

# GALLERY PANGOLIN

## NATURAL GEOMETRY George Taylor & Halima Cassell

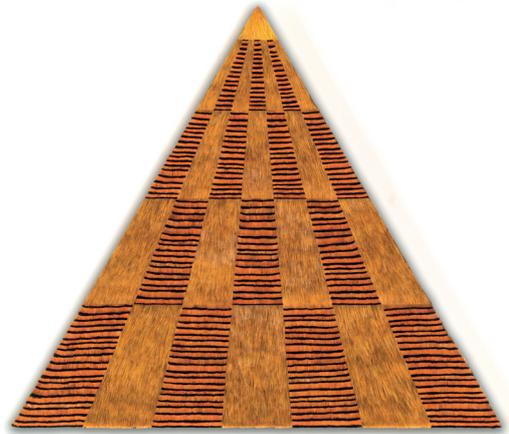
13th March - 30th April 2021

*\*Online only until the 12th April then subject to restrictions open to the public by appointment.*

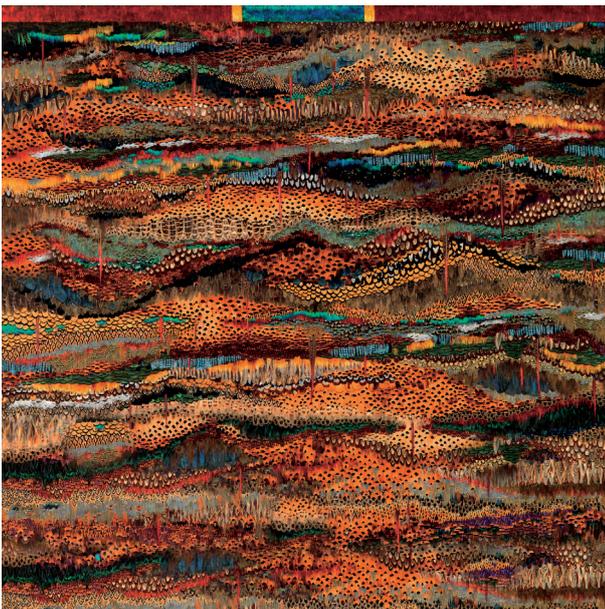
Gallery Pangolin is excited to finally announce the new dates for our **'Natural Geometry'** exhibition. Originally scheduled for 2020 but postponed due to the pandemic, the exhibition is back on track showcasing the dynamic geometric sculpture of **Halima Cassell** and the exquisite feather constructions and installations of **George Taylor**, their first show together.

Cassell and Taylor have a very different approach to making and using materials; they are poles apart. The similarity is in the way they manipulate their chosen media to demonstrate repeat patterns which are visually powerful and a feast for the eyes.

Born in Macclesfield, **George Taylor** moved, aged of 10, to the farm set within its own steep-sided secluded valley in a remote part of Gloucestershire. Here she began working with her father as he tended livestock and managed the woodland, expanding what had been a lifelong enchantment with the natural world primarily as a creative environment beyond landscape and solely as a leisure destination to much more; as a site from which to engage with contemporary issues embodied in experience and place.



*Illuminati, 2017  
Golden Pheasant Feathers*



*Evolution of Love, 2017  
Pheasant, Golden Pheasant and Peacock Feathers*

At Bretton Hall, University of Leeds, Taylor experimented with sculptural form and constructed environments, introduced by tutor John Penny to the work of Minimalism and Land artists such as Walter de Maria. Her studies culminated in 1998, with the creation of total immersive environments where the viewer was oriented in a single direction through feather-lined passages connotative of our passage through life. It articulated her interest in Gaston Bachelard's metaphorical evocation of the links between phenomenological architectural spaces and the noumenal world sensed from within our body and memory and succinctly captured by his phrase 'intimate immensity', which became the title of her solo exhibition at Pangolin London in 2018.

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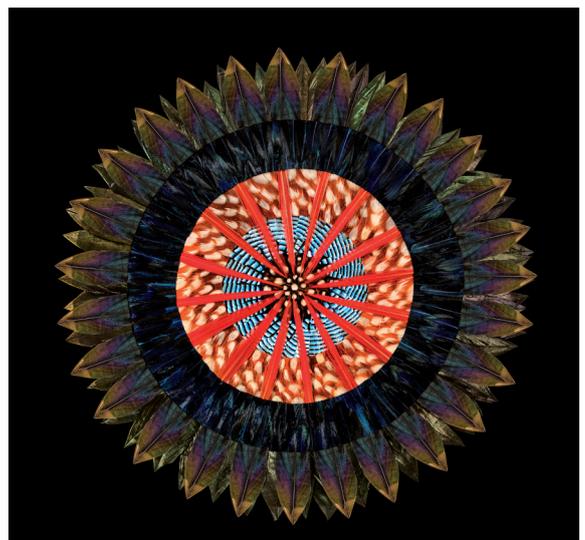
*Erotica, Return to Chaos, 2016*  
*Golden Pheasant & Kingfisher Feathers*

Recently, working with Steve Russell and his studio, she designed and produced a new series of prints that will be shown for the first time in 'Natural Geometry'.

Taylor selects, recycles and preens feathers of Victorian taxidermy bird specimens, road casualties, pluckings of chickens and game birds destined for the butchers' shop to extraordinary effect. The exquisite sheen of metallic iridescence, delicate feathery plumes and rich colours provide a sumptuous palette for Taylor and her objects.

