

# Downtown

Karen Phelan

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# Artist Statement

Grounded in the heart of an urban landscape, the sun is setting and the crowds are calming. Expecting darkness and a sense of dismay, this is banished and replaced by the wonder and awe of a neon dream world.

San Francisco, New York, London - I have always been drawn to the florescent ambience of large cityscapes at night. My work explores, through composition and light, this illuminated atmosphere.

I aim to bring this sense of envelopment into the domestic space through light compositions. Each piece, which juxtaposes porcelain with coloured resin, transports the viewer into an urban still life of warmth and wonder.

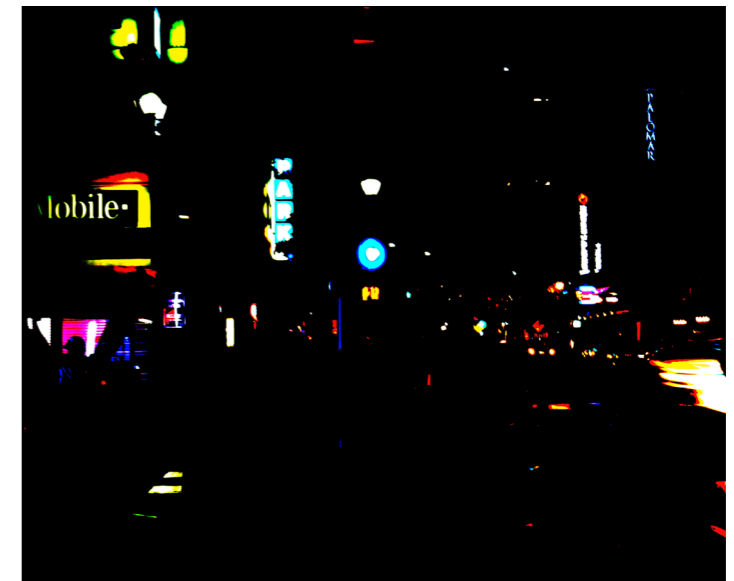


# Inspiration

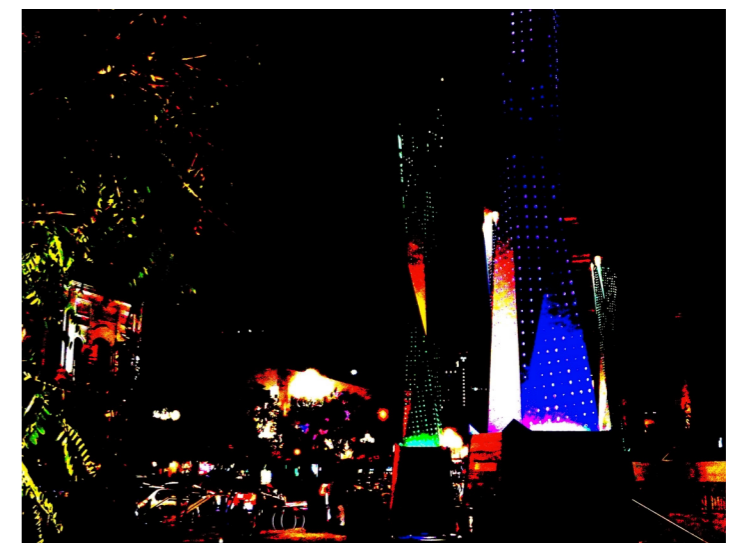
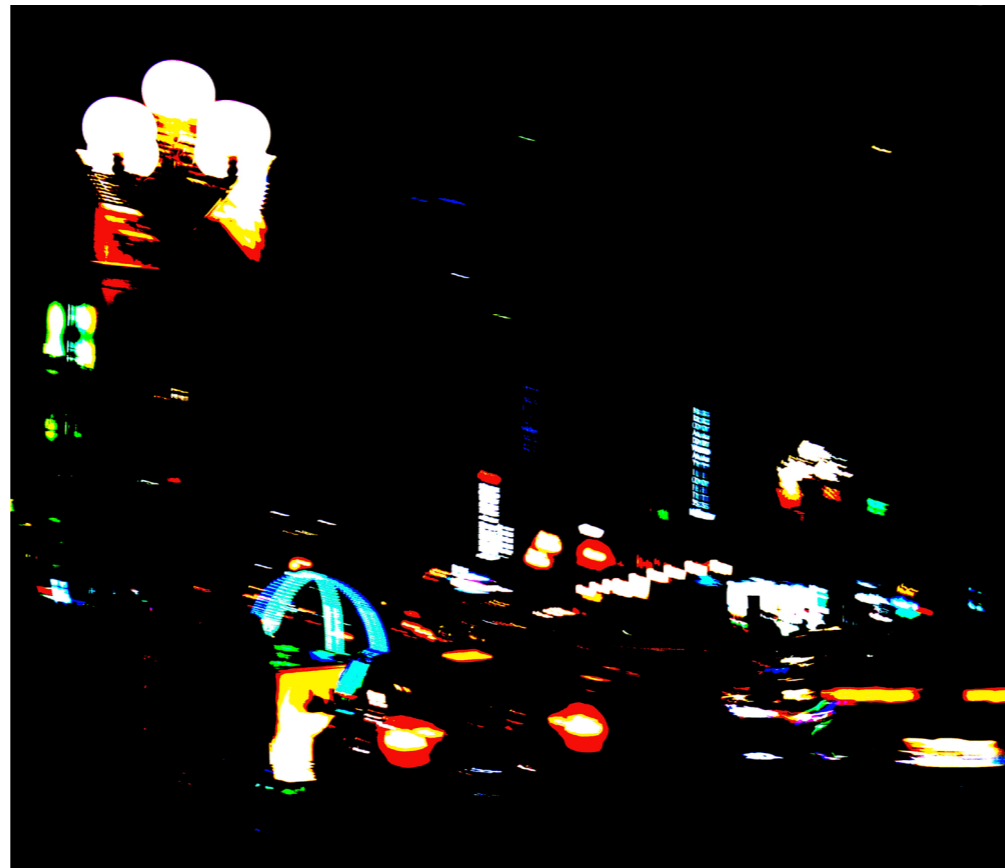
Vivid City  
Lights



