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Jinya Zhao

Holding Air, Holding Light

Jinya Zhao

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- The first monograph on **Jinya Zhao**, an artist whose perception-based practice encompasses sculpture, installation, and research across the UK, China, and the United States.
- Includes 50 full-color images of Zhao's blown glass works, spatial installations, and process-based experiments – visually articulating the fragility and flux of perceptual experience.
- Features an essay by Emma Crichton-Miller and a conversation with Dr Xiaoxin Li of the V&A, offering critical and curatorial perspectives on Zhao's work across material, cultural, and temporal contexts.

Jinya Zhao: ***Holding Air, Holding Light*** explores the sculptural and perceptual practice of artist and researcher **Jinya Zhao**. Combining blown glass with drawing, installation, and spatial choreography, Zhao's work occupies a liminal space between fragility and presence, memory and light. Rather than present objects as finished forms, she creates conditions for perception – inviting viewers to pause and inhabit moments of perceptual suspension. "Glass is not what I make, but how I listen to time," she writes. Integrating theory and practice, Zhao transforms glass into an artistic language that connects memory, perception, and experience. This book features an essay by arts writer Emma Crichton-Miller and a conversation with Dr Xiaoxin Li of the Victoria and Albert Museum. It also includes 50 full-colour images. It is part of the Hurtwood Contemporary Artist Series and is published in collaboration with Taste Contemporary in Geneva.

Jinya Zhao is a London- and China-based artist and researcher whose practice explores the fluid thresholds of perception, memory, and material presence. Working with blown glass, layered transparencies, and site-responsive installation, she investigates how vision, sensation, and time overlap. Zhao has completed a PhD at the Royal College of Art. Her research focuses on synaesthetic touch – the convergence of visual, tactile and emotional experience. Her work has been exhibited internationally and is held in collections including the Victoria and Albert Museum, Prague Gallery of Czech Glass, Qingdao Art Museum, Ulster Museum and Taste Contemporary. Zhao's practice reframes material not as a medium but as a condition for perceptual and emotional resonance.

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