



John Monti
Ovals & Clusters



Fuchsia Glow, 2021

Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter

14.75 h x 8.5 w x 3 d inches

John Monti

Ovals & Clusters

September 11 - October 23, 2021

cover, from left

Black Frost, 2021

Urethane resin, pigments, glitter

40 h x 19 w x 14 d inches

Purple Pearl, 2021

Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pearl,
kandy pigments

38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches

elizabeth harris gallery

529 w20 st ny 10011

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ehgallery.com



Black Frost, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
40 h x 19 w x 14 d inches

Artist's Statement

Ovals & Clusters are two distinct sculptural modalities that I have been working on of late. During the making of this work, like most of us, I am cognizant of the perilous times in which we are living. And with that I want my work to offer a reprieve yet instill caution. I invite you to place yourself in dialogue with the work while being leery of their brooding and menacing potential.

The *Ovals* are resin wall sculptures highly refined in shape in varying sizes with layered "Kandy" colors, glitter fleck and highly reflective gloss finishes. The oval shapes themselves are reminiscent of classic geometric forms, traceable from the Baroque through minimalism and contemporary design. The *Ovals*, with their mirror-like surfaces and Kandy colors, are meant to seduce. I want the viewer to regard their own reflection as they locate themselves within the oval while being accompanied by the reflections of other things. *Memento mori* and vanitas come to mind as does Victorian portrait and mirror frames. The *Ovals* with the painted patterns are a result of my continued interest in flora, botanical prints and drawings. I manipulate these images on the computer, a stencil is generated and then painted in multiple layers with translucent paints and glitter. "Kustom" [sic] car culture informs the painting, creating slick surfaces of desire; the floral images reside within the vanitas.

In contrast, the *Clusters* are often complex sculptures which suggest dense amalgams of growing, twisting vines and flora. The sculptural elements are first modeled, from which molds are made and then cast in resin. The cast elements are then combined by additive and subtractive processes and surfaced with various finishes and colorations, giving the work an industrial, manufactured quality contrary to its "life" representation. In addition to flora imagery, I am informed by chaotic growth patterns. I view the *Clusters* as being in states of conflict within themselves, each playing out its own psychodrama. The *Clusters* are metaphorical abstractions, reminiscent of emotions and objects from other realms, yet they still retain their own identification and self-possession. My hope is that the viewer will be drawn closely to the works' seductive beauty all the while recognizing that a brooding melancholy lurks not far behind, as evidenced by those sharp dagger-like stems.

John Monti
2021



Big Vine, 2021

Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter
38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches



Silver Wicked, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pigment, glitter
25 h x 19 w x 3 d inches



Black Tendrils, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
39 h x 16 w x 14 d inches



Cluster: Silver Black, 2019
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
59 h x 22 w x 18 d inches



Tipped, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments
(Dimensions variable)





Magenta Pearl, 2021

Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pearl and kandy pigments
38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches



Cluster: White, 2019
Urethane resin, epoxy
54 h x 27 w x 14 d inches



Cluster: Magenta Flake, 2018
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
19 h x 15.5 w x 8 d inches



