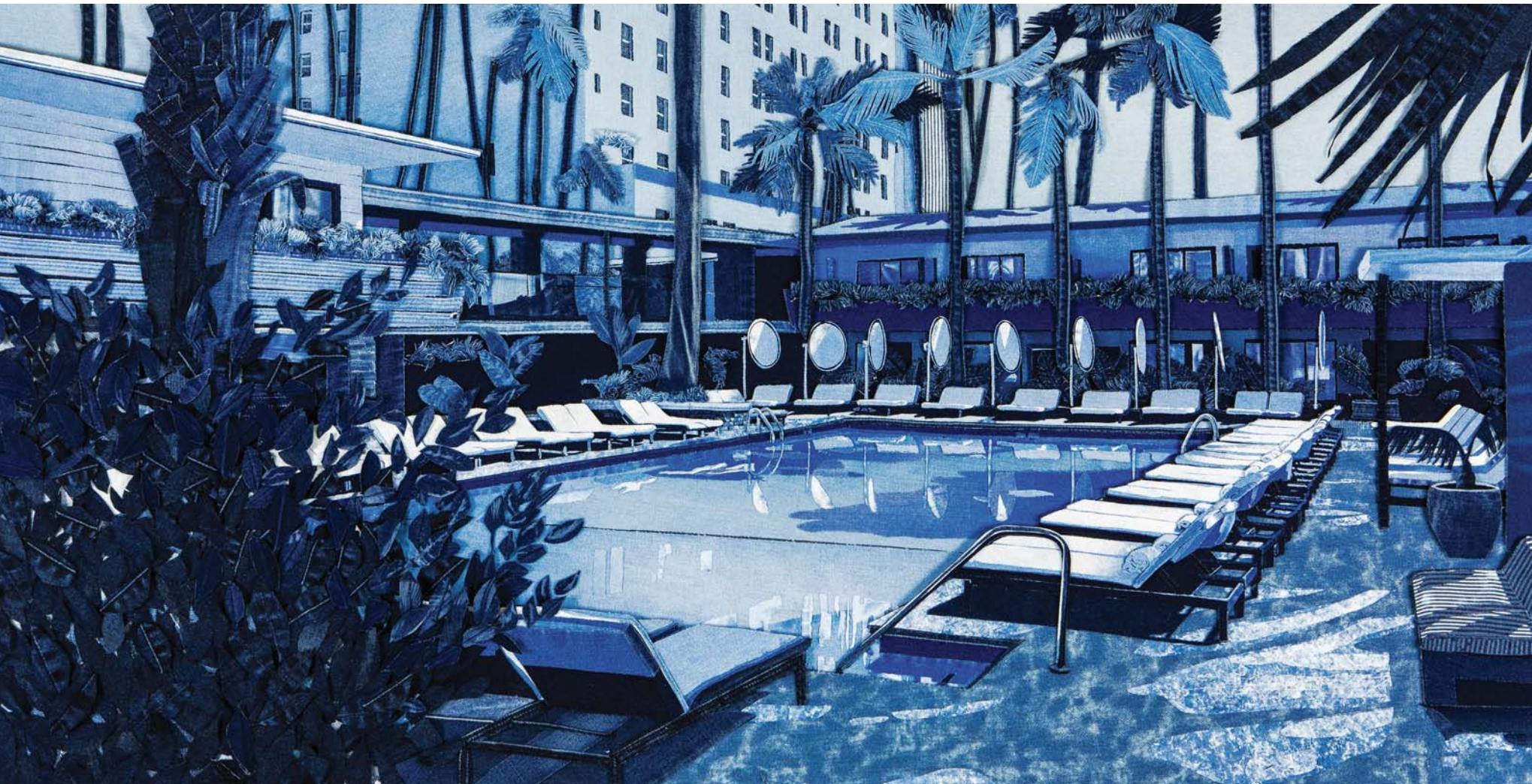


HOTEL CALIFORNIA



IAN BERRY



Photograph Brad Rankin

IAN BERRY



CATTO GALLERY

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Ian Berry is a unique talent in the art world, producing exquisite and complex 'paintings' made entirely from denim!

