

JINYA ZHAO

PORTFOLIO 2025



Artist Biography

Jinya Zhao is an artist and researcher whose practice explores the sensory and perceptual dimensions of blown glass. She holds a BA from the China Academy of Art (2017) and an MA and MRes from the Royal College of Art (2019, 2021), where she is currently pursuing a PhD. Her research investigates how materiality, colour, and spatial layering shape audience perception and evoke memory and emotion.

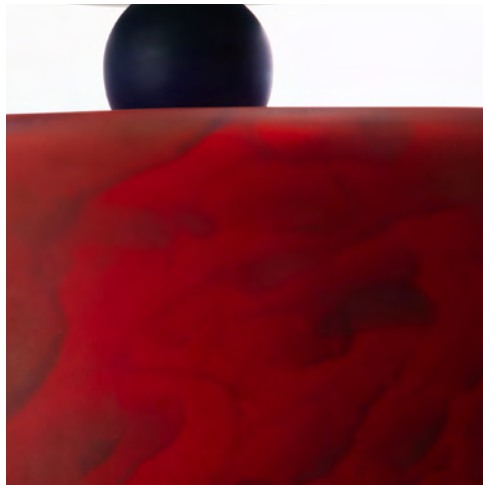
She has been an artist-in-residence at Southern Illinois University, USA (2019), Taoxichuan Glass Studio, China (2022), and Pilchuck Glass School, USA (2023). Her work is held in collections including the Prague Gallery of Czech Glass, Qingdao Art Museum, Ulster Museum, and the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Jinya introduces the concept of "synaesthetic touch," proposing that blown glass can bridge visual, tactile, and spatial sensory experiences to deepen audience engagement. Through opacity manipulation, layering, and spatial positioning, she explores how glass can function as both a material and conceptual medium, shaping perception beyond the purely visual. Her research also examines "layerspace"—the interplay between depth, structure, and spatial narratives—and "site," considering how environmental and cultural contexts influence the reception of glass works.

By integrating theory and practice, Jinya constructs immersive encounters that heighten sensory awareness, transforming glass into an artistic language that connects memory, perception, and experience.

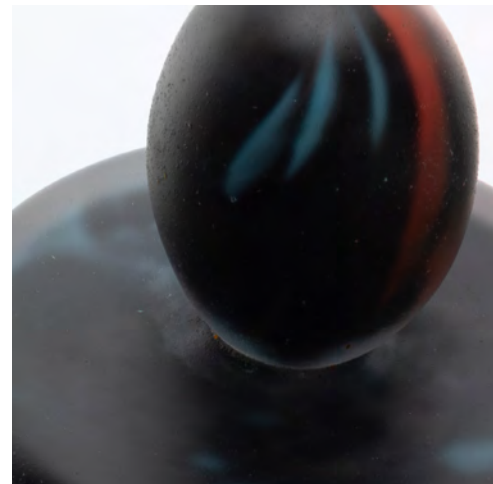


*The Summer – Colour Perception
Study I, 2024
Size: 59 x 25.5 x 25.5 cm*



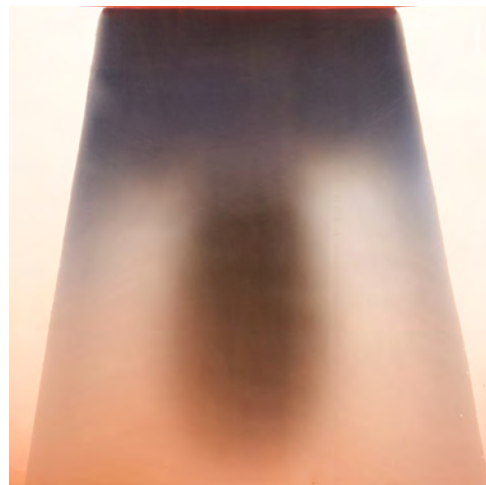
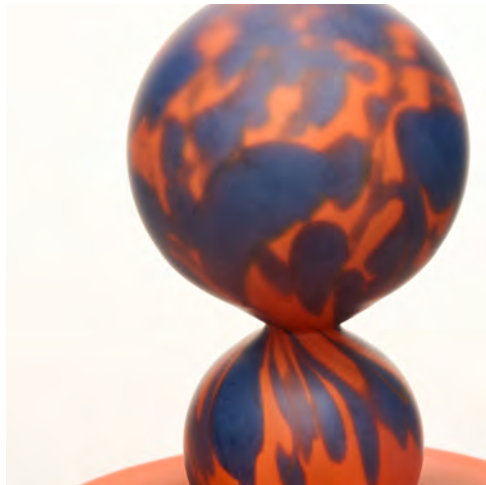


