

COLOUR:

what
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mean
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Propeller Gallery

30 Abell Street
Toronto, ON M6J 0A9, Canada

Wednesday - Saturday: 12 - 6pm | Sunday: 12 - 5pm

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Kathy Kranias

I use colour in *Electra* and *Hippodameia of the Danaids Series* in consideration of the aesthetics of affect. Acting as a non-representational code experienced at the level of feeling, the glassy blue ceramic surfaces have the affect of water. The vessel-like sculptural forms recall the classical myth of the Danaids, the daughters of King Danaus who eternally draw water in sieves from the Lernian Lake.

Emulating the visual and tactile sensibilities of water, and its fluid, translucent, and reflective properties, I employ a blue low-temperature ceramic alkaline glaze. Made from a base chemical mixture of silica, kaolin clay, gerstley borate, and ceramic frit 3110, the glaze is blue due to the addition of 3% copper carbonate. Combined with water and applied to the bisqued clay form, the chemical mixture transforms into a luminous, reflective blue surface in the process of vitrification at 1000 degrees Celsius.

The downward directional movement of the blue colour on the sculptural form results from the poured application of the glaze mixture, further reinforcing the liquid qualities of water: its movement and flow as it is gathered, poured over a surface, and emptied from a vessel.