

ARTSEEN

JULY 14TH, 2017

WEBEXCLUSIVE

JO NIGOGHOSSIAN: *Exotica*

by Phong Bui

TEAM (GALLERY, INC.) | JUNE 8 – AUGUST 11, 2017

Poise. Fiercely built by

A cohesive assembly of points, lines, and planes,

The precise demarcations separate

The provinces from the state,

On this side of geography.

Bent, twisted, high,

Base with ferocious dexterity,

Unpredictable balletic gestures tighten tough tissues,

Strengthen the muscular skeleton into a unified anatomy.

Dissimilar, welded forms punctuate

The image like semicolons trapping a sentence

Or two in mid air, writing lines of sight.

Asymmetrical arrays, with stitched greaves, gauntlets,
Pauldrons, faulds, vambraces,
Among other armored parts,
Exude a fragrance of motion,
Quivering shakes treading with confidence in their tempo.

A few swimmerets and antennules are visibly directed
By cardiac regions;
What appears as extremely durable becomes fragile.
This unknown pandemonium with piercing marks
And perforating cuts, rends fractures as transgressions.
No one assumes they were mere creations of Tsovina.

Robust prosoma—its anterior—is bolted with
Explicit exactitude, and an attitude for the dance.
How formidable yet tenuous, this moment.

Marching forward with an elliptical craze while
Transfixed by the pivotal shifts, from
Well-tempered compartments to intricate outlines, from
A remarkable aptitude for exceptional vulnerability.
This Cartesian dualism is what has indeed prompted
Each of these two *Being(s)*
Colossal vitality.



Jo Nigoghossian, *Being, with blown glass (color)*, 2017. Powder-coated steel, glass. 30 × 124 × 70 inches. Photo courtesy Team (gallery, inc.)



Jo Nigoghossian, *Being, with blown glass (black & white)*, 2017. Powder-coated steel, glass. 144 × 63 × 96 inches. Photo courtesy Team (gallery, inc.)