Mime, 2024
Size: 50 x 30 x 30 cm



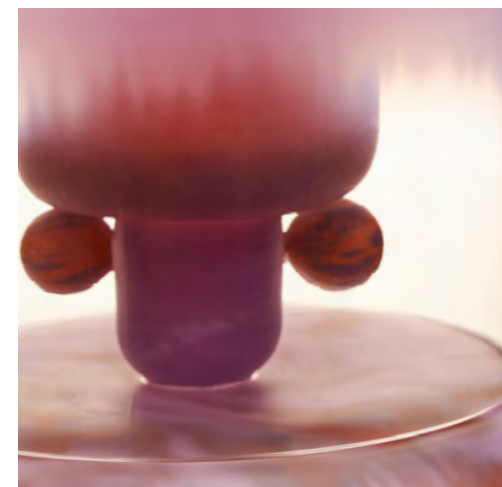
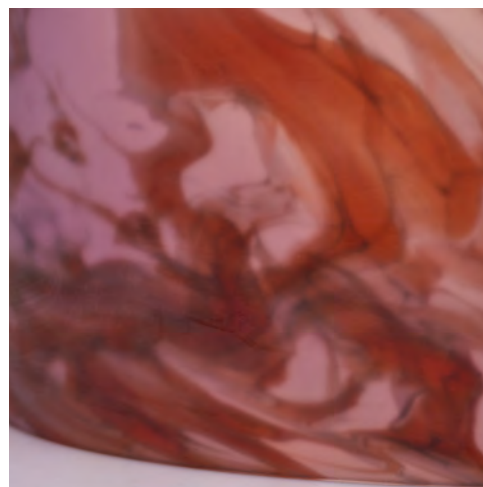
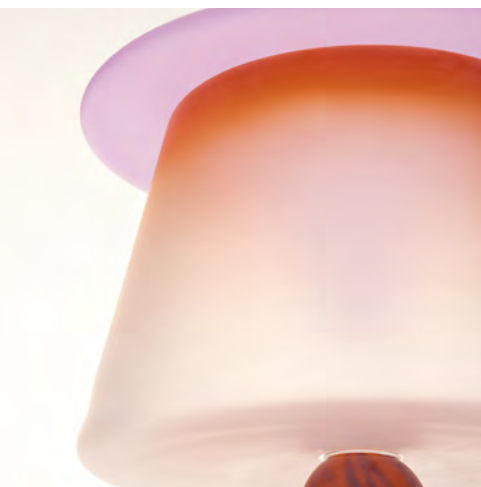


Floating Memories, 2023
Size: 41 x 30 x 30 cm





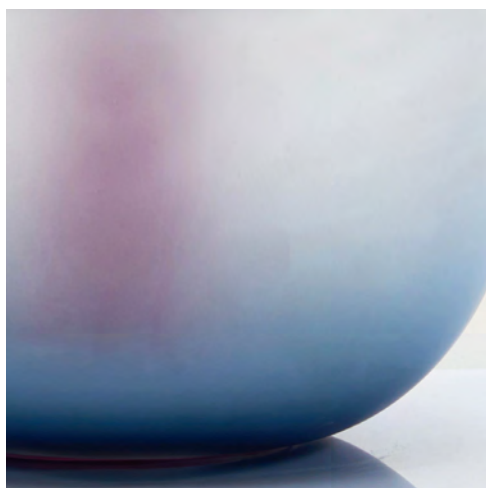
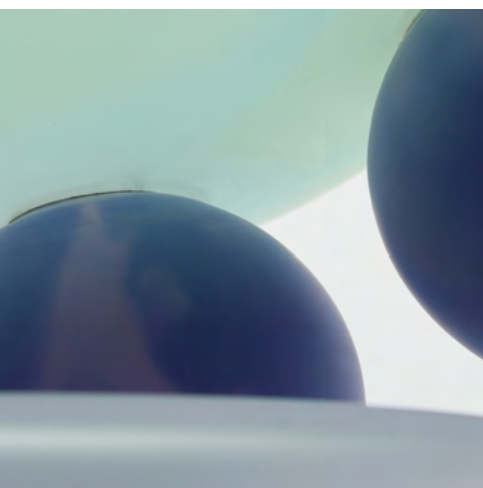
Out and Beyond the Window, 2023
Size: 47 x 27.5 x 27.5 cm





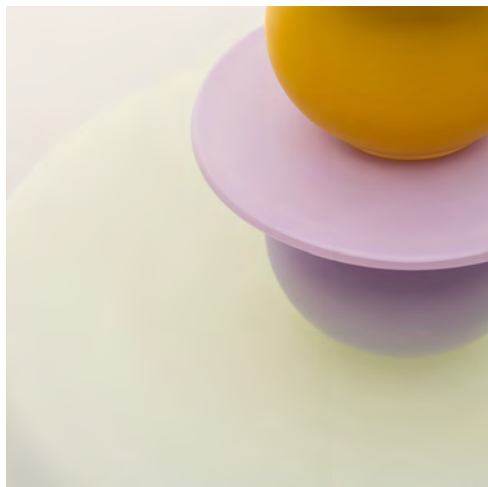
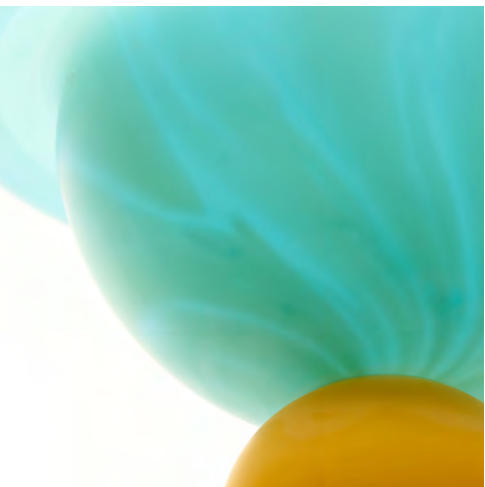
The Year of Memory, 2022

