

# For Immediate Release

## New Exhibition: *Julie Blyfield: Contemporary Jewellery and Objects 1990-2010*

Exhibition runs from 5 Feb - 20 March 2011



**JAM FACTORY**  
Contemporary Craft and Design

Celebrating 20 years of exquisite making by one of Australia's most renowned jewellers, this exhibition showcases new work alongside a carefully selected collection of retrospective works.

Though her earlier works reflect concepts such as memory, experience and archaeology, Julie Blyfield is better known for her fresh, elegant way of perceiving the Australian landscape and the grainy details within it. Creating jewellery and vessels which embody native plants, seeds, and more recently, marine life, Blyfield has (re)imagined a lyrical narrative of Australian natural history.

Blyfield's latest work takes her practice on a fresh journey; one which visually references what came before, but sets a captivating new precedent. In this new body of work the artist was inspired by the coastal fringe experienced during her regular trips to Kangaroo Island. Here she collected plants, shells, sea sponges and other native specimens, making her way from D'Estrees bay on the island's south-east coast to King George Beach on the north coast.

Predominantly working in pure silver and sterling silver sheet, Blyfield creates the tactile, finely textured surfaces inherent to her work using a 'chasing' technique - working the annealed metal sheet with steel tools to create surface patterns. The finished surfaces are also influenced by the natural distortions the chasing process induces.

Julie Blyfield is one of Australia's most celebrated jewellers with work collected by major museums including the Musee des Arts Decoratifs in Paris, London's Victoria and Albert Museum, the National Museums of Scotland, the Turnov collection in the Czech Republic, as well as Australian collections including the National Gallery of Australia and the Powerhouse Museum.

Curators: Wendy Walker and Elisha Buttler. This exhibition was designed and developed by FORM.



L-R: Julie Blyfield, Scintilla Series left to right: Hollow pink tube; Peach Shell; Sea Flower; Coastal shrub; Bearded Shell; Orange Shell, 2010; Tinder vessels, 2008

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