

EXHIBITIONS Dion Horstmans *Elektromont* 24th February 2015 - 14th March 2015



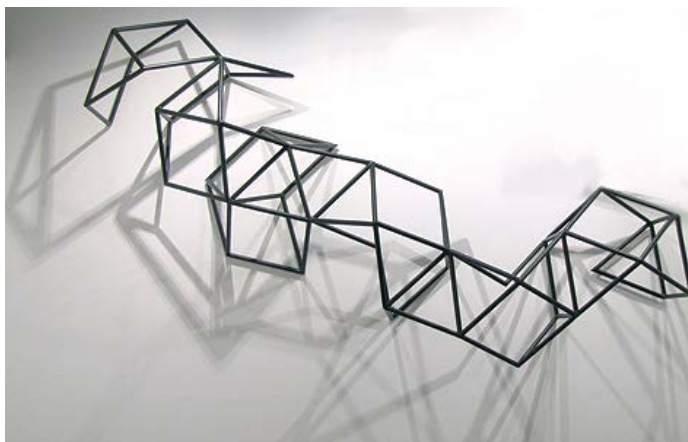
**ELEKTROMONT**

The sculptures of Dion Horstmans slice through the space that surrounds them with angular force and superb brevity of form. In his latest exhibition *Elektromont*, Horstmans draws upon some of the ideas and influences that have long permeated his practice. Speed and electricity, thunder and lightning, the stars and planets are all aspects of the universe that Horstmans has for many years sought to conjure through his geometric wall sculptures. His powder-coated steel works consist of a mass of lines that intersect and crossover one another, forming numerous angles that change depending on the perspective from which they are viewed. This creates an optical evocation of movement that belies their essentially static nature.

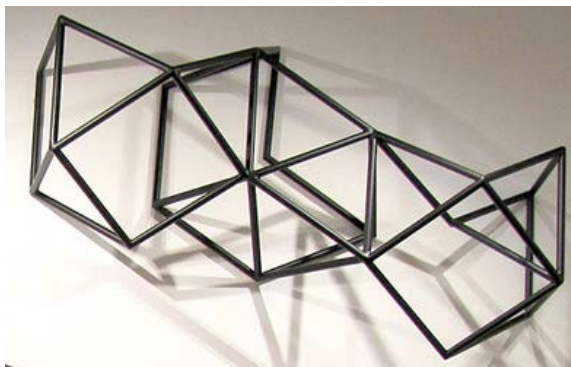
With their formal precision and hard-edged exactitude, one might assume Horstmans relies on digital process and mathematical mapping to arrive at his finished sculptures. However this is not the case. Rather, it is a physical and intuitive engagement with materials and space that drives his practice. He also cites the angular designs and bold use of colours such as red, black and white present in the Polynesian and Maori art that he grew up with as a prevalent influence. Perhaps another, deeper similarity to these Pacific art forms is reflected in Horstmans' desire to give material presence to fundamental elements from the natural world that are energetic and essentially intangible – such as speed and light.



While having forged his own distinctive place in the sphere of contemporary sculpture, Horstmans continues an impressive lineage of artists who have for over a century been inspired by the art of tribal cultures. Most famously Pablo Picasso incorporated the



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Major MK I 2015*  
19mm NB powdercoated steel tube  
158cm x 280cm x 58cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Major MK II 2015*  
19mm NB powdercoated steel tube  
100cm x 150cm x 50cm

ambiguous, non-fixed perspectives and mask like facial features of African tribal art in the iconic *Les Femmes d'Alger* painted in 1907. In doing so he invented an entirely new visual language and sewed the seeds for the development of Cubism.

Further points of formal and conceptual resonance between Horstmans work and this revolutionary art movement can be detected in the linear-edged, painted facet that Picasso and Georges Braque employed as the multipliable unit of Cubist image-making. These irregular and often angular planes were arranged on the canvas to hint at representational certainties, while simultaneously avoiding them. In a sense this is analogous to the ever-shifting spatial faceting found in Horstmans sculptures, where connecting steel tubes form outlines to imaginary planes, enabling the mind of the viewer to essentially fill in the gaps if they choose. These imaginary planes coalesce to form prisms and cubes – and like the Cubists rejection of the traditional fixed-point perspective, Horstmans sculptures gain their essential dynamism through the many ways they can be visually understood when physically encountered.



Such similarities reflect an enduring artistic drive to reshape and reconstitute positive and negative space, as artists seek to frame another dimension beyond that of lived, everyday reality. This impulse traverses centuries, cultures, and media – and forms the foundation of some of the most profound and interesting artworks.

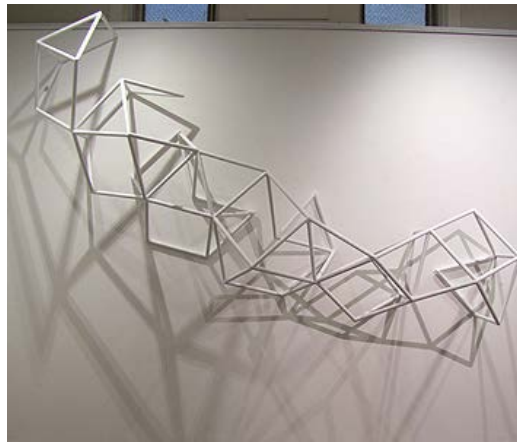
Horstmans has developed an approach to sculpture that is immediately identifiable, and is clearly driven by his innate sense of balance and ability to achieve beauty within an object. His works are starry, prismatic, and universal, seducing the viewer with an oblique, crystalline grace.