Highly  
Saturated  
Photographs

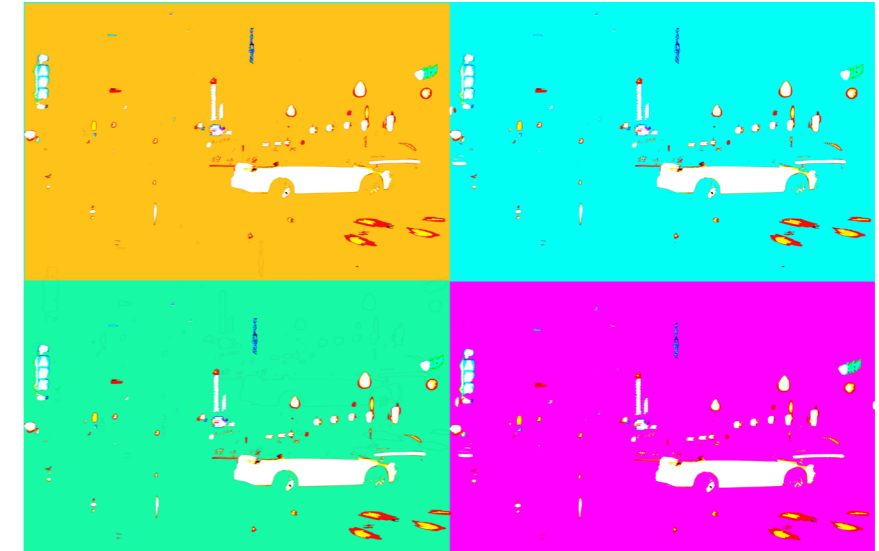
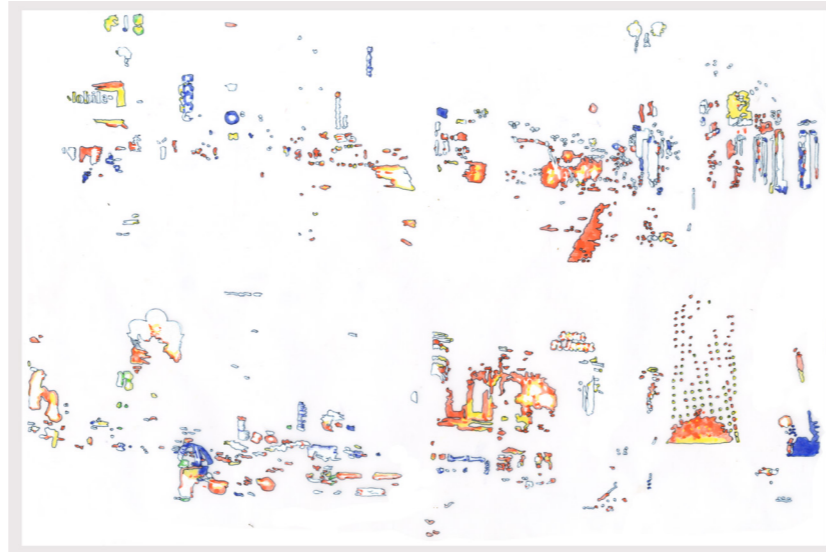


Neon Colours

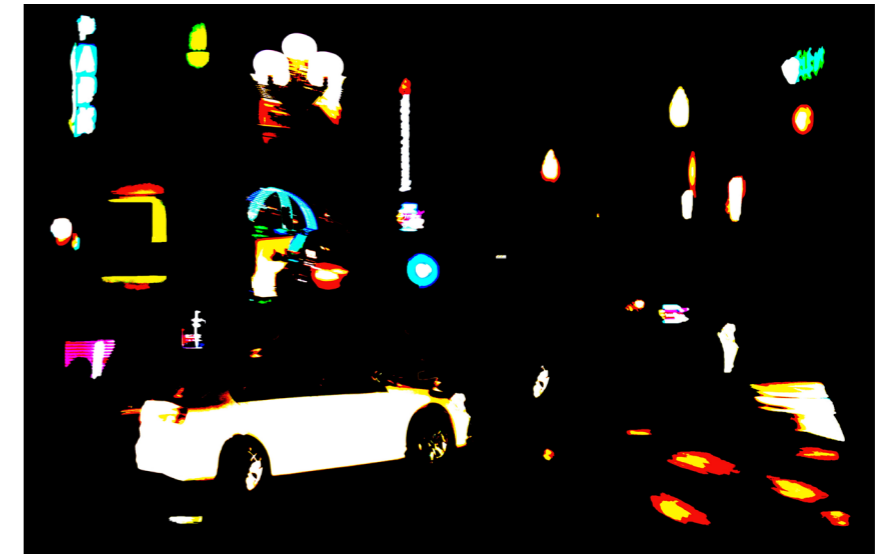
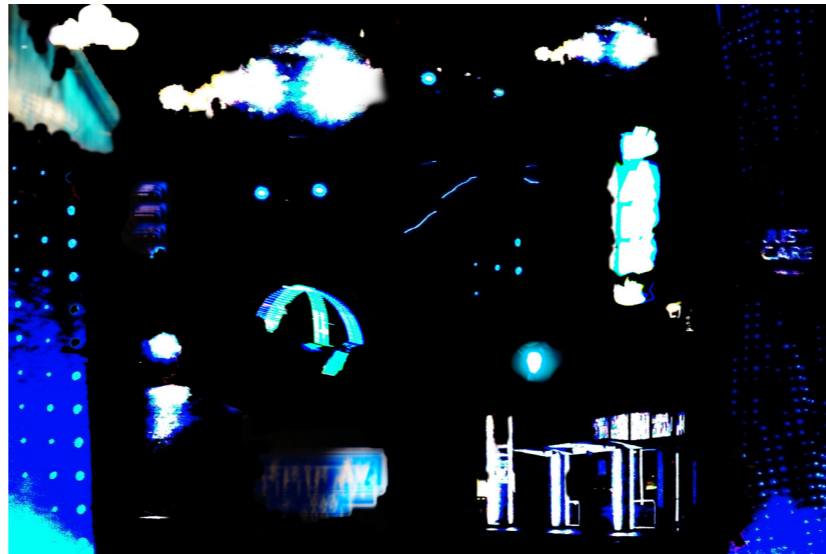


# Research

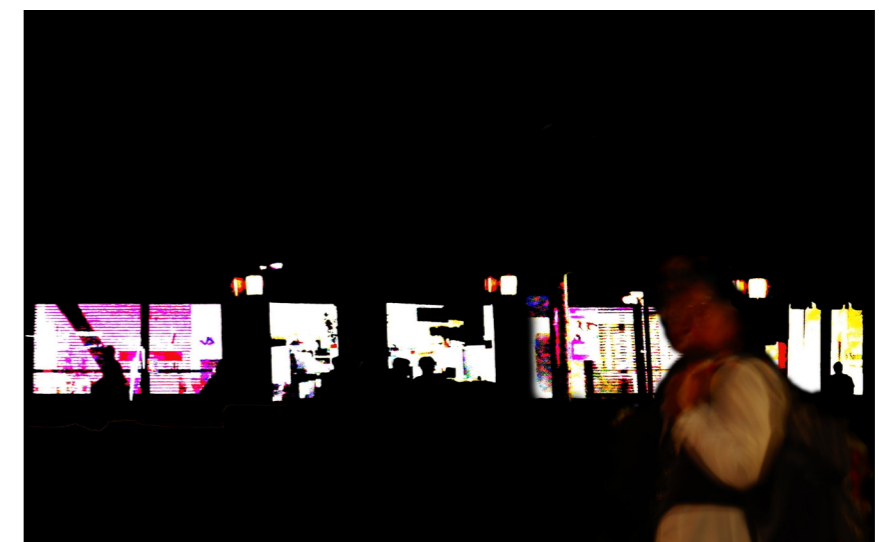
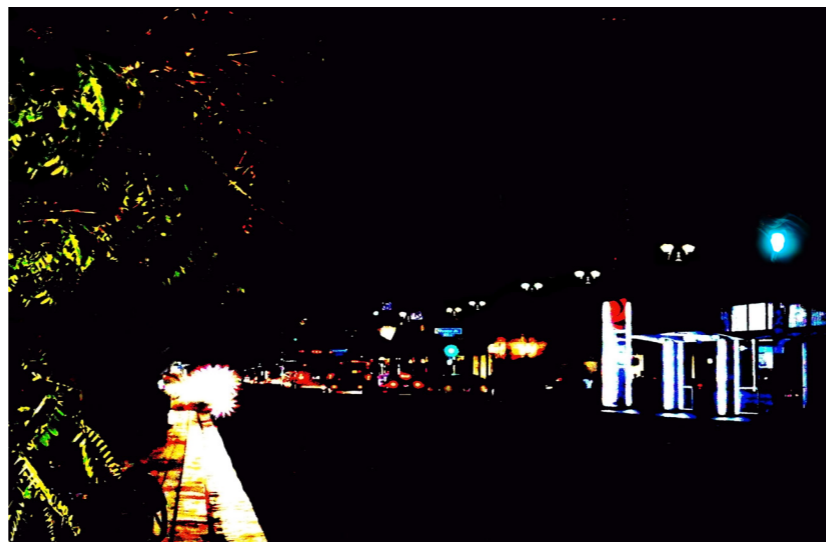
Tracing  
Paper



