

BRONSON SHONK

Statement

With a focus on layering techniques, Seattle artist Bronson Shonk explores pictorial representations of growth; collapsed views of change over time.

Shonk paints on canvas and layers of glass, carving into the surfaces and staining the engravings with pigment, a unique riff on the ceramicist's sgraffito technique. These intricately drawn details are blended with painterly gestures to evoke vibratory movement: the flutter of a hummingbird's wings, a long exposure image, a starling murmuration. Motion is abundant.

Within his paintings the illusion of motion in a still image points out the limitations of our visual systems – we can only see one moment at a time. How does one conceptualize the growth of a child, or understand a family history? These questions are the catalyst to Shonk's paintings which aim to condense change over time into pictures – ones that can be viewed and felt in a single moment.