

Jonathan Thomson

Neon Flower Sculpture

Re-inventing Neon as 3D
Sculpture

Jonathan Thomson

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Neon Flower Sculpture

Neon is an integral part of the visual culture of Hong Kong. However, until now it has been used exclusively for two dimensional signage and architectural lighting and has been mounted onto some sort of backing sheet.

Free-form sculptures in neon have been made before but these have all required many points of suspension. Jonathan Thomson's free-standing, self-supporting neon sculptures are the first to use the glass tubes of neon as both a structural and a decorative element. Like all true sculptures they are designed to be seen in the round.

These works re-invent neon as sculpture and also re-invent the language of still-life. Images of flowers have been used for centuries as metaphors to convey specific messages. Still life has also been associated with "vanitas" or "memento mori" paintings that refer to the transience of life and the inevitability of death. Making these flowers in light that can be turned off at the flick of a switch is likewise a metaphor for life and love.

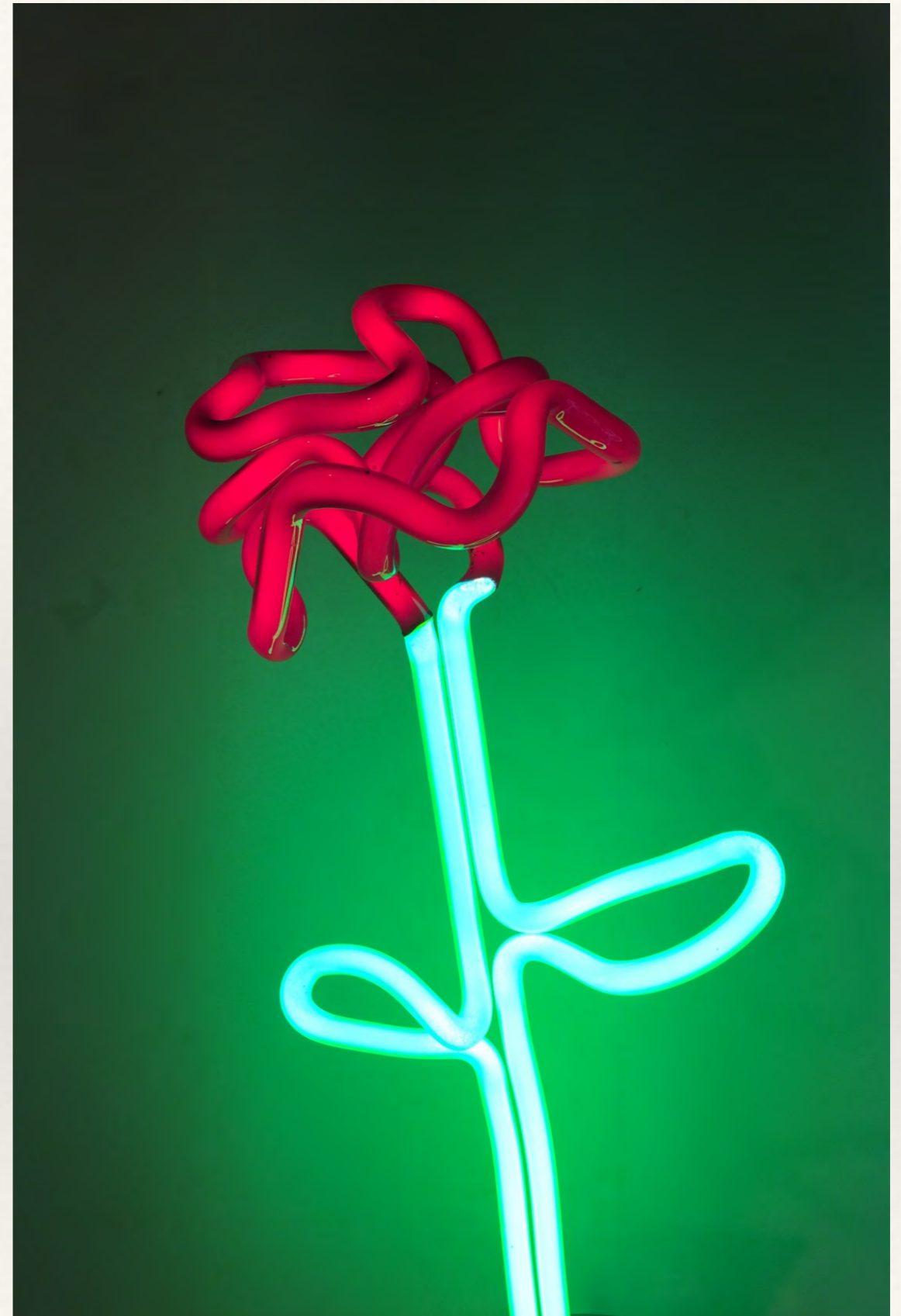
Each stem is an individual work of art with its own dedicated transformer attached to the stem. Stems can be combined or arranged in any variation.