Colour  
Swatches



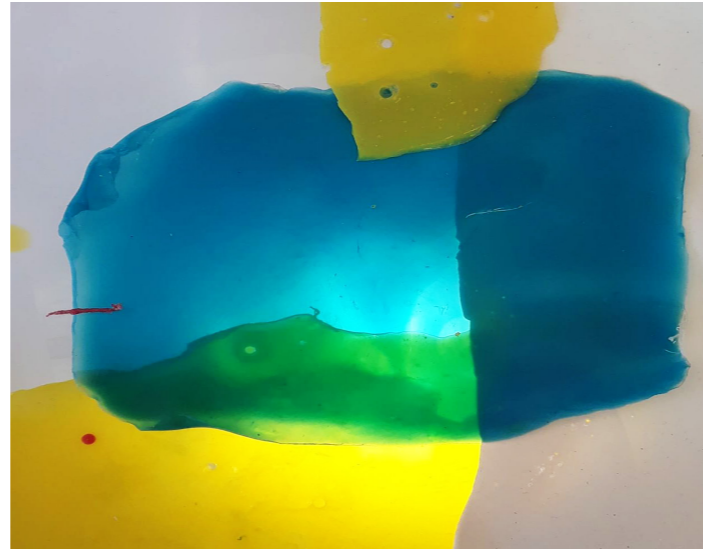
Photoshop



Compositions

# Material Research

Latex



Coloured Resin



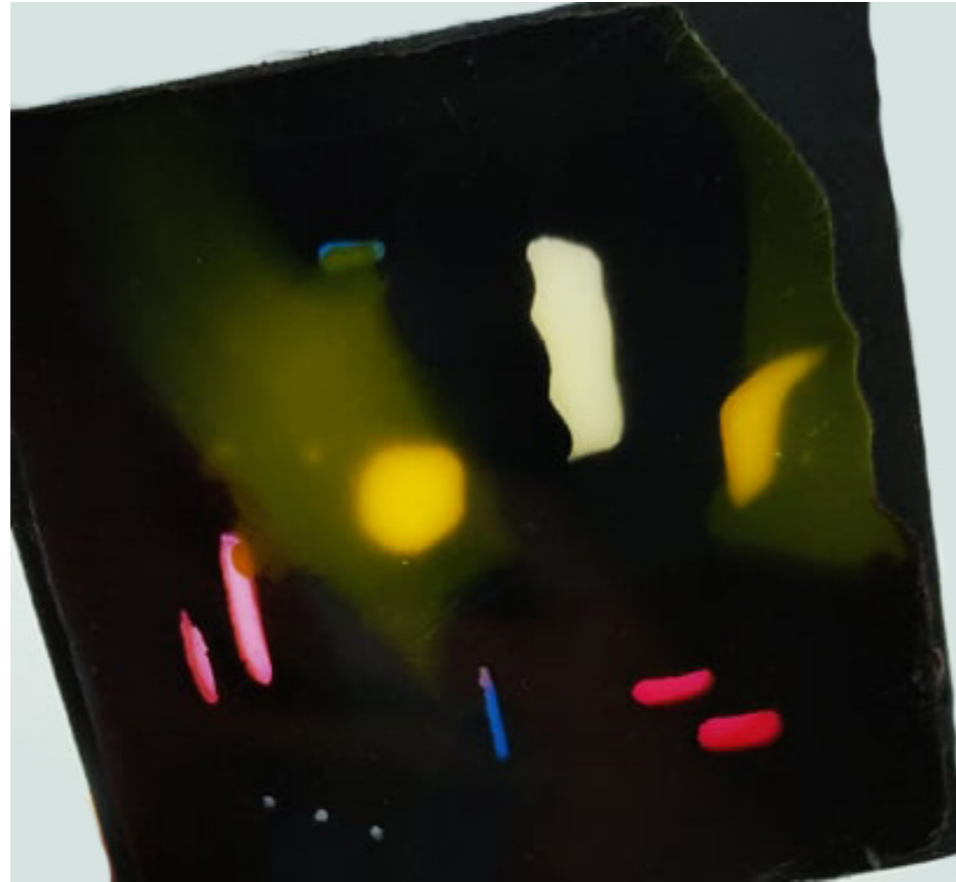
Testing translucency



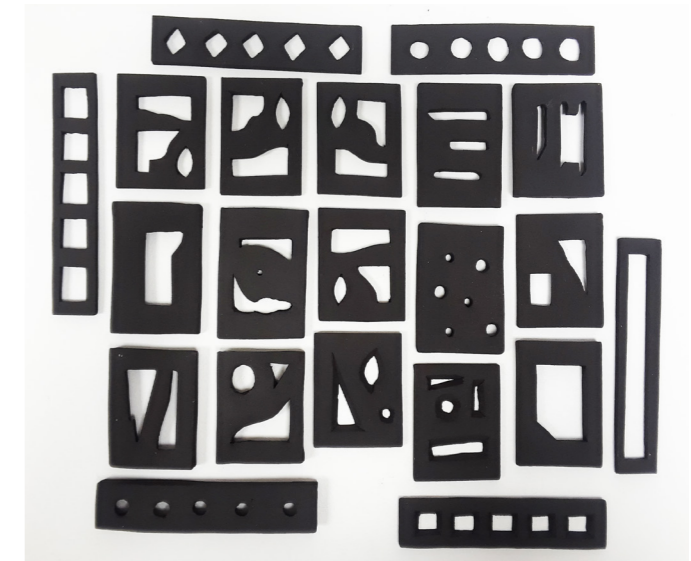
Glowing Qualities

# Design Development

Black Clay Tiles



Abstract Shapes

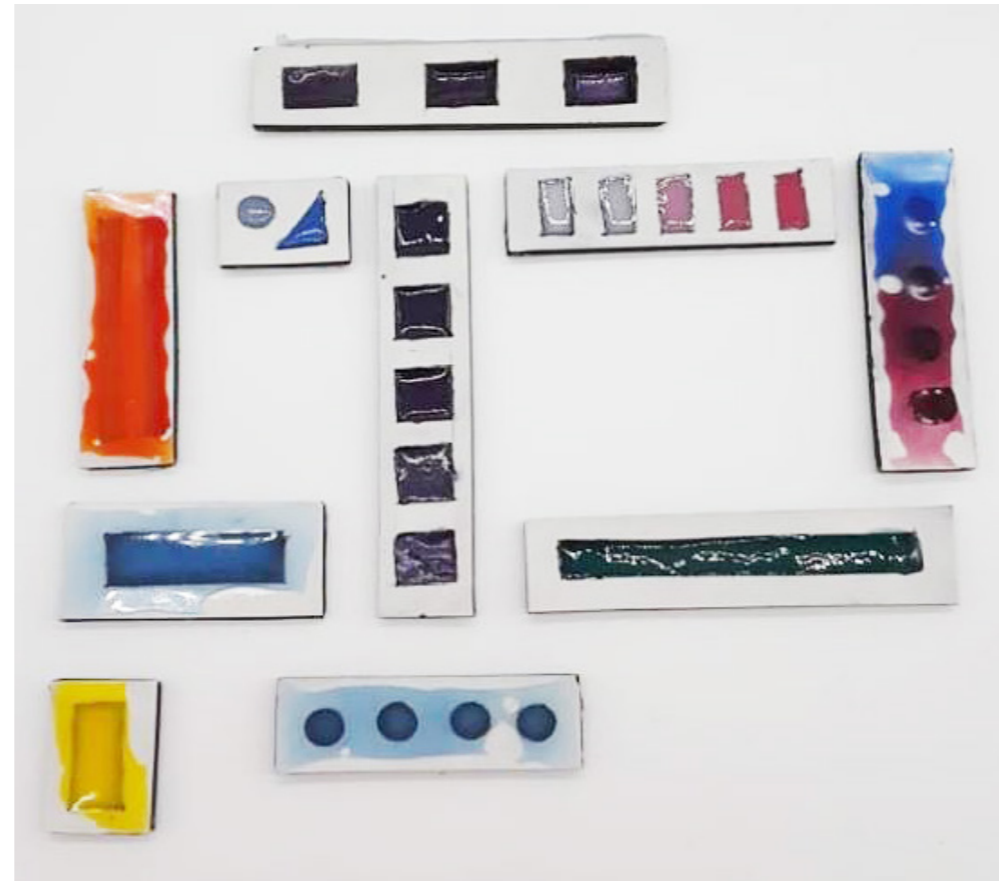


