

# Holon



Peter Tucker, *Holon*, 2020.

## What does the shape of Holon remind you of?

Does this sculpture remind you of a school of fish, a flock of birds or even a flurry of thoughts and ideas?

Many of Tucker's other sculptures are self-portraits telling of his experiences as a biracial (Afro-Caribbean and white European) adoptee who felt excluded because of difference. Inspired by a meeting with a group of school children, Tucker united varieties of wood from all over the world in *Holon*, optimistically imagining diverse individuals connected in a social group.

# Weightless

## What kinds of things are weightless?

Ghosts, ideas, feelings, memories, the passing of time are all ungraspable and immaterial.

Throughout Nikki Middlemiss' drawings, fractured arcs suggest a canopy of sparks from a firework's explosion falling to earth. She enhances this transience and weightlessness by hanging the drawings slightly away from the wall as if floating.

Although it weighs 300 pounds, Peter Tucker's sculpture seems to soar hopefully toward the ceiling. The shadows *Holon* casts upon the wall mirror the immateriality of Middlemiss' delicate tracery of intersecting oblongs.

Tag the artists:

 @petergtucker

 @nikkimiddlemiss

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# Self-guided tour



*Elevate & Holon* installation image. (background) the *Elevate* series by Nikki Middlemiss; (foreground) *Holon* by Peter Tucker.

## *Elevate & Holon* Nikki Middlemiss & Peter Tucker

March 18 – May 1, 2022

# AGR

Engaging.  
Contemporary.  
Art.

## Titles are hints from the artist

### What does the exhibition title mean?

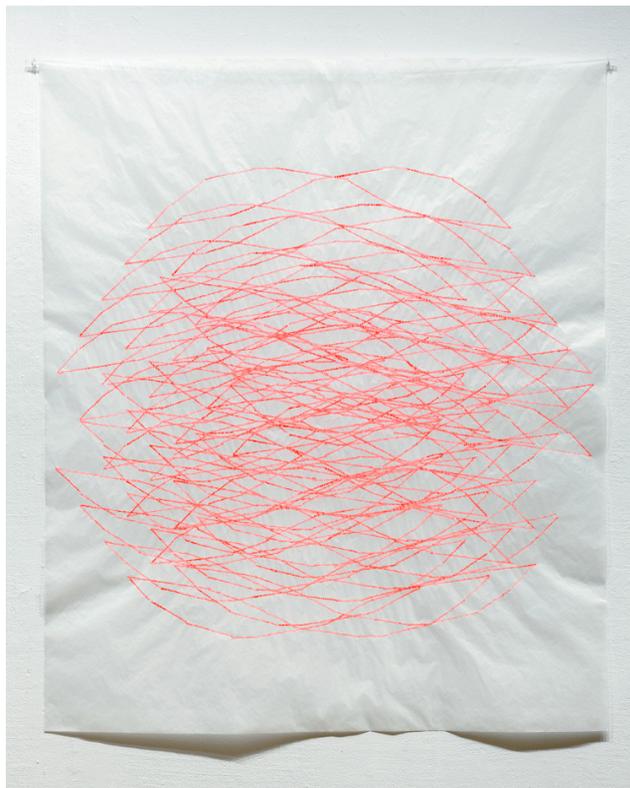
The exhibition title, *Elevate & Holon*, is taken directly from the two artworks or bodies of work in the exhibition. *Holon* is the title of Peter Tucker's large wood and aluminum sculpture; Nikki Middlemiss' drawings on rice paper are collectively entitled *Elevate*.

Artists often deliberately choose titles for their artworks; titles provide clues to the viewer about the content, process, or the artist's state of mind when they created the work.

*Holon* refers to a diverse group of individuals moving as a single organism. Tucker's sculpture unites many varieties of wood in his swirling sculpture.

Middlemiss deliberately induces ripples and wrinkles in her lightweight papers and hangs her drawings so that they seem to hover weightlessly away from the wall as if they might float away.

## Fortuitous Magic



Nikki Middlemiss, *Untitled from the Elevate series*, 2019.

### How can art supplies be a collaborator?

Nikki Middlemiss applies water and diluted pigments to thin skins of tracing paper to purposefully record her drawings' creation in the unpredictable ripples, buckles and dimples.

## A New Language

### What does minimalist, abstract art make you think?

Many people perceive abstract art as merely geometric, lacking content. For many, abstraction signals the toxic masculinity of mid-twentieth century abstract expressionism: formal, intellectual and unfeeling.

Historically and today, abstract artists seek to represent not what already exists but to invent a new language to express what we don't have words for.

The fragility of Nikki Middlemiss' drawings reflects the tenuousness of our lives, while Peter Tucker's sculpture embraces viewers with a vision of inclusion.

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