This presentation includes images of realized sculptures and paintings of other sculptures in development.

Jonathan Thomson

Neon Flower Sculpture

Single Red Rose
Detail
Coloured Neon



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Neon Flower Sculpture

Single Red Rose

2016

Coloured Neon

57 cm high excluding vase

80 cm high including Zaha Hadid vase

Each stem is an individual work of art with its own dedicated transformer that is hidden from view inside the vase. Stems can therefore be combined or arranged in any variation.

There is only one conventional power cord connecting the work to a conventional socket. The artwork in its vase is fully self contained.



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Neon Flower Sculpture

Blue Iris
Detail
Coloured Neon



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Neon Sculpture

Blue Iris
2 x Flower Stems
3 x Leaf Stems
Coloured Neon
Each stem approx 900 mm



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Neon Sculpture

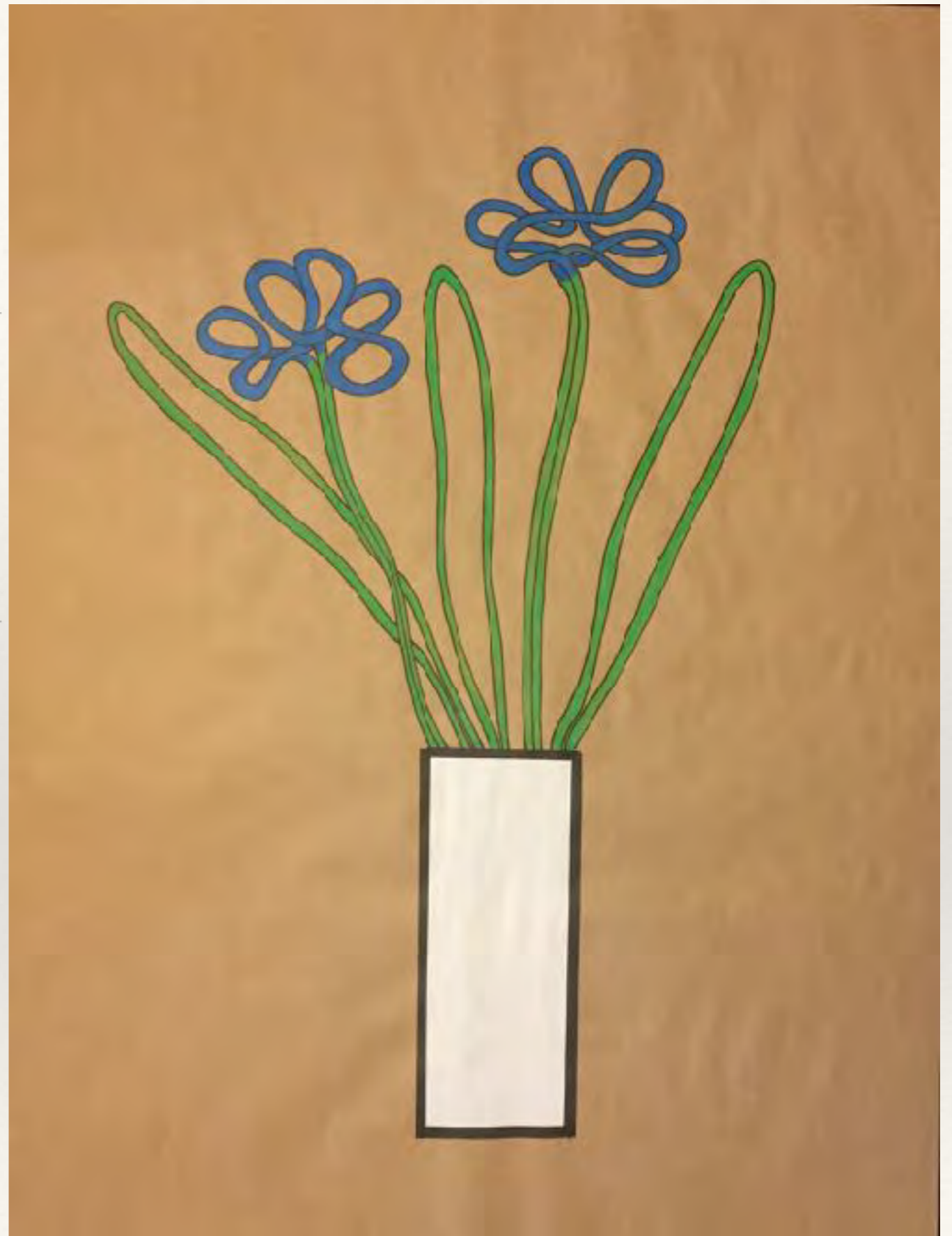
Study for Blue Iris Neon Sculpture

2016

Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper

1197 x 893 mm

These paintings are 1:1 scale of the finished neon sculpture.