Size: 28 x 28 x 39 cm





Hanging Garden of B.J.C, 2022
Size: 26 x 26 x 48 cm





Non-Existent Existence_The Two of Us No.2, 2021
Size: 28 x 19.5 x 19.5 cm



Non-Existent Existence_The Two of Us No.3, 2021
Size: 48 x 25 x 25 cm





Non-Existent Existence_The Two of Us No.5, 2021

Size: 39.5 x 25 x 25 cm



Non-Existent Existence_The Two of Us No.6, 2021

Size: 31 x 26.5 x 26.5 cm



Non-Existent Existence 2021_3, 2021

Size: 12.7 x 12.7 x 35.2 cm



Non-Existent Existence 2021_8, 2021
Size: 20 x 14.8 x 14.8 cm



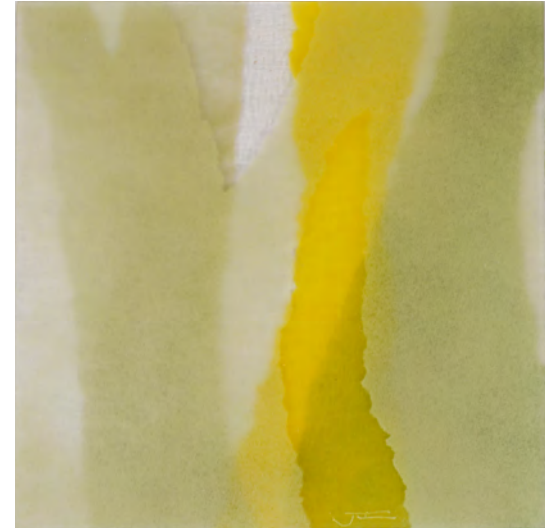
From left to right: Non-Existent Existence 2_4, Non-Existent Existence 2_8, Non-Existent Existence 2_12, 2019
Size: 20 x 18 x 18, 21.5 x 10 x 10, 33 x 10 x 10 cm



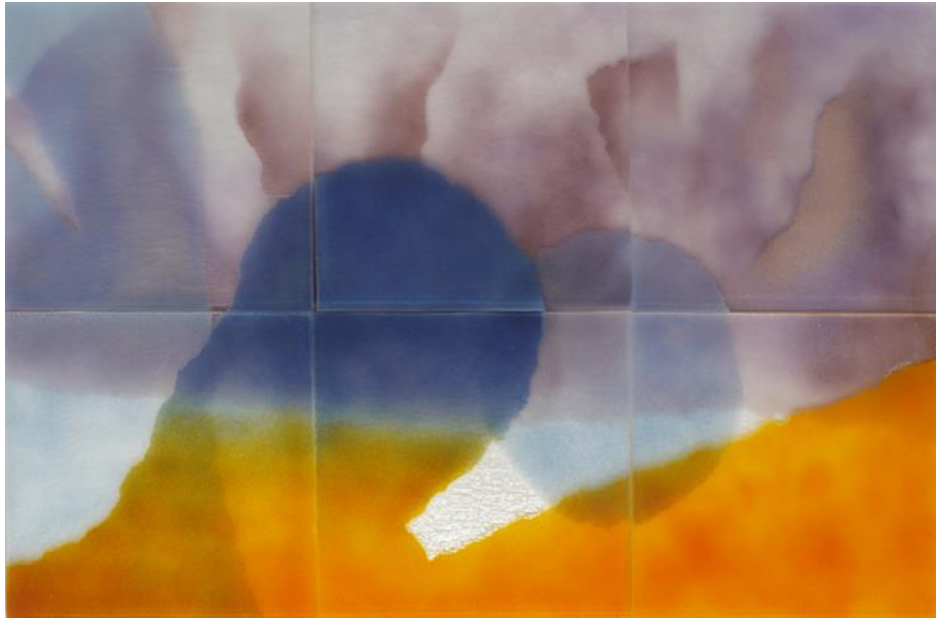
Light Painting Shadows
2023
Size: 25.4 x 25.4 x 0.7 cm



The Other Dreaming
2023
Size: 25.4 x 25.4 x 0.7 cm



The Verdant Moss of the Forest
2023
Size: 25.4 x 25.4 x 0.7 cm



Memories of Tomorrow
2023
Size: 50.8 x 76.2 x 1.2 cm



Celestial Horizon
2023
Size: 25.4 x 25.4 x 1.2 cm