In her use of individual feathers, like a painter might with separate brushstrokes, she builds blocks of colour, shape and tone in geometric frameworks with shimmering and unrivalled sensuality and texture.

Taylor's work is held in many highly celebrated collections, including the Groucho Club, Murder Me and Pangolin Editions to name but a few.



*Effusions*  
*Photographic Print on Hahnemuhle Baryton Paper*

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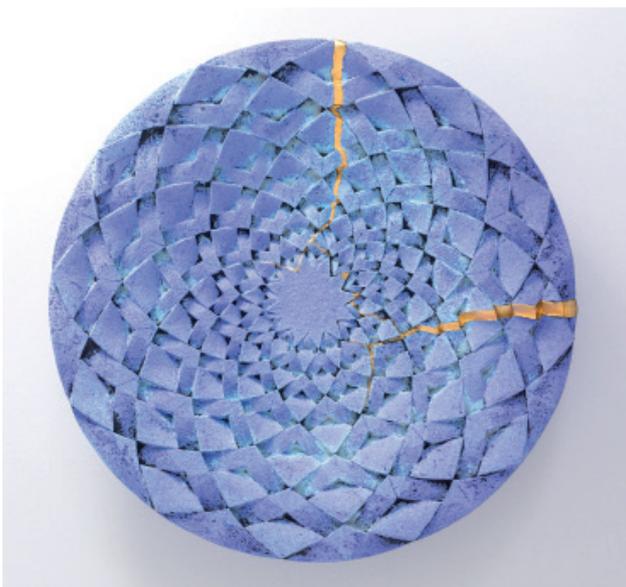
Born in Pakistan, brought up in Lancashire and now living in Shropshire, **Halima Cassell**'s broad, multi-cultural background is tangibly present in her work.

Her natural creativity presented itself at an early age and was nurtured to fruition as Cassell carved her way through an art-based education: an undergraduate degree in 1997 and an MA in 2002.

The culmination of this process is Cassell's precociously mature work. In a perfect marriage of her Asian roots to her fascination for African pattern work and her deep passion for architectural geometry, Cassell's work is intense yet playful, structured yet creative; substantial and dynamic and invariably compelling in its originality.



*Crystalline Tower (black), 2014*  
Bronze



*Blue Tapestry, 1996 reworked 2019*  
Blue glazed ceramic with Kin-sugi (24ct Gold)

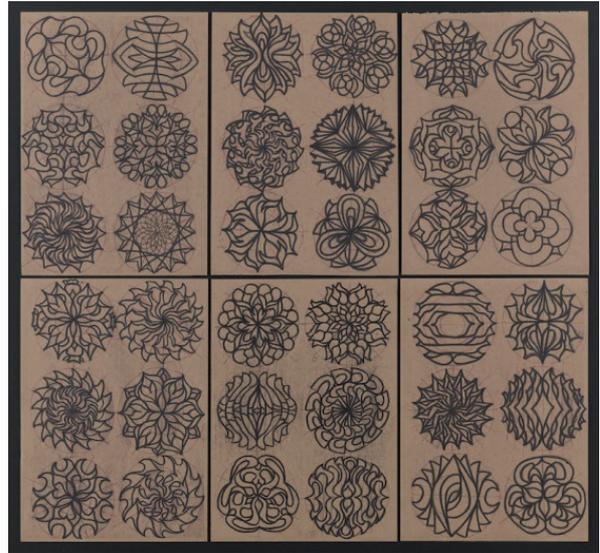
Combining strong geometric elements with recurrent patterns and architectural principles, Cassell's work utilises definite lines and dramatic angles in an attempt to manifest the universal language of numbers and create an unsettling sense of movement.

To achieve these effects she uses relatively dense surfaces and solid forms to carve to her chosen depth. Cassell concentrates on simple forms as the basis of her work in order to maximise the impact of the complex surface patterns in combination with heavily contrasting contours.

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In response to Gallery Pangolin's request for an upcoming exhibition (Works off the Wall) Cassell was inspired to produce a limited edition series of prints taken from her drawings, sketches and design works from many commissions and projects over the years, the prints exploit and celebrate the processes and techniques she uses in her sculpture.



*Vessel Designs, 2020*

*Giclee Print*

This year Cassell is publishing a new book 'Halima Cassell 25'. Published to coincide with an extraordinary twenty-five years of carving materials. This book made possible with the help of a part grant from the Arts Council, documents Cassell's development as an artist and the biographical journey of her artistic practice and we look forward to stocking the book in the gallery.

Earlier this year Cassell was appointed Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) in the Queen's 2021 New Year Honours list, for her services to art.

Her work is held in various national and international collections, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Hepworth Wakefield and Birmingham Art Gallery.



*Makonde II, 2014*  
*Bronze*

Celebrating its 30th Anniversary this year, Gallery Pangolin is a world-class sculpture gallery with a renowned reputation for works of quality and excellence by Modern and contemporary artists.

For a copy of the exhibition catalogue, high resolution images by Steve Russell Studios, or if you would like to discuss payment by instalment, please contact Sally James or Cath Ingram on **01453 889765**

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The Gallery is open Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm

Further information can be found on the gallery website:  
[www.gallery-pangolin.com](http://www.gallery-pangolin.com)

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