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Neon Sculpture

Study for Single Red Rose Neon Sculpture
2016
Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper
1197 x 893 mm



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Neon Sculpture

Study for Almond Blossom Neon Sculpture
2016
Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper
1197 x 893 mm



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Neon Sculpture

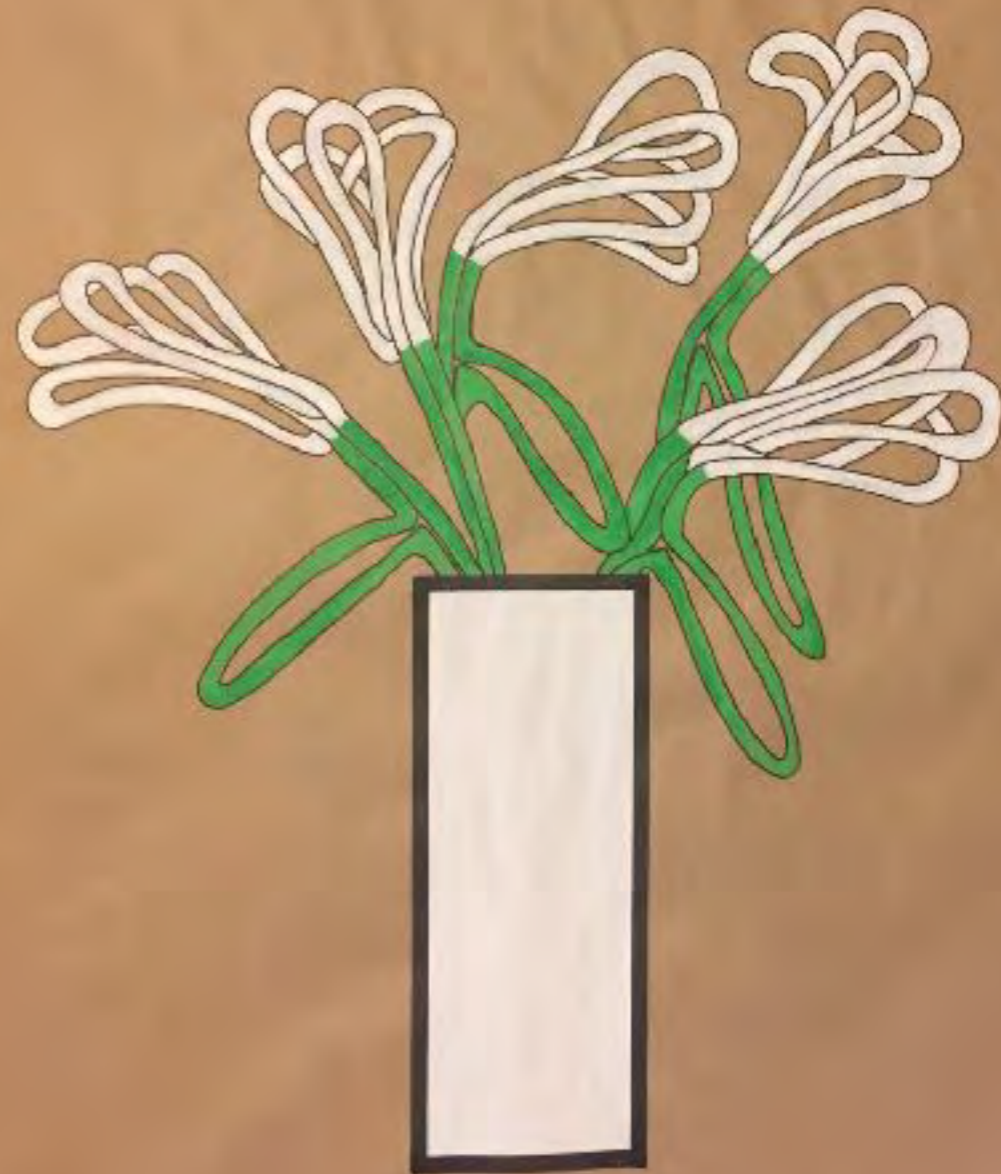
Study for Fifteen Sunflowers Neon Sculpture
2016
Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper
1197 x 893 mm