At first glance, you might think they are blue toned photographs or paintings. Even at touching distance, many viewers don't realise they are looking at many layers and shades of denim. And what a material to use with its universal appeal, its symbols and dualities. Up close you become aware of the depth and texture and see how each small piece has been considered and crafted out of jeans with washes and fades – the ultimate in upcycling.

Ian has had sell-out shows across Europe and the US, including the home of the modern jean, San Francisco. To date, over 200 publications have featured his work – from GQ and El Pais to Vogue and Huffington Post. He has also been the subject of features on broadcast media, and was named one of Art Business's '30 Under 30' artists. This year he is on the shortlist to be a top 50 influential person in denim for 2019.

He has attracted much interest from the fashion world, and has produced commissioned portraits of Giorgio Armani, Ayrton Senna, Debbie Harry, Giselle Bündchen, James Dean (displayed outside the James Dean Museum in Indiana - the first denim 'street art' project in the world) and many more. His artworks have been installed in museums, galleries and department stores in Europe and the US, including a large CCTV installation in Pepe Jeans, Regent Street, London, and an installation in Selfridges.

This new show, Hotel California, showcases a notable technical achievement: denim as water. In a series of extraordinary works depicting swimmers and pools, Ian has faithfully conveyed the ripples, distortion and light reflection of water.

He's not the first to do so, of course. Fellow Yorkshireman David Hockney famously did the same in paint 50 years ago. Ian became friends with Hockney last year and this show is inspired by his pool paintings. In fact, Hotel California features a portrait of the swimming pool at the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel, for which Hockney painted a mural in 1988.

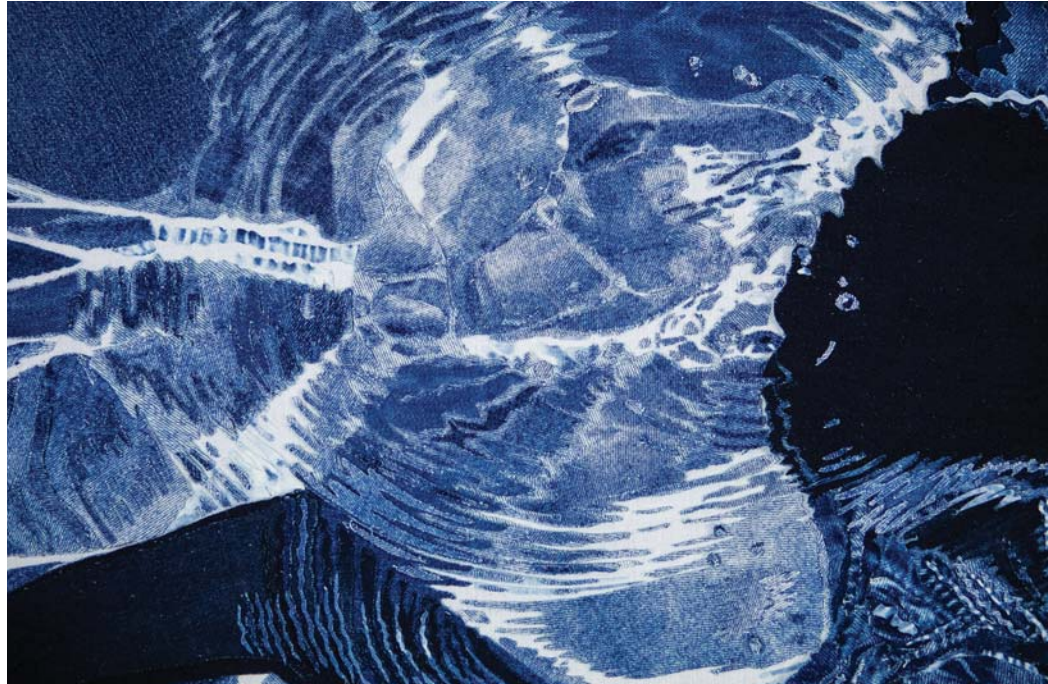
Ian's technical achievement in these works is remarkable. But so is the emotional core. The artist depicts the surface glamour of LA affluence with immense skill, while also conveying its undercurrent of dislocation and melancholy. This is most evident in his depiction of isolated patrons at a diner, with its nod to Edward Hopper.