[Essay by Marguerite Brown, MA ArtCur, 2015](#)

Horstmans participated in both the Vivid Festival 2012, an annual festival of light, music and ideas, and SxS, Bondi's International Sculpture Exhibition. Horstmans has been included in a group show curated by Leo Tano at the Casula Power House and was invited to participate in *Sculpture by the Sea* in Cottesloe 2013 and also in Aarhus, Denmark 2013.

Horstmans also participated in the 2012 L'Oréal Melbourne Fashion Festival Windows by Design. In 2011 he was a Finalist in the Prometheus Art Award and *Sculpture by the Sea*. He has completed a number of commissions, including a recent large scale public artwork for Melbourne's Docklands precinct, and has had his work featured in *Vogue Living*, *Harpers Bazaar*, and *The Age (melbourne)* magazines, and is in Artbank and SJB Architects collections.

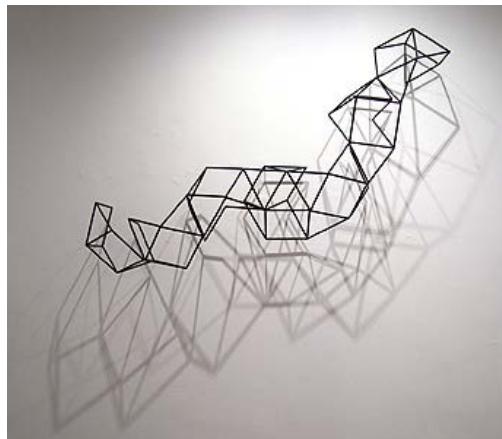
This is Horstmans' fifth solo exhibition with Flinders Lane Gallery.



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Major MK III* 2015  
19mm NB powdercoated steel tube  
160cm x 280cm x 56cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Minor MK I* 2015  
8mm powdercoated steel  
130cm x 55cm x 26cm

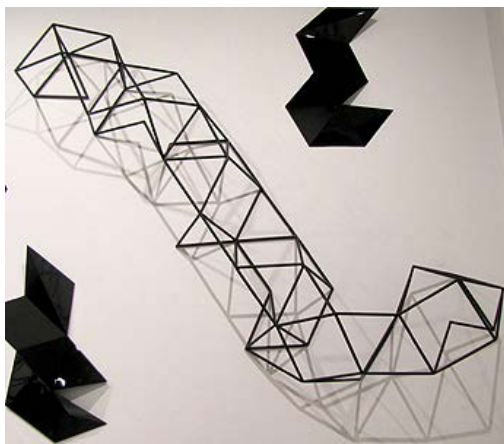


Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Minor MK II* 2015  
8mm powdercoated steel  
90cm x 190cm x 24cm

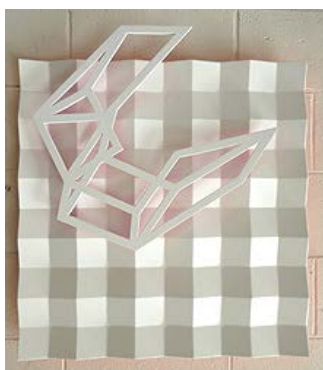
[DION HORSTMANS PROFILE](#)  
[DOWNLOAD BIO / CV \(PDF\)](#)

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Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Minor MK III* 2015  
8mm powdercoated steel  
110cm x 160cm x 25cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Flat MK II* 2015  
9mm BB ply on 9mm MDF + 2K acrylic paint  
76cm x 66cm x 10cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Flat MK I* 2015  
9mm BB ply on 9mm MDF + 2K acrylic paint  
66cm x 66cm x 10cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Flat MK III* 2015  
9mm BB ply on 9mm MDF + 2K acrylic paint  
66cm x 66cm x 10cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Flat MK IV* 2015  
9mm BB ply on 9mm MDF + 2K acrylic paint  
66cm x 66cm x 9cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKVI* 2015  
1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
51cm x 33cm x 5cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKVII* 2015  
1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
52cm x 28cm x 5cm



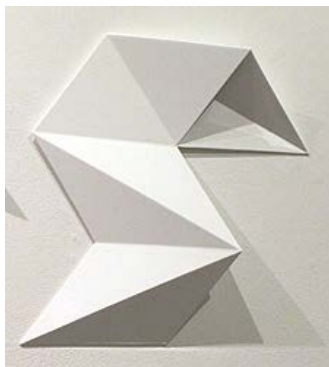
Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKIV* 2015  
1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
50cm x 35cm x 5cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKIII* 2015  
1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
57cm x 40cm x 5cm

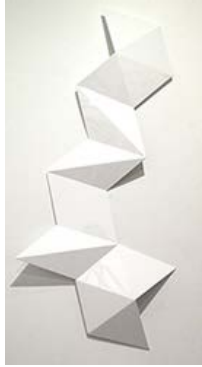


Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKII* 2015  
1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
62cm x 33cm x 5.5cm

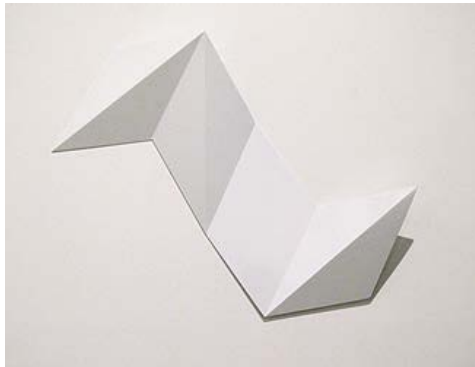


Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MK VIII* 2015

1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
45cm x 29cm x 5cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKI* 2015  
1.6mm steel plate, gloss  
100cm x 43cm x 5cm



Dion Horstmans  
*Elektromont Sharp MKIX* 2015  
1.6ml gloss steel plate  
53cm x 29cm 6cm