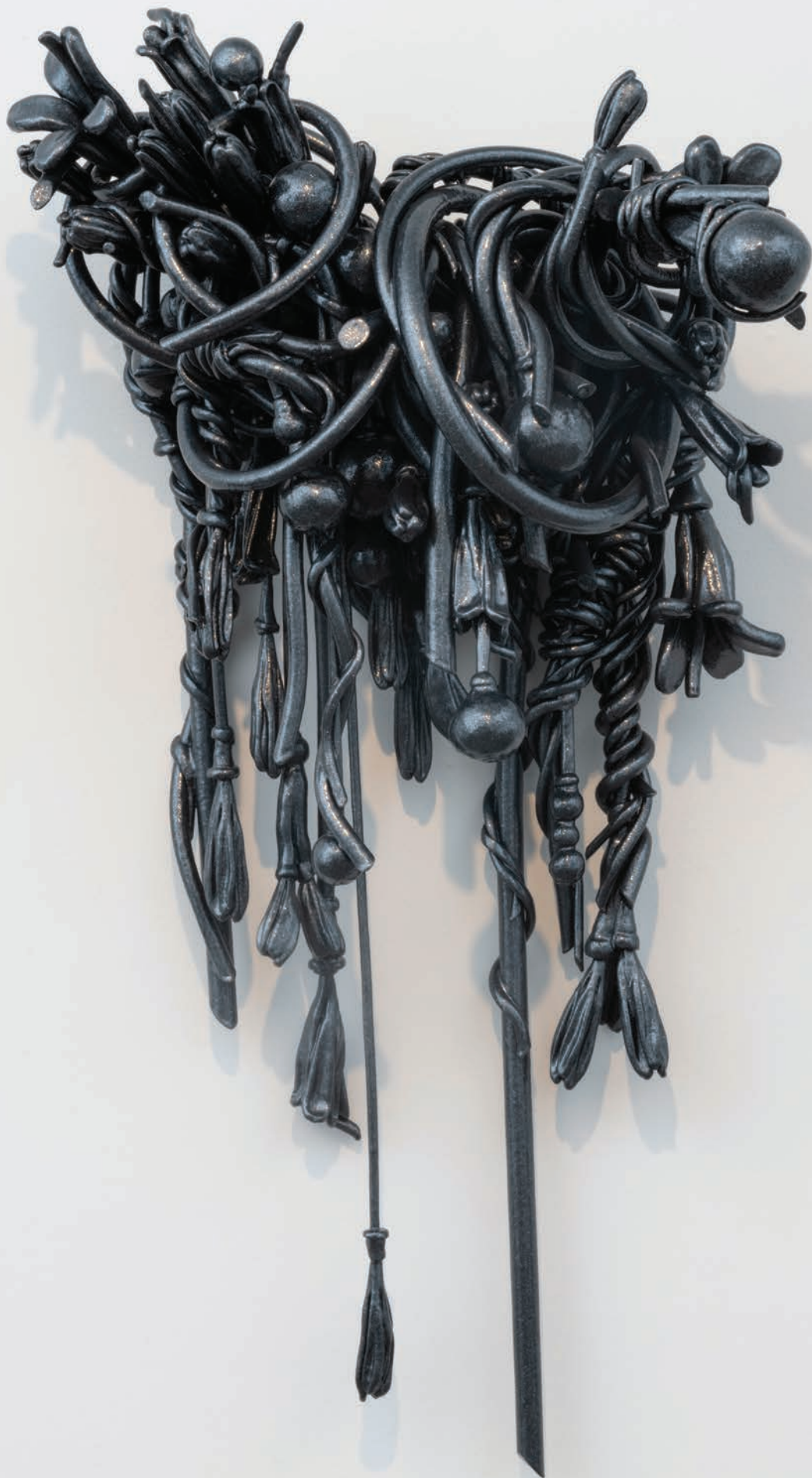
Purple Pearl, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pearl and kandy pigments
38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches



Magenta Sunset, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin,
kandy pigments, glitter
25 h x 19 w x 3 d inches

opposite page

Cluster: Black Pearl, 2019
Urethane resin, pearl pigment, glitter
40 h x 20.5 w x 14.25 d inches





Chunky Red, 2021

Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter
25 h x 19 w x 3 d inches

About John Monti

Born in Portland, Oregon, John Monti received a BS from Portland State University in painting, and later an MFA in sculpture from Pratt Institute. Monti has exhibited extensively nationally and internationally both in museums and galleries and has completed public commissions and set designs for dance. Exhibitions include the Brooklyn Museum, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Sculpture Center, White Columns, Artists Space, Elizabeth Harris Gallery, Curt Marcus Gallery and the Wakita Museum of Art, Japan. His work is included in major private and public collections, including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Brooklyn Museum, Yale University Art Gallery, The Weatherspoon Art Museum, The Eli Broad Family Foundation, The Portland Art Museum and the Wakita Museum of Art, Japan. Grants include the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation, the Joan Mitchell Foundation, the Pollock Krasner Fellowship Grant, The New York Foundation for the Arts, The Rockefeller Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Monti's work has been featured in many publications, including Artforum, Art in America, Sculpture Magazine, Arts Magazine, Artnews, The Los Angeles Times and The New York Times. Monti lives and works in Brooklyn, NY and is Professor of Graduate Fine Arts at Pratt Institute.

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Adam Reich

Design

Kate Davis

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Exhibition Checklist Clockwise from entrance

1. *Black Frost*, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
40 h x 19 w x 14 d inches
2. *Silver Wicked*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pigment, glitter
25 h x 19 w x 3 d inches
3. *Black Tendrils*, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
39 h x 16 w x 14 d inches
4. *Purple Pearl*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pearl, kandy pigments
38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches
5. *Cluster: Silver Black*, 2019
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
59 h x 22 w x 18 d inches
6. *Magenta Sunset*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter
25 h x 19 w x 3 d inches
7. *Magenta Pearl*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, pearl, kandy pigments
38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches
8. *Cluster: Black Pearl*, 2019
Urethane resin, pearl pigment, glitter
40 h x 20.5 w x 14.25 d inches
9. *Tipped # 1 - 17*, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments
(Dimensions variable)
10. *Fuchsia Glow*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter
14.75 h x 8.5 w x 3 d inches
11. *Cluster: White*, 2019
Urethane resin, epoxy
54 h x 27 w x 14 d inches
12. *Big Vine*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter
38 h x 29 w x 3 d inches
13. *Cluster: Magenta Flake*, 2018
Urethane resin, pigments, glitter
19 h x 15.5 w x 8 d inches
14. *Tipped #18 – 20*, 2021
Urethane resin, pigments
(Dimensions variable)
15. *Chunky Red*, 2021
Reclaimed foam, eco resin, urethane resin, kandy pigments, glitter
25 h x 19 w x 3 d inches

e l i z a b e t h h a r r i s g a l l e r y