Composition and Colour



# Design Development

Porcelain Slip



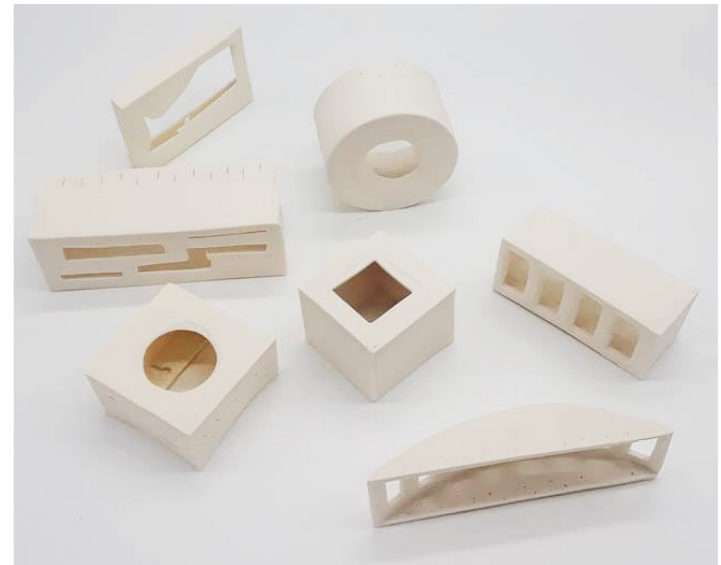
Referencing Cityscapes



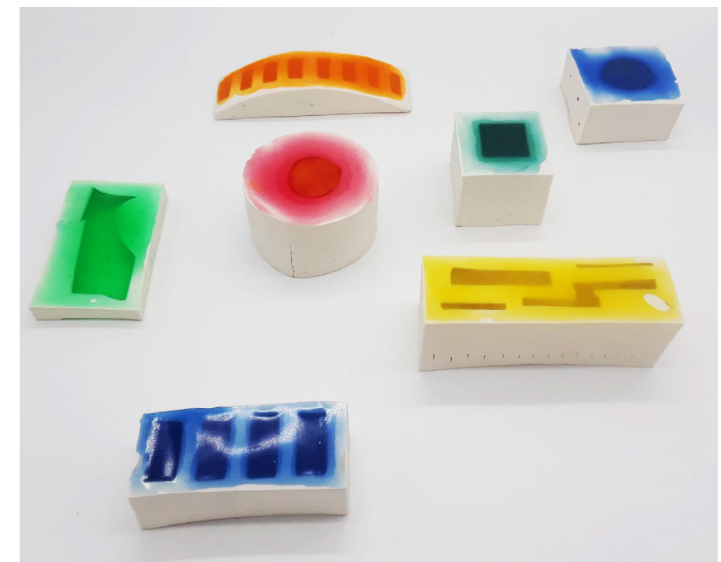
Testing Colours and Transparency



3D Forms



Light Box

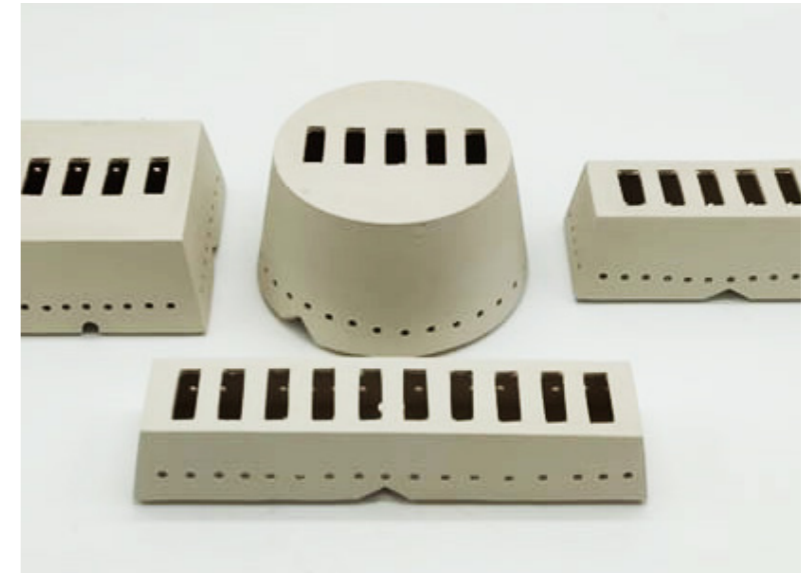


# Materials and Processes

Plaster Forms



Hand Cut  
Designs



