

## **Cloud Chamber**

In this work Strachan recreates a natural phenomenon —cloud formation—within a fabricated environment using computer operated switches, pressure, water, and silicon powder . The silicon powder is released at varying intervals into a spherical glass chamber thus creating a cloud that exists for approximately 10-15 minutes. The cycle is then repeated.

“In February of 2006, I went about creating a cloud in my studio. Hooking up a system to the building’s water line, I was able to simulate a set of 18 different cloud formations in a hand-made glass system. On one level, I was interested in the idea of being able to use the water system that all of the people in New Haven, CT have access to, to assist in recreating this phenomena. On another level, I am very much interested in the impossibility and the desire to have something that is seemingly impossible, in this case, a cloud. (Tavares Strachan, 2006)

## **Arctic Ice Project**

“Early in March 2005, I made a seven-day trip to the Alaskan Arctic in search of a frozen river. In a few days, I located a river under the Arctic Circle where I began the actualization of this project. One of the objectives was to make a square cut into the river and pull out a portion of it in its frozen state. With the help of a skilled team, I cut into the frozen river and pulled out a 4.5 ton portion, which was stored in Alaska. This block of ice was shipped to Nassau, Bahamas for exhibition in July 2006, an extremely hot summer month. It sat in a glass freezer, which derived its power from a solar energy system. In effect, the power of the sun kept this displaced remnant of the Arctic intact, stable, and on view in the Caribbean. The block was exhibited in a temporary gallery site which was open to public viewing. Following this exhibition I plan to maintain the ice in its frozen state for further exhibitions.”—Tavares Strachan, 2006

“The gist of the project is to actually bring the frozen north and the hot tropics into contact, to demonstrate that they are contrasting halves of a single entity, and to then utilize the heat and light energy of the South to maintain the exact opposite condition of sub-zero temperatures. The first part of the project is about the conceptual notion of ice and heat as the poles of our environment; the second part is about the miracles of technology, which can use one extreme of temperature to produce the other.” (Richard Benson: Dean, Yale University, School of Art)

## **Survival Kit, (Edition of 35)**

This kit consists of hand blown glass elements, metal instruments, and instructions for turning one’s own urine into purified drinking water .

## **The Problem of One Thing Existing Simultaneously**

For this work Strachan duplicated an arbitrarily broken beer bottle piece-by-piece, transforming bits of trash into remnants of displaced matter and time. He used a found broken Budweiser beer bottle as a template to laser cut a duplicate broken bottle piece which rest side by side with the original.