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Neon Sculpture

Study for White Lilies Neon Sculpture
2016
Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper
1197 x 893 mm



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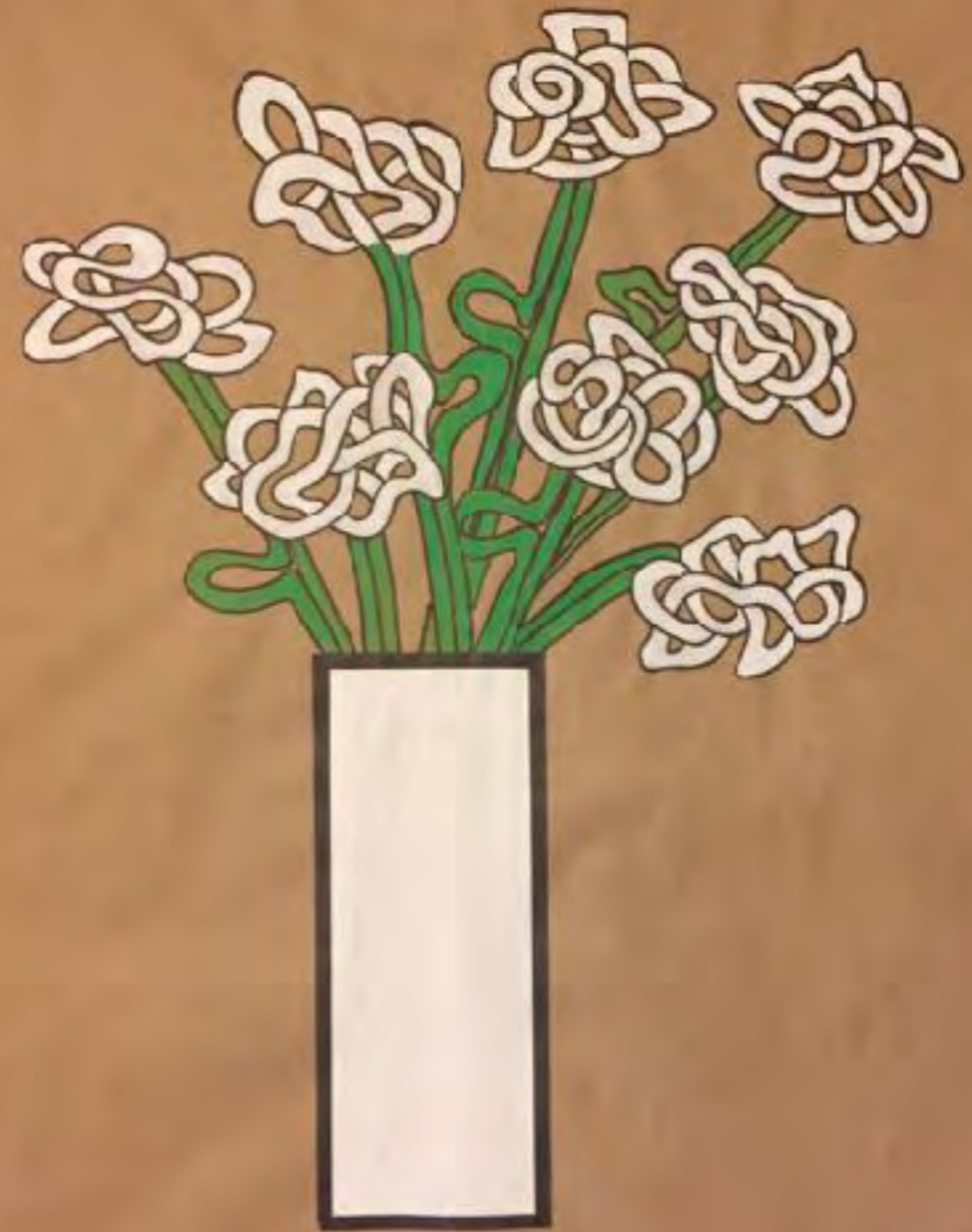
Neon Sculpture

Study for White Roses Neon Sculpture

2016

Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper

1197 x 893 mm



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Neon Sculpture

Study for Arum Lilies Neon Sculpture
2016
Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper
1197 x 893 mm



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Neon Sculpture

Study for Mixed Bunch Neon Sculpture
2016
Acrylic and Permanent Marker on Kraft Paper
1197 x 893 mm



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