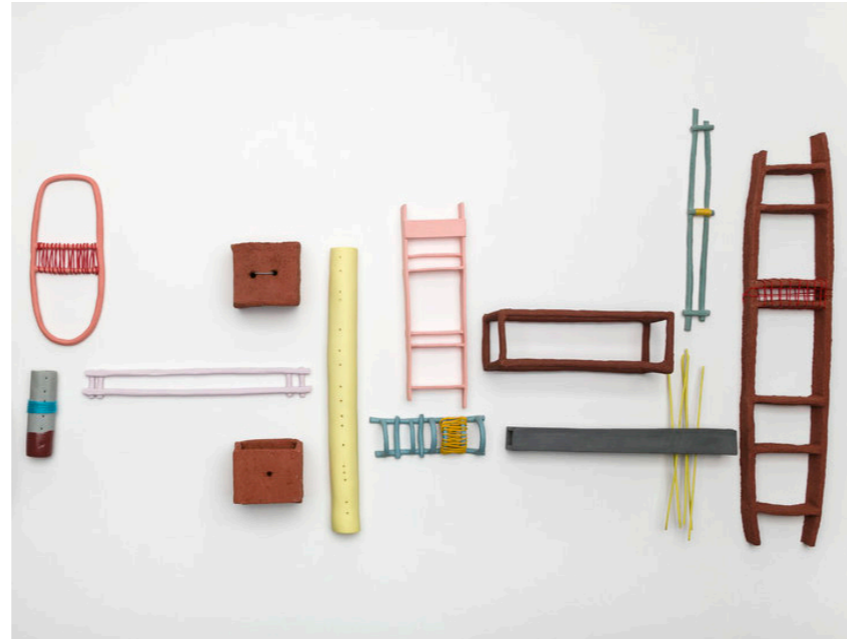
Pouring Resin  
after Firing





# Context

Composition:  
Amy Mackle  
Isobel Egan



Lighting:  
Sasha Wardell  
Wendy Ward



Ceramic and  
Design Expos

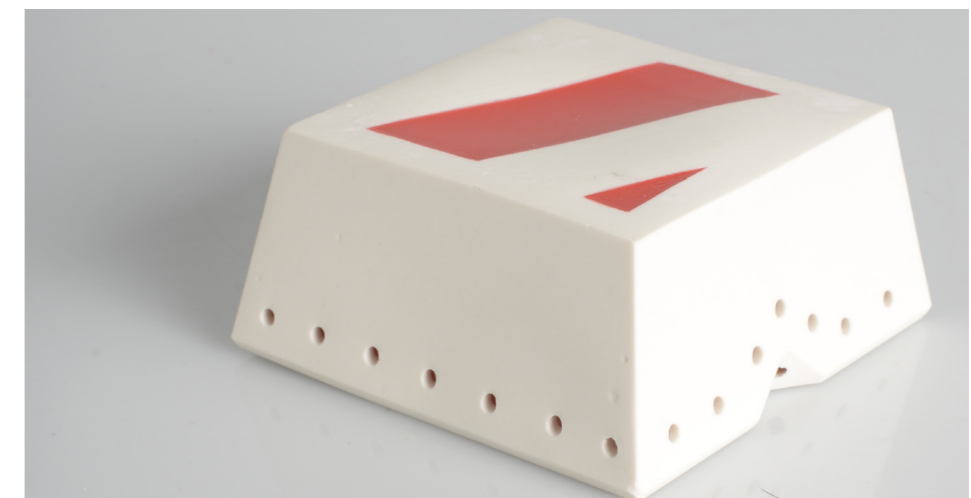
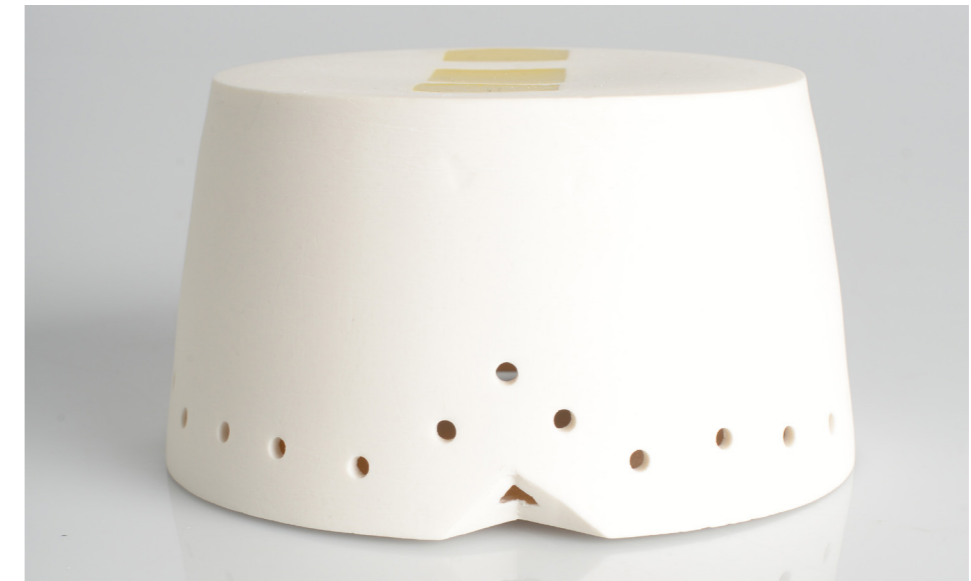
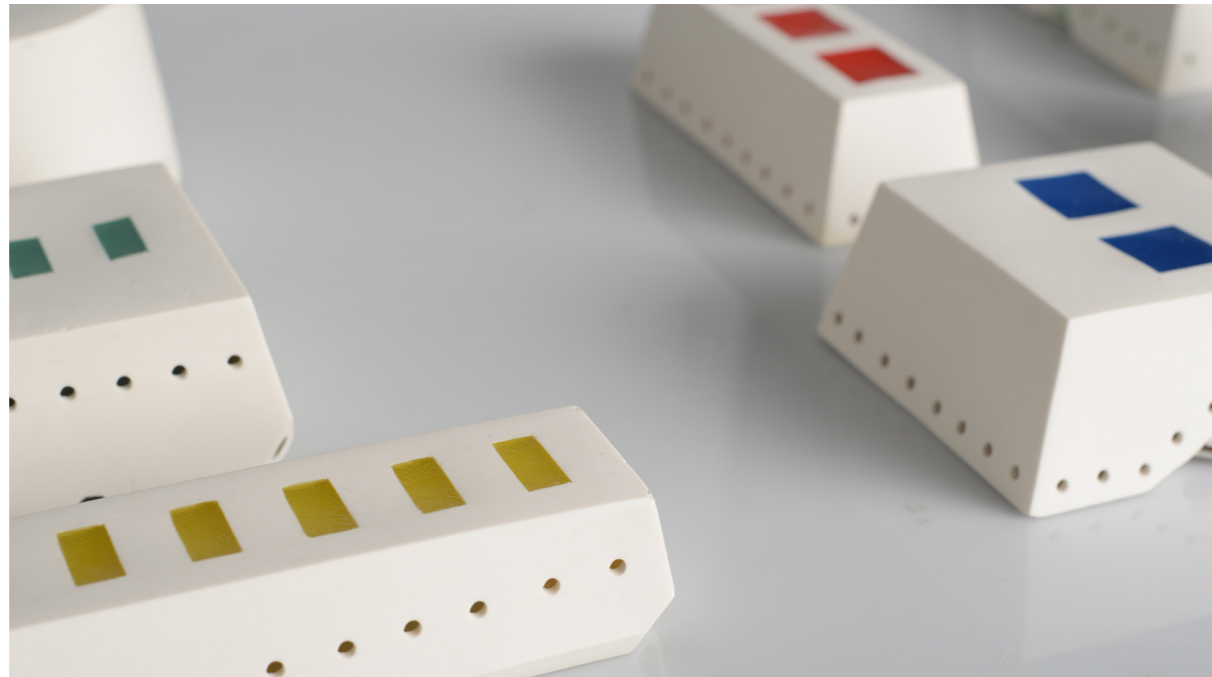
**ceramic  
art  
london**



