

STEPHANIE JONSSON

Artist Statement

My work answers a need for a connection between natural, organic things in our increasingly urban world. The alien nature to my work represents an imbalance where we see a new equilibrium arising. We are attracted to things that are natural, but are paradoxically manmade.

Though it may appear organic and natural, my work is made with the same production techniques that commercial industry utilizes - steel, ceramic, and textiles. These sculptures are not environmentally friendly, rather, they reflect our culture's obsession with image, appearance, and fabricated "natural" designs. There is a lack of attention towards the often simplistic and practical way that nature actually operates. Similar to the decorative, floral-inspired forms of Art Nouveau, these highly stylized shapes provide a modern-day voice of dissent to our contemporary urban environment.

As a frustrated reaction, I use excessive organic patterning to compete with the lack of spontaneous, natural structuring in our present day confusion. It is loud and visually crowded as a reflection of the noise we see and hear around us. The visual aspects of nature have been assimilated into our manufactured environment, compensating for the loss of natural resources and the steady elimination of nature from everyday urban experience.