His virtuosity with denim is also illustrated in Secret Garden, included as part of the show. This installation was first shown at the Museum of Childhood, New York and features denim leaves, flowers, cacti and butterflies. Ian later re-purposed the work at the former textile town of Labastide-Rouairoux in the South of France. The collaboration was so successful that the town awarded him the medal of honour - the fifth person to receive it in 30 years!

But come and see them for yourself. Ian believes his art is best viewed in person. Prepare to be amazed!



Hotel California | 90 x 90cm

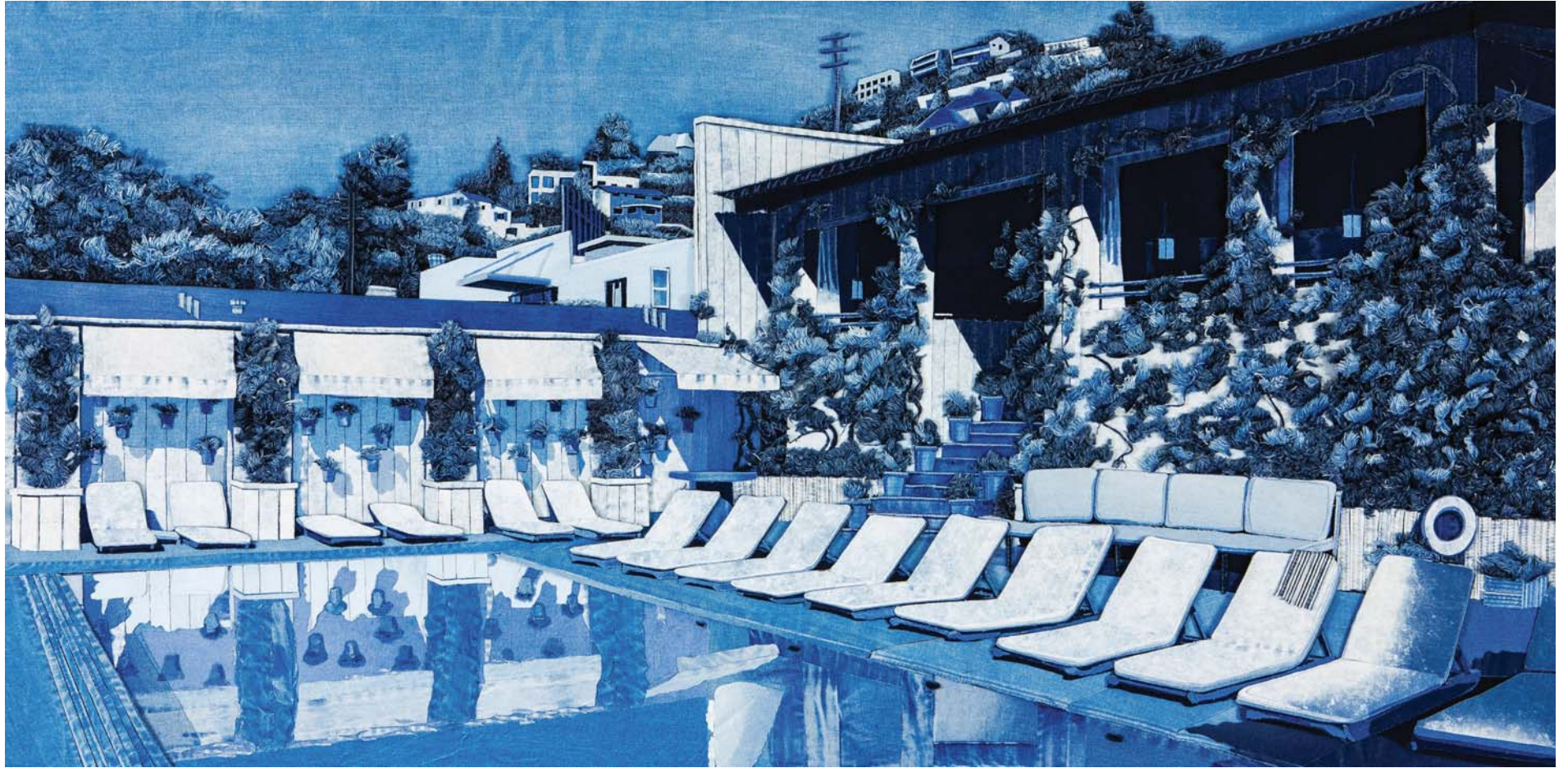


Detail



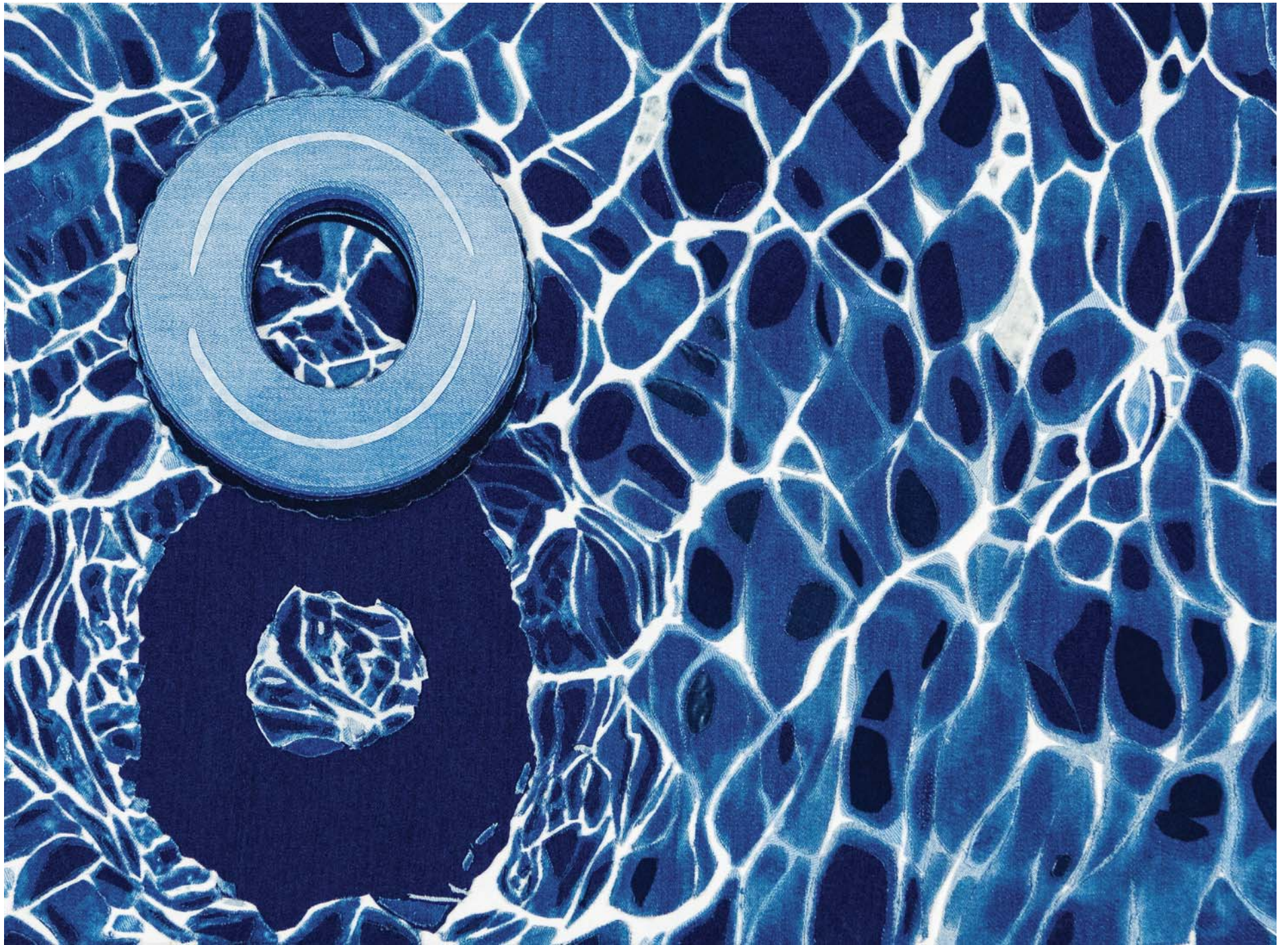
And Still The Voices Are Calling From Far Away | 120cm Diameter