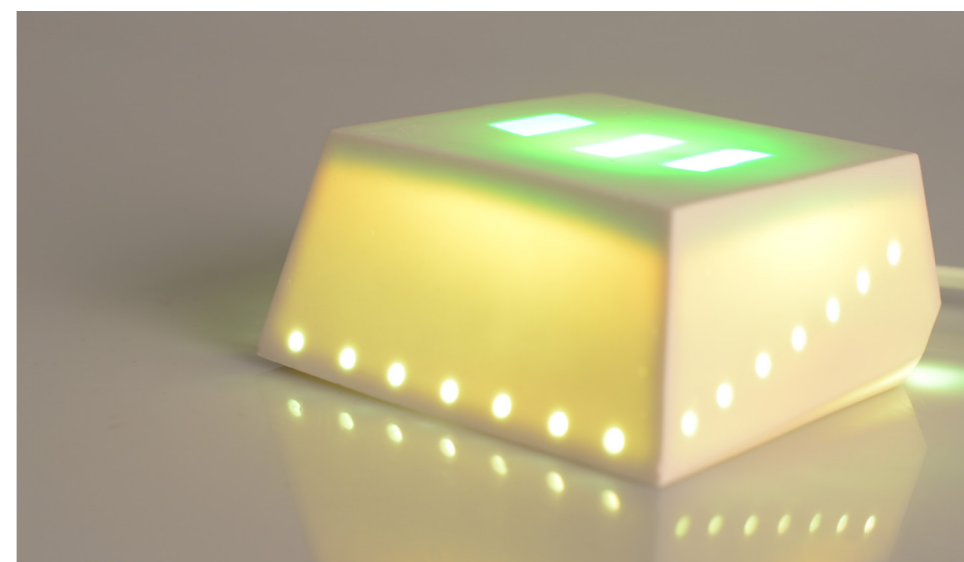
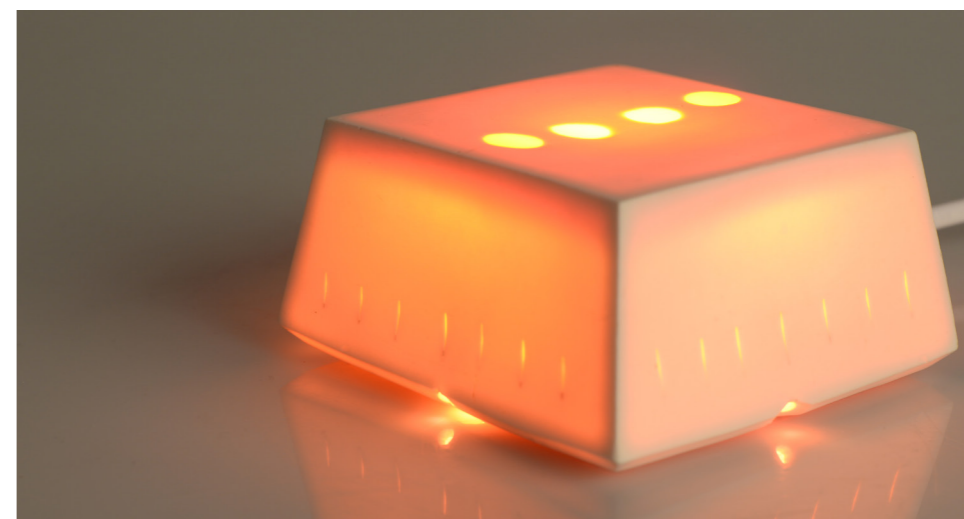
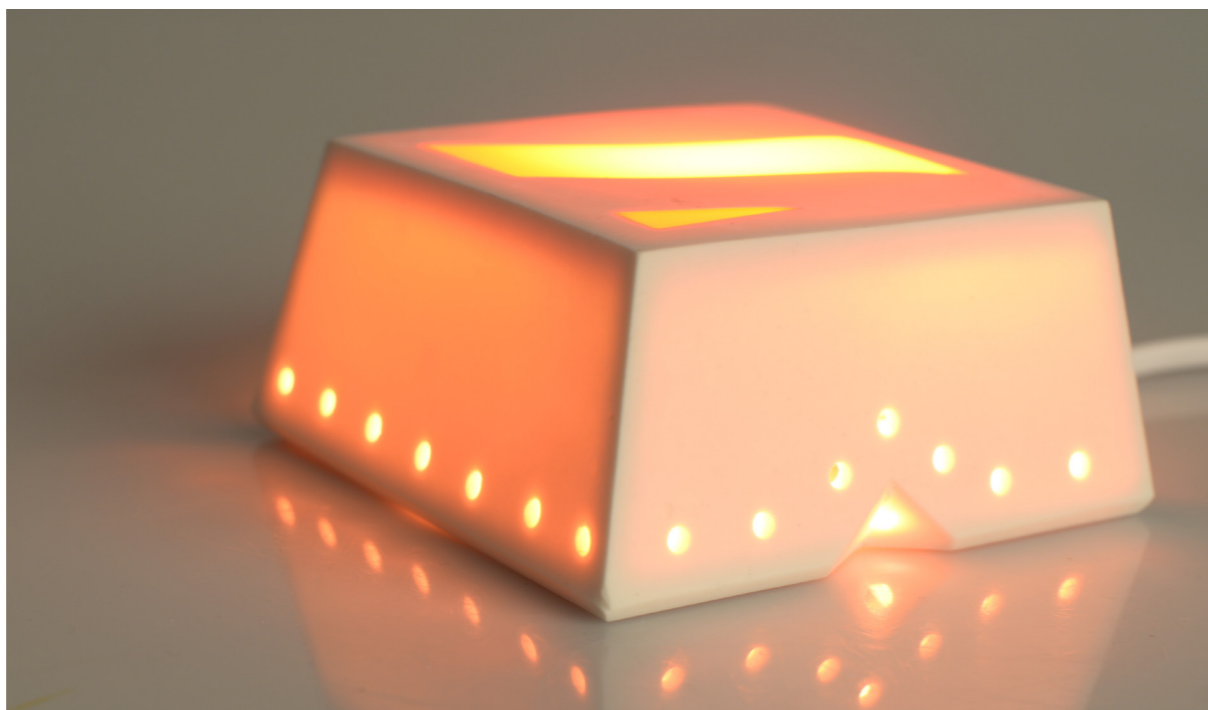
**SHOW  
CASE**



