



Farthest Reach: Statement

Asteria Creative

17/07/2021

The process of making our third exhibition, Farthest Reach, and the sculptures that came as a product of it, before even having the idea of creating sculptures, was to explore ancient cultures' views and interpretations of the cosmos and try to find patterns in how they linked it to their social and political structures, and belief systems. Unfortunately, after exploring several groups, we found the recurring theme of astronomy often being used for political power.

The idea of not only reading about these cultures, but also gathering their views and putting them in a modern day context then became very present, particularly with how we can explore the cosmos with a philosophy of sustainability and justice - which led us to explore ancient cultures' sustainable practices and how they could be tied to modern day space exploration.

And before continuing, it's crucial to share our view of modern space exploration - it's something that we think of not as a detached, technologically dominated endeavour, but as an integration between human values, cultures, art, and belief systems *with* the vast and mesmerizing cosmos from which we came from and have been separated from for so long.

So with this perspective comes the idea of sustainability in space exploration - and not only sustainability in an ecological sense, but in the sense of reassessing and removing systems that, by design, can't function forever. These systems include social, political, economic systems, etc. Our personal fear is that if we explore space with the systems that are clearly damaging us and the environment around us, there are centuries of human and ecological suffering to come.

So these sculptures are our humble statement on sustainability when we explore the cosmos, when we explore new planets and landscapes. And the statement is from the view of how we can construct physical structures and honour the landscapes we're building them in. Constructing complex environments and physical structures for us only with the



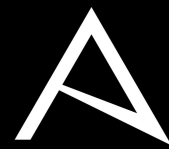
materials that exist and are predominant there, that are clearly compatible with the environment and can be sustained indefinitely.

The first sculpture is made from mycelium, a white, intricate, thread-like part of fungi which grows symbiotically with tree roots in forests, offering a network through which trees transfer nutrients between each other in exchange for carbon that the mycelium needs to survive - and has been placed in the depths of Glentress Forest, Scotland. The second sculpture is made from polished glass and meteorite samples, and was temporarily placed in Yellowcraig Beach, Scotland. With the sculptures being from a material which is predominant here, we imagine planetary landscapes we arrive in built with the same philosophy.

- *Gonzalo Gil*
Asteria Creative

To find out more about our work, you can find us on:

- asteria-space.com/creatives
- [@asteria_creatives](https://www.instagram.com/asteria_creatives) on Instagram
- asteria-creative@protonmail.com



Mycelium sculpture in Glentress Forest, Scotland



Glass and meteorite sculpture in Yellowcraig Beach, Scotland