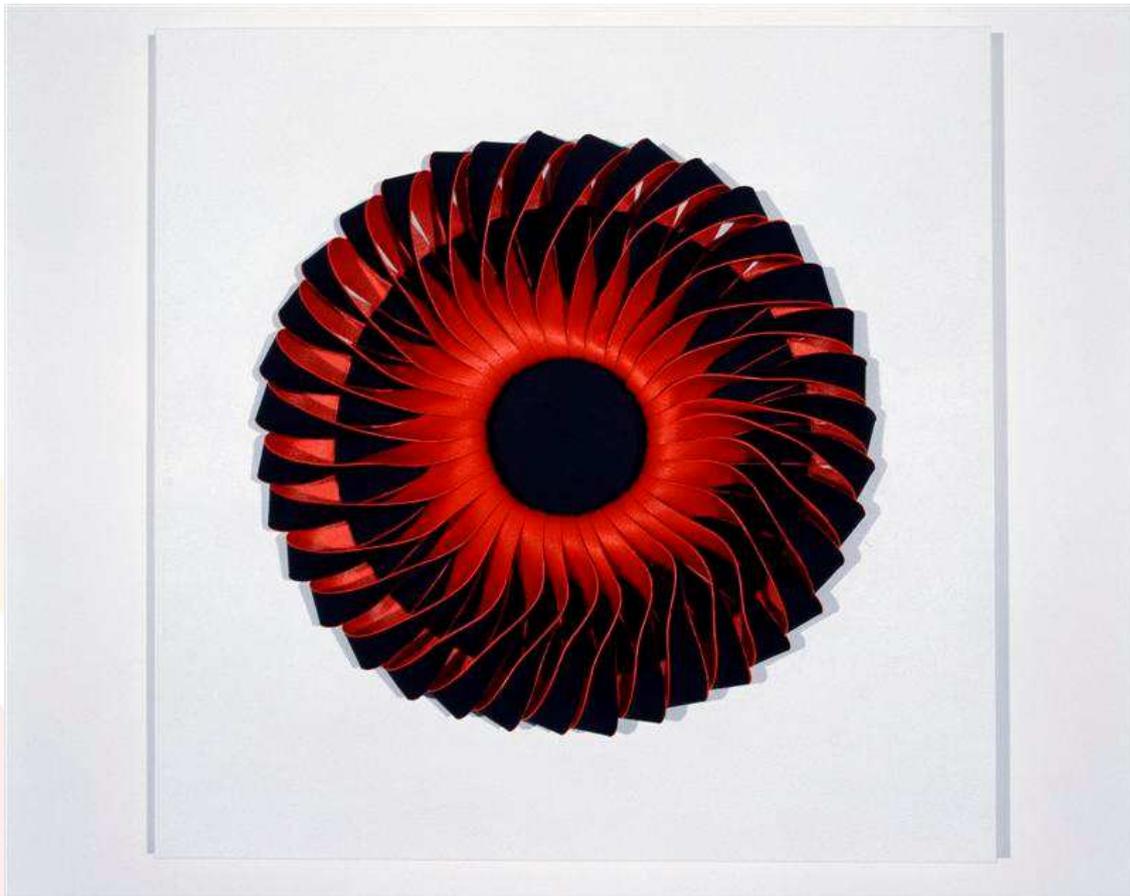




## Marion Borgelt



**Collection connections**  
Margery Edwards

***Bloodlight Strip: Figure 5, 2007.*** Canvas, acrylic, pigment, pins 70.5 x 70.5 x 12.5cm.  
Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by the artist, 2011.  
© Image courtesy and copyright of the artist. [Themes/Subject/Style: Symbolism, Mixed Media].



**Marion Borgelt.** Born in 1954. Lives and works in Sydney

*Bloodlight Strip: Figure 5* is a piece from Borgelt's *Bloodlight Strip* series. It consists of a piece of canvas, painted black on one side and red on the other. Borgelt has incised and sculpted the painted canvas to create a form that is both enigmatic and bewitching.

The piece closely resembles a star, while it also brings to mind the mouth of a black hole or cosmic vacuum. It could be alive or it could suck the life out of you, this thing could quite possibly possess both light and dark forces. Its mysterious nature strongly reflects the work of contemporary British artist Anish Kapoor, whose transcendent sculptures grapple with the metaphysical and the symbolic.

The references this form makes to the cosmos and supernatural life gives it a meditative quality and presence that draws you in both intellectually and emotionally.

### Questions and activities

#### **Marion Borgelt. *Bloodlight Strip: Figure 5, 2007***

Often the work of Marion Borgelt sits somewhere in between 2 and 3 dimensionality. *Bloodlight Strip* for example is a sculpture made from canvas, a flat material normally used in painting, and *Strobe Series 6* is a painting that becomes sculptural by being highly textured. Do you think these works are objects or pictures? Explain why you have come to your conclusion. How does your understanding of the dimensionality of the work shape the way you understand it?

Give yourself time to look at one of the works in the collection by Marion Borgelt. Consider what that work might symbolise. Use your interpretation as the basis for a poem.

The subject of Marion Borgelt's art is often ambiguous but conjures up a variety of associations relating to patterns in nature. Her work might reference lunar cycles, the movement of stars and planets, the seasons, electrical currents and chaos theory. Conduct your own research into a scientific concept such as this that interests you. How would you go about using your research as the basis for a new artwork?

Find out about other artists who use science as the concept behind their art. What function do scientific concepts have in their artworks? Do they inform the way the artworks are made? What level of subject knowledge would an audience need to have to understand these works?



**Marion Borgelt.** *Strobe Series 6, 2007-2009.* Oil, sand on linen with timber end frames 120 x 123.5cm. Port Macquarie-Hastings Council, donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by the artist, 2012. © Image courtesy and copyright of the artist. [Themes/Subject/Style: Abstraction, Mixed Media].