

**CGS "Make Your Mark" Exhibition  
March 2013  
By Emma Louise Garnham**

My definition of 'Mark making' is when you use something to apply a material to a surface, therefore every line, brush stroke, dot and carving can be defined as a mark. Mark making is an integral part of all artist's work whether they may realise it or not, but it is a vital component that I think about when I create my art.

My art work is created using the technique *pâte de verre* and I couldn't create any of my glass sculptures without the use of marks, because every mark, whether big or small effects the outcome of the form I am creating.

I use a plaster block as my blank canvas and carefully start carving the lines, shapes and textures I want the glass to portray. With different shaped tools, I make sure every scratch and carving is exactly how I want it to be. Once all my marks are in place, I can then pack those lines and crevices with glass powder and glass frit, ready for firing.

"To those who have fallen..." was created to commemorate all of those people who have given their lives fighting in wars across the world. It was important for me to have the text of the poem *Flanders Field* carved into the edge of one of the glass poppies to show they were not forgotten.

Creating these tiny marks in the plaster was a delicate process, trying to get every letter marked in the correct way. This was the first time my mark making had involved such accuracy, as the carvings and scratches I produce in a lot of my work are abstract interpretations of the forms and objects I see.

I have no doubt that my mark making will continue in all of my work and that this new piece has inspired a more thoughtful and accurate type of mark making within me.

Close up image of one poppy from "To those who have fallen..", 2013.

