a site very different from Joyce's usual choice for inspiration.

Joyce is already known for making paintings which deal with landscape. The work his reputation has been built on relies on his ability to produce paintings which deal with complex considerations cultivated into single works, which although abstract in appearance, seek to embody the pure essence of his subject. This sophisticated approach allows Joyce to make works which encompass various viewpoints, scientific knowledge of particular locations and an assured understanding of contemporary painting practise.

'Co-ordinates' however, sets out to break this formula. Here we see Joyce dealing with the appearance of landscape from single viewpoints. The idea is to strip away the comfort of the studio in exchange for the open countryside. Therefore challenging him with the exposed 'plein air' experience of limited materials and actual panoramas. Joyce's chosen landscape of Stanpit Marsh also presents its own problems, being very different from his usual haunts of high cliffs and rugged coastlines.

The addition of other artists, Joyce decided, would help him to register the merits of his own experiences. Established artist MARTYN BREWSTER, recognised film-maker TERRY WINSOR, current Royal College of Art student AISLING HEDGECOCK and accomplished artist BRIAN TURNER are the four Joyce carefully selected to share his excursion. 'Co-ordinates' compels all of the participating artists to respond to specific locations, set by Joyce, and presented to them as six figure grid map references. These artists were given five days on location to produce one piece of work. All the work seen in this exhibition has been selected from the total body produced by the five artists. The panels introduce each artist's contribution to the project and give further information to each participant's location and experiences.

This project has been of unquestionable value to each of the five artists and only time will tell just how much its influence will have on their future work. The general feeling amongst all is that they have only been able to 'scratch the surface' working within the sanctioned time frame.

'Co-ordinates'
22nd January - 20th February
Sherborne House, Newland, SHERBORNE.
Tuesday - Sunday 10.30am - 4.30pm. 01935 816426.

Clockwise from above: Terry Winsor at Kimmeridge Ledges, Martyn Brewster 'Ridgeway Hill 5' (Charcoal, graphite and conté), Peter Joyce 'South Marsh' (Acrylic on board), Brian Turner at Little Wood, New Forest