

## 16 / ZAC KOUKORAVAS

Zac Koukoravas cites as his "most useful tool" Brian Eno and Peter Schmidt's *Oblique Strategies* cards from 1975, a series of cards designed to prompt artists when they are blocked. Each card has a thought provoking suggestion such as "Only one element of each kind," and "What to increase? What to reduce?"

The strategy has proven effective. Koukoravas has found variations in his use of media that abet his fascinations with the architectural, the suburban and our place in both the natural and built environments. "Ultimately the work for me is about control," he says. "I'm interested in spatial geometric relationships, line and tone and reflections and shadows."

For Koukoravas, "working with order and chaos allows for endless possibilities and observing the order and chaos in nature is always inspiring."

Flinders Lane Gallery curated Zac Koukoravas into its annual emerging artist exhibition *Exploration* in 2013, says the gallery's director Claire Harris. "His multi layered painted panels of glass and Perspex intrigued me with their illusionist quality and false depth. There is simplicity and beauty to the forms he uses. Koukoravas has a unique vision influenced by the ideas of chaos and the dynamic possibilities of asymmetry. He also cites the influences of graffiti and music, in particular techno and discordant dance music. These various influences enhance the dark depths of his practice with shapes revealing and concealing, a steady pulse throughout his work."

Koukoravas' first body of works all sold during that show. "I signed Zac to FLG's stable in 2013," says Harris. "He has consistently produced high quality work over the last three years, selling out all three solo exhibitions and all his works at Melbourne Art Fair 2014. Zac continues to experiment with the materials and the structure of his works. Many collectors have purchased a piece from each exhibition demonstrating his ability to maintain the interest and commitment of his followers."

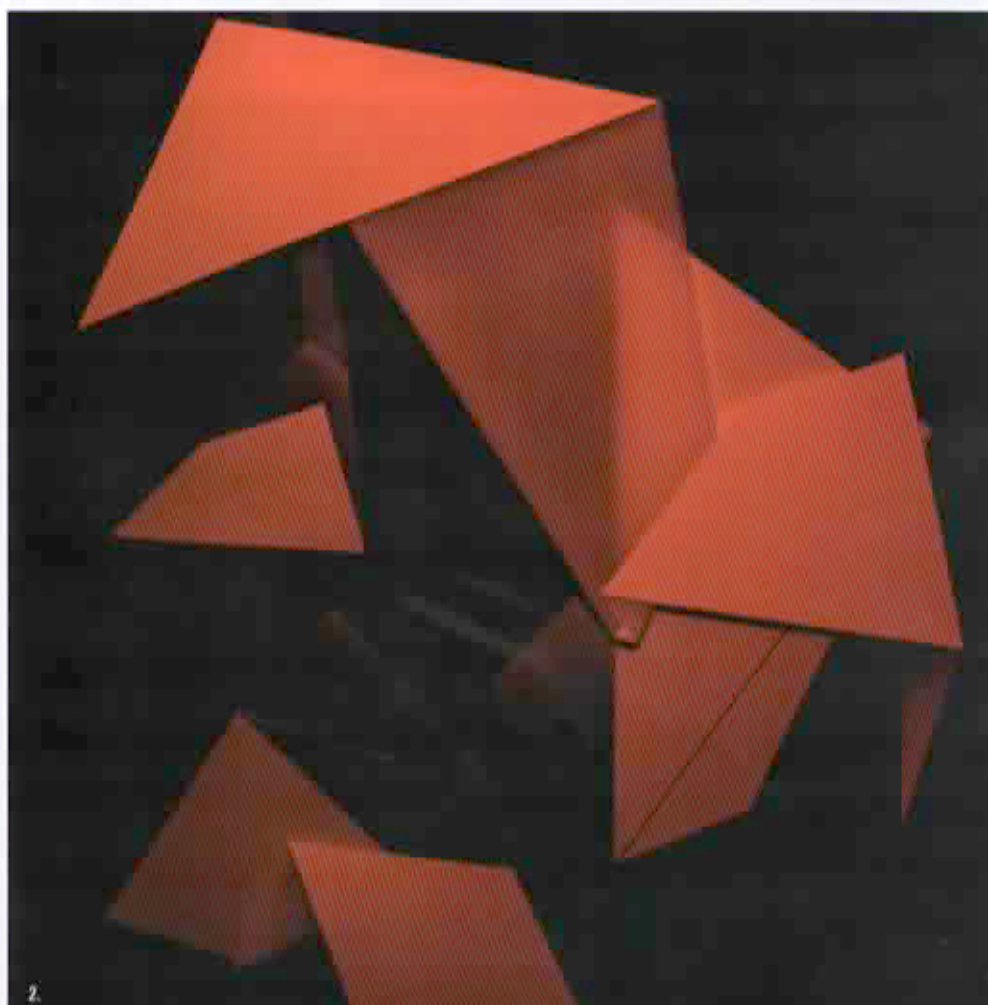
*Ashley Crawford*

1. Zac Koukoravas, *Blue Lines*, 2017. Acrylic and enamel paint on acrylic, 243 x 123cm.

2. Zac Koukoravas, *Nitro*, 2017. Acrylic and enamel paint on acrylic, 103 x 103cm.

3. Zac Koukoravas, *Hyper Ballad*, 2016. Acrylic and enamel paint on glass and acrylic, 103 x 103cm.

COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND FLINDERS LANE GALLERY, MELBOURNE



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CLAIRE HARRIS

