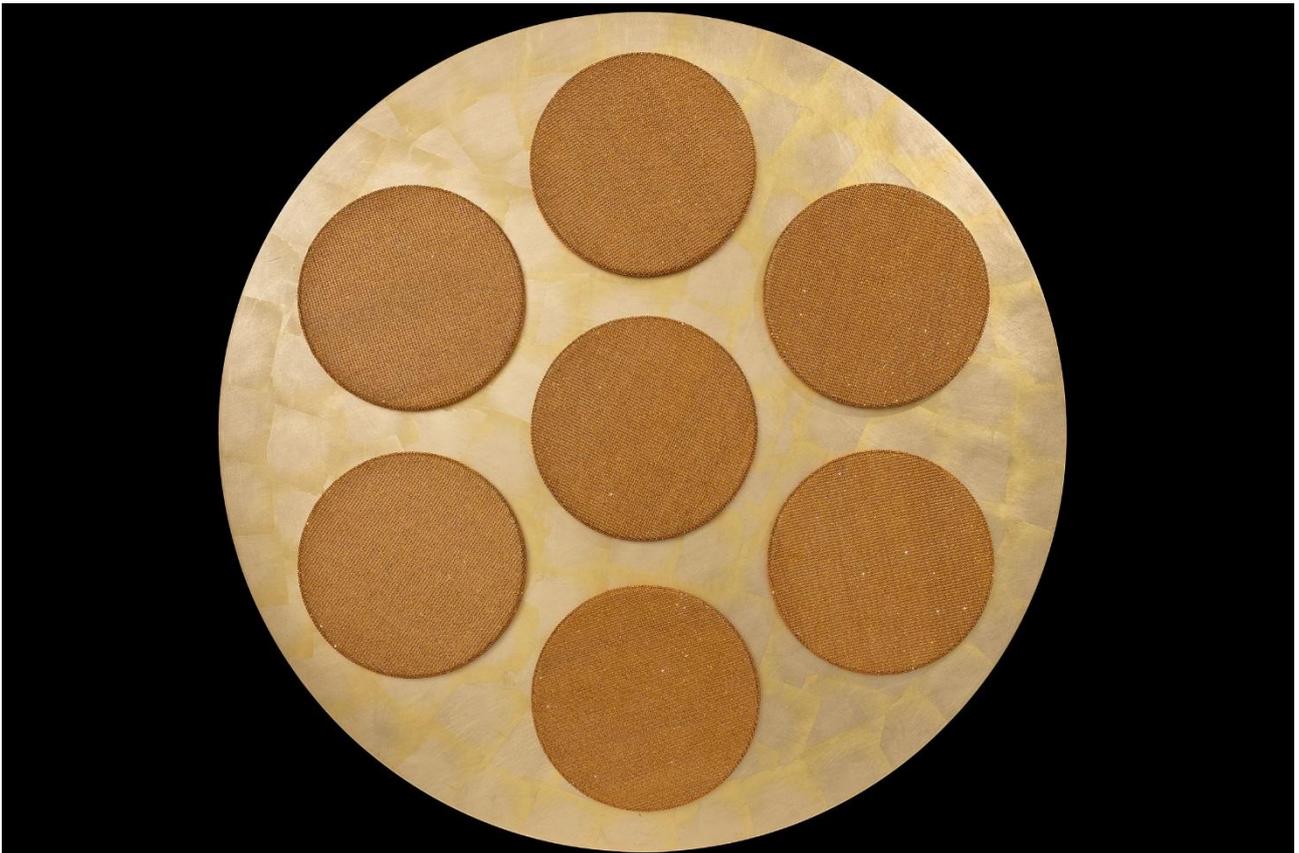


ANTONIA PIA GORDON



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Antonia Pia Gordon: GONG ZENS / Installation on Wood, Mixed Media, Gold Leaf / 150 cm diameter / 2017

Gong Zens

by Antonia Pia Gordon

With her series of unintrusively majestic Gong Zens, Antonia Pia Gordon draws her viewers into a world of atmospheric harmonic balance and vitalizing peacefulness.

Gordon's Gong Zens range from perfect circular to square and rectangular backgrounds layered in silver or gold leaf, upon which mobile spheres mounted with diamond mesh surfaces float in serene centrality. Their innate gentle strength emanates into the rooms and spaces, in which each individual single and multi-spherical gong cosmos resides. Streaming with light, sparkling contemplation and simultaneously exuding a soothing Zen-like aura, they transform any and every ambience into a place of effortless energetic regeneration.

