Press release

The Mark Tanner Award - Kevin Osmond

Kevin Osmond won the Mark Tanner Sculpture Award, which is now the second largest sculpture prize in the UK, in 2005. The award, worth £10,000, funds the production of new work over the course of a year, culminating in a solo show at Standpoint Gallery.

Osmond's new series of sculptural compositions are inspired by 'scapes' - landscapes, cloudscapes, dreamscapes or starscapes - made from everyday components and throwaway items that in actuality imperil these environments. They provide escape routes from everyday consumer culture into a utopian universe where nothing is wasted – everything is recycled, reworked or reused.

Osmond's practice references a plethora of earthly and celestial elements, including clouds, water droplets, wind and topographical configurations. He also draws on current scientific ideas about the microcosm and macrocosm of space – from molecular structure and chaos theory to wormholes. While alluding to techniques used in traditional landscape painting and exploratory space imagery, Osmond utilises contemporary sculptural forms and materials to re-invent our view.

Building molecular configurations from chopsticks or windfarms out of coffee stirrers, Osmond builds up complexity and interrelation from the repetition and adaptation of simple forms. Obsessive and experimental, he transforms the mundane into the mesmeric.

Mark Tanner was a sculptor who trained at St. Martin's College of Art and specialised in steel. He was associated with Standpoint from its inception, and was one of the first artists to show here. He died in 1998 after a long illness. The Mark Tanner Award was established in 2001 in collaboration with a private charitable trust to keep alive the passion he had for the making of art. **Standpoint Gallery** is now the only artist run space in Hoxton, and is a project space dedicated to supporting emerging artists.

Venue: Standpoint Gallery, 45 Coronet Street, London N1 6HD

Private View: Thursday 14 September, 6-9pm
Gallery Open: Wednesday – Saturday, 12-6pm

Tube: Old Street, Exit 2 (Northern Line – Bank Branch)

Buses: 55, 67, 149, 242, 243

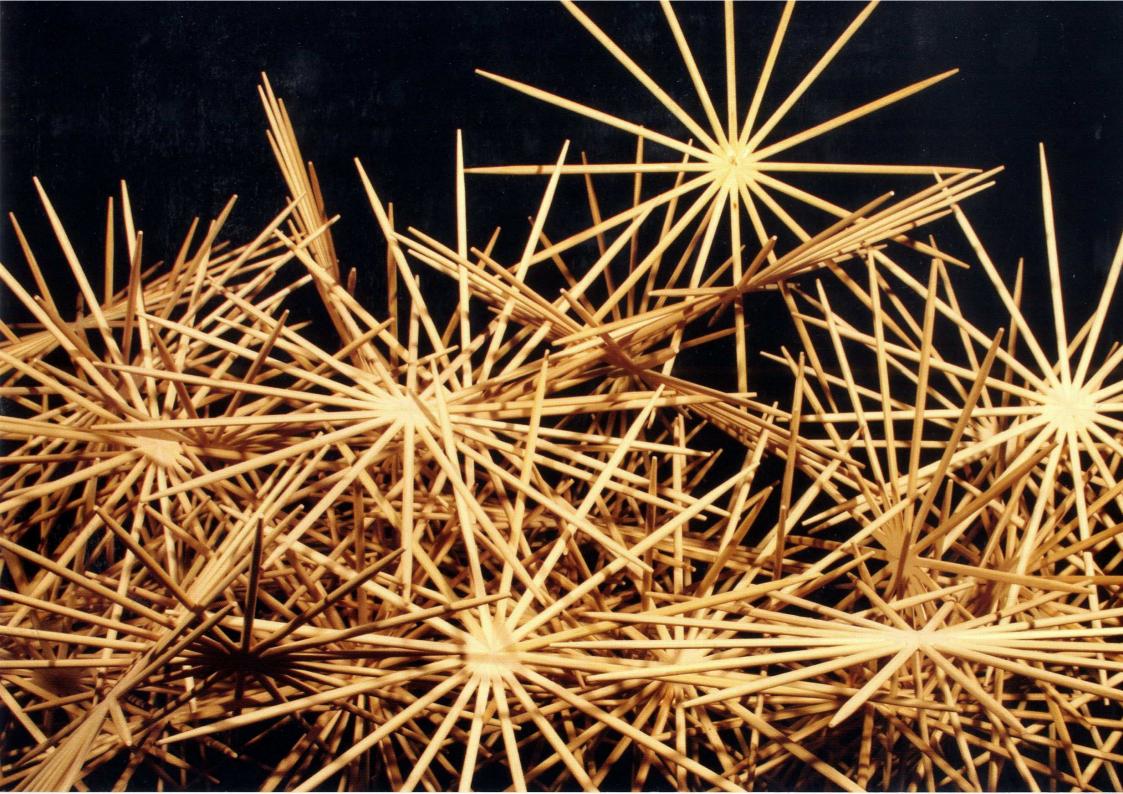
Contact: <u>standpointgallery@btconnect.com</u>
Web: <u>www.standpointlondon.co.uk</u>

Standpoint

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Registration Number 3437596 Standpoint Studios Charity Number 1064750/0

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Kevin Osmond

The Mark Tanner Sculpture Award

15 September - 21 October 2006

private view: Thursday 14 September 6 - 9pm