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November 2010 at the Traver Gallery – Seattle

Boyd Sugiki: *Distance*

Exhibition Runs: November 5, 2010 – November 28, 2010

Opening Reception: First Thursday, November 4, 5-8pm

Boyd Sugiki: *Distance*

Traver Gallery is pleased to present *Distance*, a solo exhibition featuring new works by Seattle-based glass artist Boyd Sugiki. Inspired by vast urban landscapes and the abstractions that take shape when cityscapes are viewed from afar, *Distance* is an exploration of “the dialogue between architecture and vessel.”



Sugiki’s work combines innovative glass blowing techniques with exacting execution. Fueled by a fascination with architecture—both ancient and contemporary—Sugiki creates sculptural work inspired by both old and new structures that capture his attention as he travels the world. *Distance* is Sugiki’s second exhibition with Traver Gallery.

In *Distance*, each piece is composed of multiple parts that fit together to make a whole. In some cases, three different blown glass elements are created individually and interlock with each other to form a single vessel. Balance, symmetry, proportion and color are crucial in their configurations. The layering of multiple forms and color is akin to a skyline seen from a distance. Just as viewing a cityscape from afar enables single structures to take new shape as one blends into another, these collections of related pieces and their strong silhouettes create interesting negative space. The contours of one form interact with those of adjacent pieces, as in *Layers*, a grouping of seven monochromatic sculptures. Shadows and reflections are also critical to these pieces. Says Sugiki, “I like to imagine this body of work as buildings and their groupings to be modern urban landscapes where one edifice casts a shadow on its neighbor.”

Boyd Sugiki was first introduced to glass in 1986 at Punahou High School in Honolulu, HI, and studied under the guidance of Hugh Jenkins. He went on to receive a BFA from California College of Arts and Crafts and a MFA from Rhode Island School of Design. He has taught at Pilchuck Glass School, Penland School of Crafts, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, and the Glass Furnace in Istanbul, Turkey. Sugiki lives in Seattle, WA, with his wife, artist Lisa Zerkowitz.

Located one block north of the Seattle Art Museum, the Traver Gallery is one of the country’s premier exhibition spaces for contemporary studio glass, painting, sculpture, and installation art. Gallery hours are Tuesday – Friday 10 – 6, Saturday 10 – 5, and Sunday 12 – 5. For more information, please call (206) 587-6501 or visit our website at www.travergallery.com.