Intentionally Random by Sean Albert

Recognizing the contribution art has had in the Mayo Clinic environment since the original Mayo Clinic Building was finished in 1914, Mayo Clinic Proceedings features some of the numerous works of art displayed throughout the buildings and grounds on Mayo Clinic campuses as interpreted by the author.

Sean Albert (1975-1) has been a student at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts located in Deer Isle, Maine,1,2 and Pilchuck Glass School, located in Stanwood, Washington,1,3 and an instructor and artist in residence for the Penland School of Crafts located in Penland, North Carolina.1,4

Albert has become a leading name in innovation with glass art through his approach to glass sculpture. He has created a process whereby he fuses intricately arranged rods of glass filled with a filament of color, followed by cooling the pieces at an angle to retain the piece’s intricate curled nature. He then applies additional work and polishing to the cold figure to attain the complex and delicate gradations of line and hue to each creation.1,5

Intentionally Random reveals the depths and details of this process with chameleon-like variation. Viewing it from multiple angles reveals colors, textures, and patterns not seen in previous observations. Black, grey, green, and smokey opaque trails weave throughout the piece, rendering it to have both solid and effusive substance and line.

Intentionally Random is a 17 x 12 x 2-1/4-inch fused glass sculpture Albert created in 2008 and was donated to Mayo Clinic by Dr Maurice and Elaine Falstein (descriptive plaque). It is located on the 19th floor of the Gonda Building, Mayo Clinic campus, Rochester, Minnesota.
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