With her Gong Zens series Gordon once again conjures up a signature floating soul-sensing surrounding, in which the conscious and subconscious can merge peacefully interactive and yet still be at-one, lending a whole new meaning to "enlightenment". The onomatopoeia of form of Gordon's Gongs reverberates serene restfulness with silent but powerfully visual all-permeating unspoken sound-like waves, making Gordon's Gong art a creator of an artistic Qi Gong-like energizing sanctuary.

Usually uncharacteristic for statement art, instead of dominating their surroundings, Gordon's Gong Zens integrate and enhance existing surrounding design elements, not only themselves representing holistic harmony, but simultaneously creating it wherever they are hung. It is this impressive integrative element of duality of form and colour in more or less meditative interaction that allows their unintrusive balancing and positive effect to transform the ambience of the most varied settings, Gordon's Gong Zens, by way of their dual textures, are designed to pick up the changing daylight and artificial light and create sparkling energizing moods.

The circle or sphere is a universal symbol of the soul in psychology and religion. The square or rectangle with its four sides is a symbol of the four seasons, the four directions of North, South, East and West and of stability. The combination of circles and squares or rectangles is a symbol of heaven and earth. Gordon embarks on a representation of all of these aspects in the different pieces of her impressive and varied Gong Zens series.

In this continuation of her quest for universal culture and religion-spanning soul-reaching symbolic art, with this series Gordon advances to universality of situation. The Gong that has found its place in East and West, North and South and also in all religions finds an innovative reinvention in Gordon's transformative multi-media art.

The sound of a traditional gong resonates in seemingly suspended waves of sound long after it has been played. Gordon's Gong Zens resonate visually in seemingly suspended waves of soothing and vitalizing energy. The wu-wei of the passive and energizing reflection of Gordon's Gong Zens once again underlines her unique artistic ability of combining the duality of courageous seeming contradictions in complete harmony.

This also reflects itself in the combination of energizing and calming textures in her Gong Zens multi-media art series and in the interaction of sparkling light with the serene strength and calming effect of gold and silver-leaf coated wooden boards that are reminiscent of elements of places of meditation all over the world. It also shows itself in the unexpected implied reinvention of the word sound in the innovative creation of visual sound, realized and conjured up by the name Gong Zen.

Indeed, the Gong Zens energize the flow of thought, giving air to the soul and creating an invisible but almost tangible connection between space and matter.

Steeped in the symbolism of cosmic and inner order, combining soothing natural colours with sparkling light and creating serene balance, Gordon's Gong Zens series is yet another stop on Gordon's artistic journey to a state of centric soulfulness.

The Gong Zens pay homage to the freedom and balance of the infinity of the sphere and to the energy flow of the perfect circle. They courageously ring in a new era of visual sound. With this series Gordon thus once again demonstrates her vast artistic versatility and her continually progressive metamorphosis of artistic theme.

Antonia Pia Gordon

Artist Statement

Gong Zens - Celebrate Life

"My soul is a sphere that resonates with its surroundings"

No matter where they are situated, circles and spheres are perfect and infinite entities that in their wholeness and balance find no match. For me, they symbolize the energetic life force and the weightlessness of inner harmony.

They are simply visual Qigong. Quietly watching the sun rising or setting in the sky or the shining moon in changing light at many different locations all over the world, I have always been energized by the meditative Zen-like auras they both send forth.

The transition of light merely transforms the tone of this silently strengthening reflection. I have encountered gongs in different settings all over the world. Resonating gongs fascinatingly create sound in energizing waves. The seemingly suspended flowing sound waves remind me of waves of light that also carry with them sensory regenerative and soothing strength.

Would it be possible to create visual art that could bring light and with it effect implicit resonance from within that could have the same effect? Bathing in my mind's eye, I called up images of all of the places I have left feeling revitalized. I envisaged the interaction of colours and patterns, sparkles, gold, silver, form and space that I have experienced in places all over the world that are particularly special to me - all of which I have departed from filled with joyful peace. I was inspired to create Zen-like peaceful and energizing visual reverberation art, my Gong Zens and with them ring in an era of silent visual sound.



Antonia Pia Gordon: GONG ZENS / cut out

Antonia Pia Gordon

c/o HLP, P.O. Box 185616, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

+971 501 47 83 16 / Mobil: +971 501 47 83 16 / www.antoniapiagordon.com