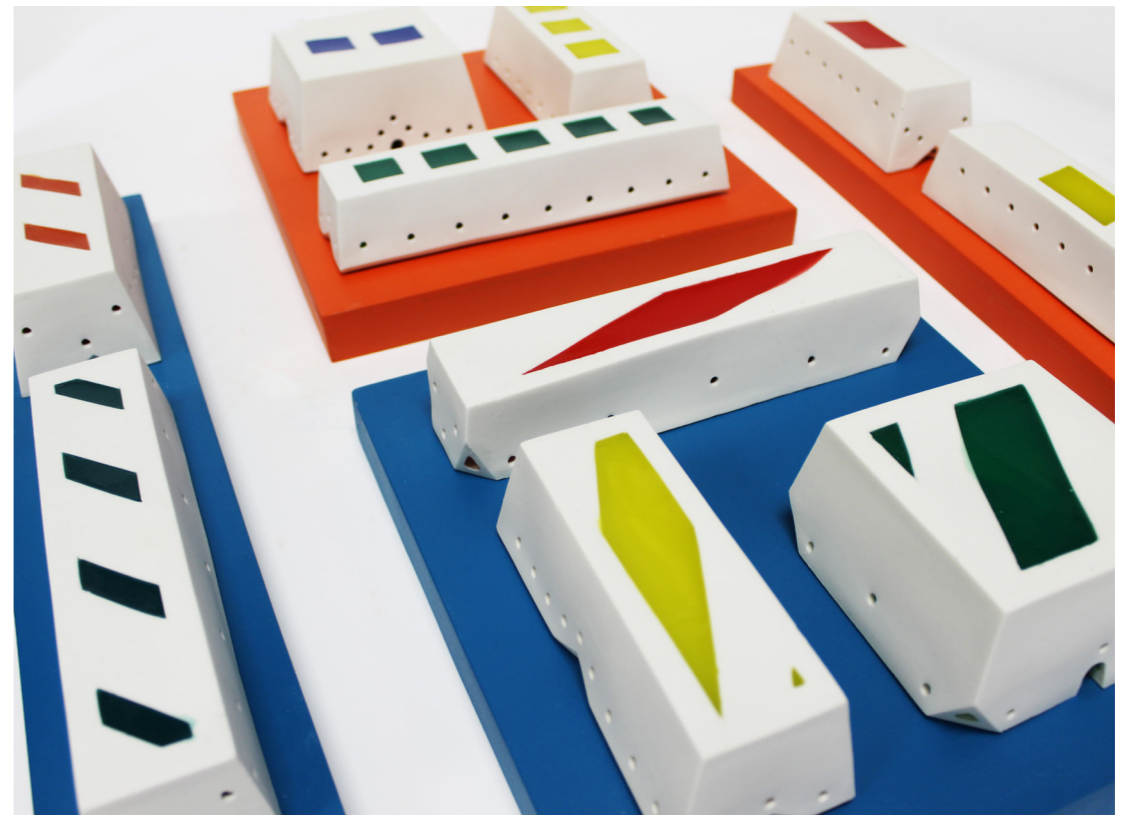
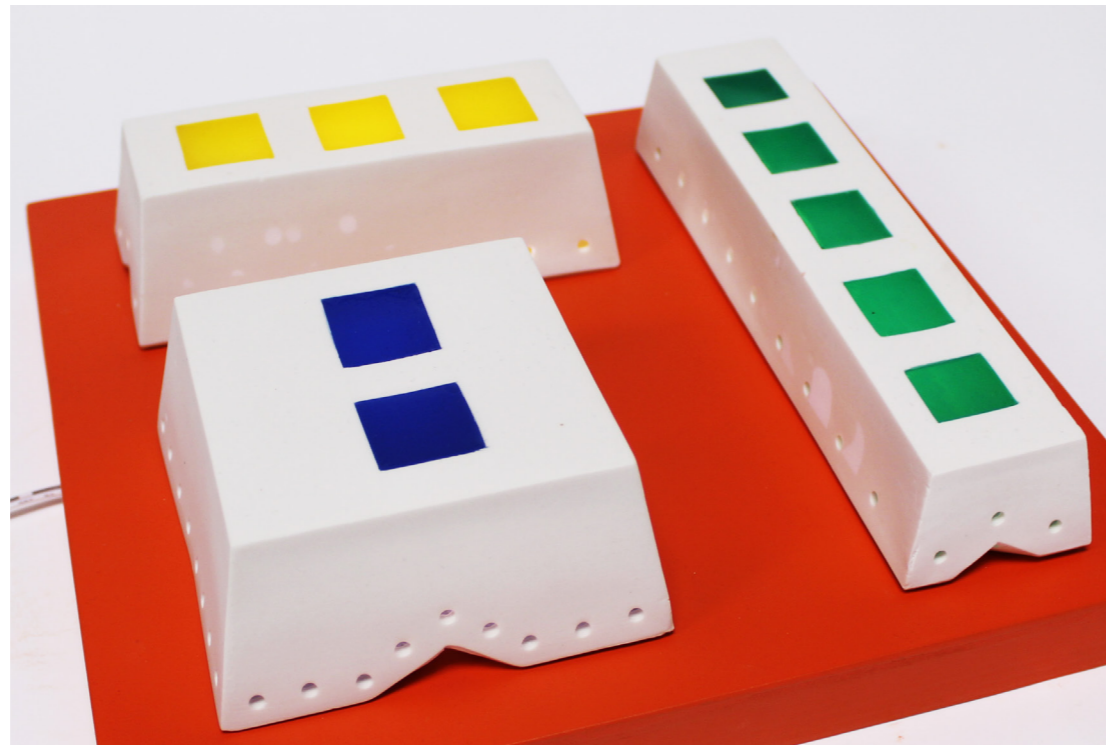
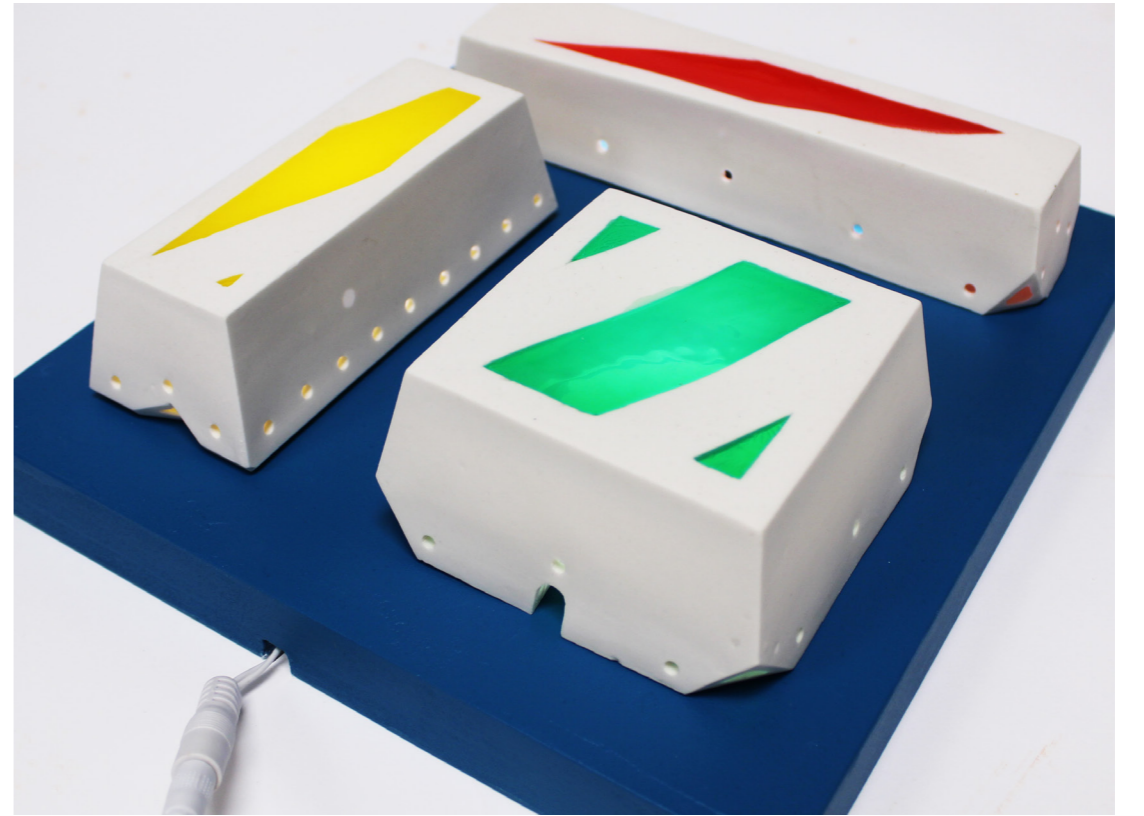
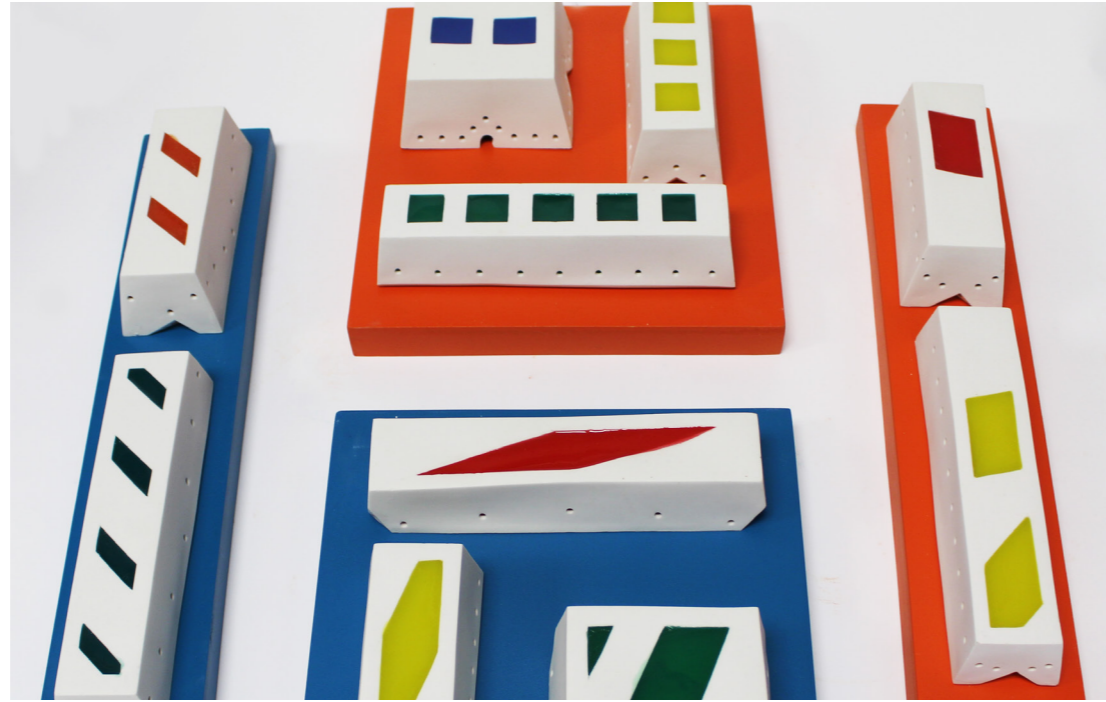
# Finished Work



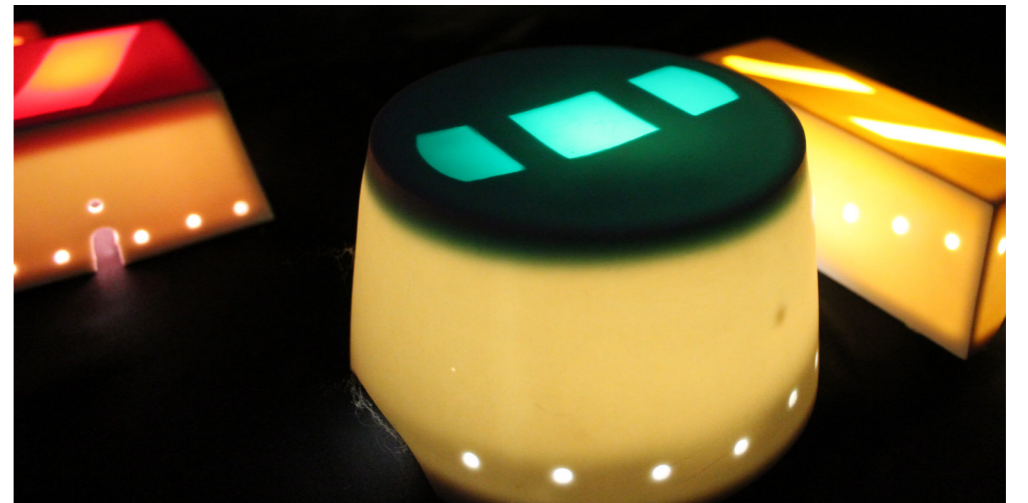
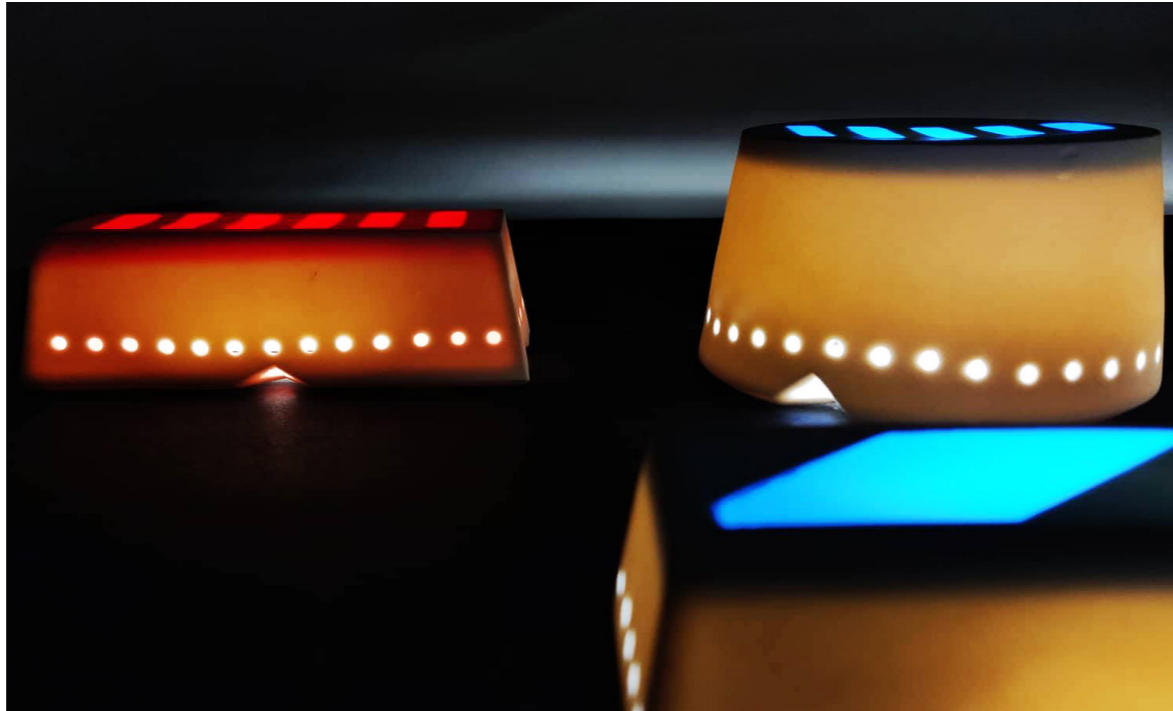
# Neon Light Series



# Mini-Compositions



# Installation



# Curriculum Vitae

Karen Phelan

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## Education

2015-2019: Limerick School of Art and  
Design: BA (Hons) in Ceramic Design

2009-2015: Heywood Community School: Leaving  
Certificate and Junior Certificate

## Experience

2017: Placement with Chloe Dowds Ceramic  
Designer: RDS Craft Fair and in her studio

## Exhibitions

2019: Degree Show 2019, L.S.A.D.,  
Co. Limerick

2018: Clayworks: Third Year Exhibition,  
Limerick City Library, Co. Limerick.