To The Place I Was Before (Mondrian Hotel) | 61 x 122cm





Detail



Pool Study 2 Donut | 39 x 54cm



Detail



Plenty of Room | 70cm Diameter



There She Stood in the Doorway | 63 x 122cm



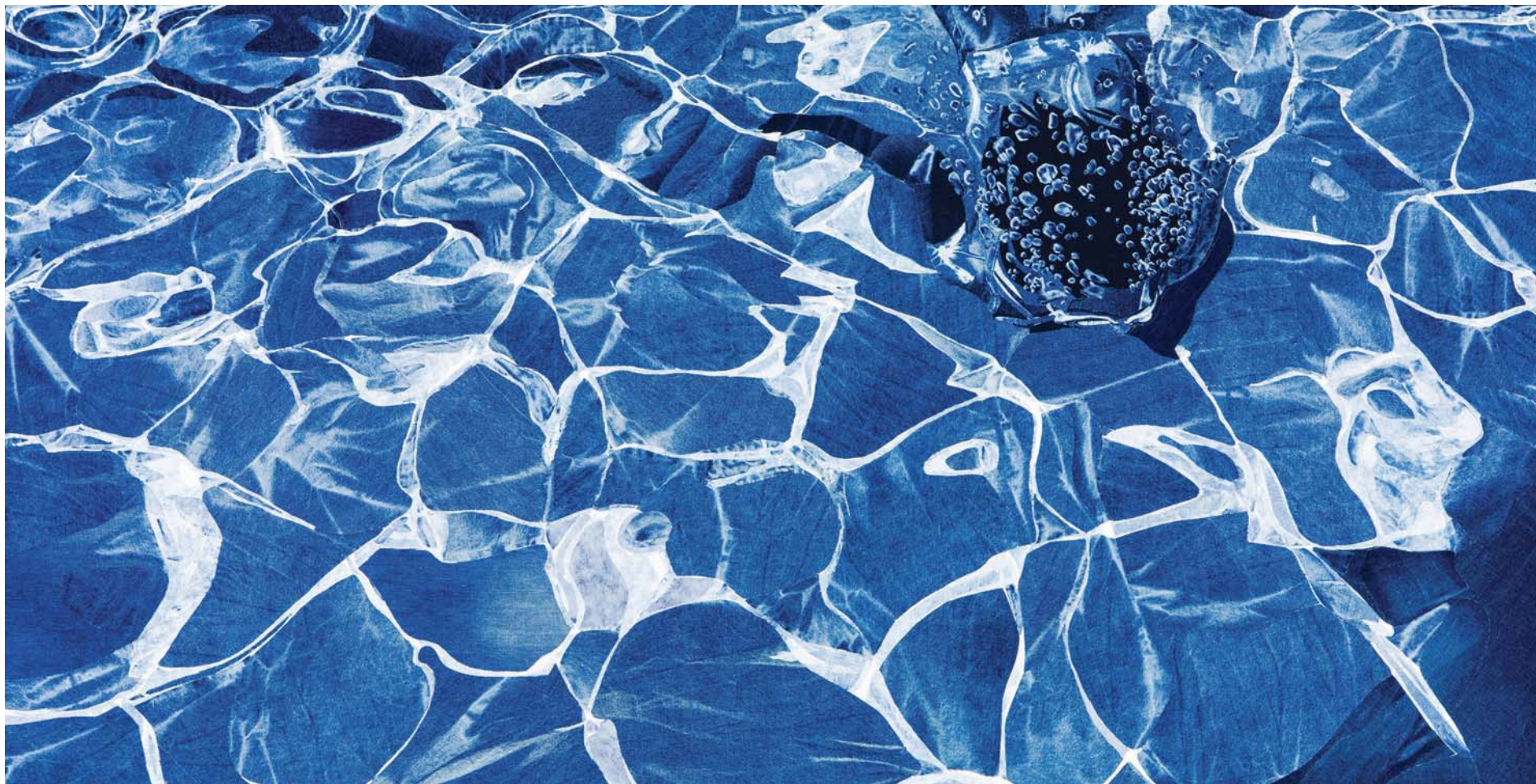
Such A Lovely Place | 63 x 122cm

Club Deuce | 122 x 181cm



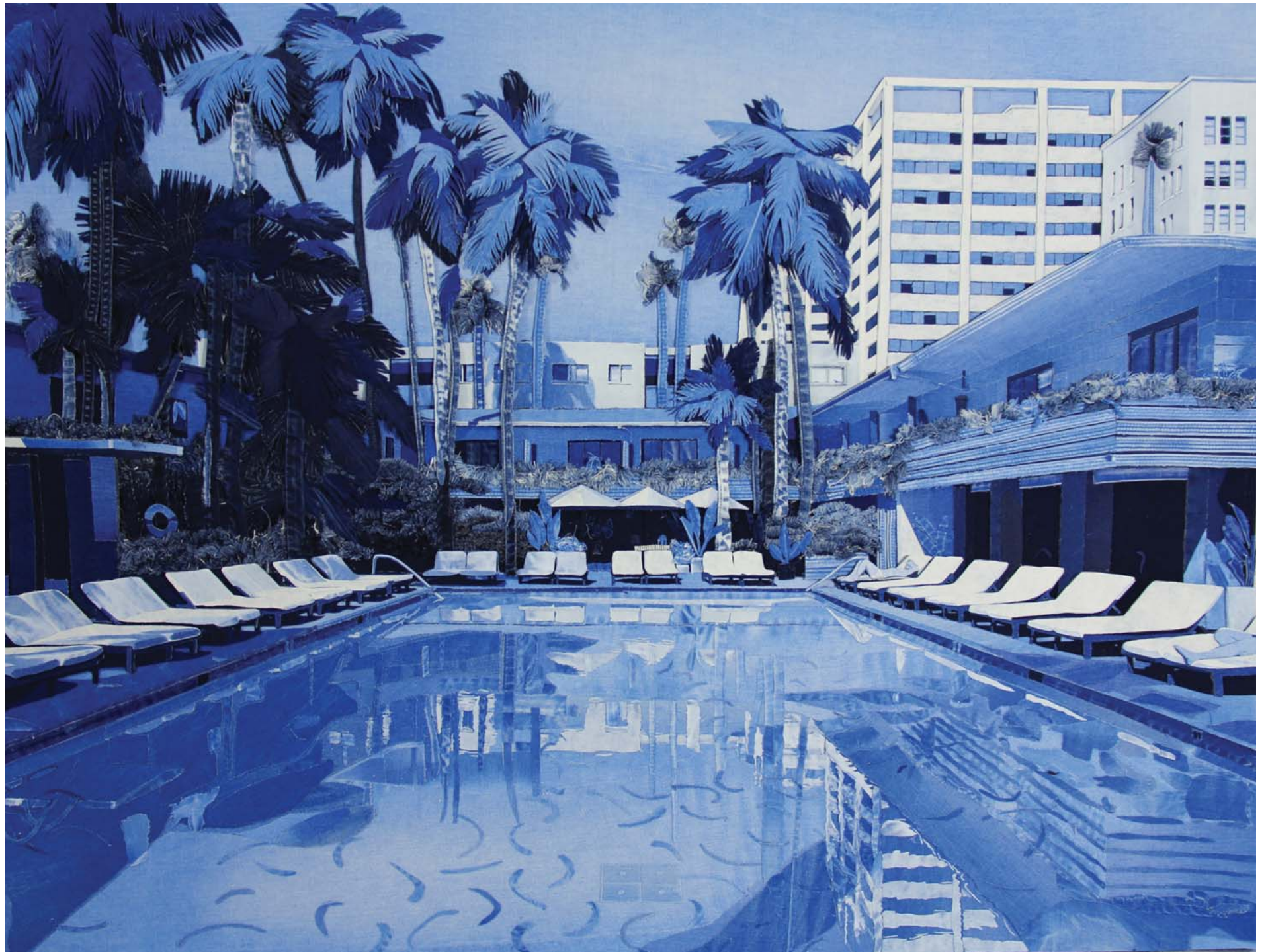


Detail

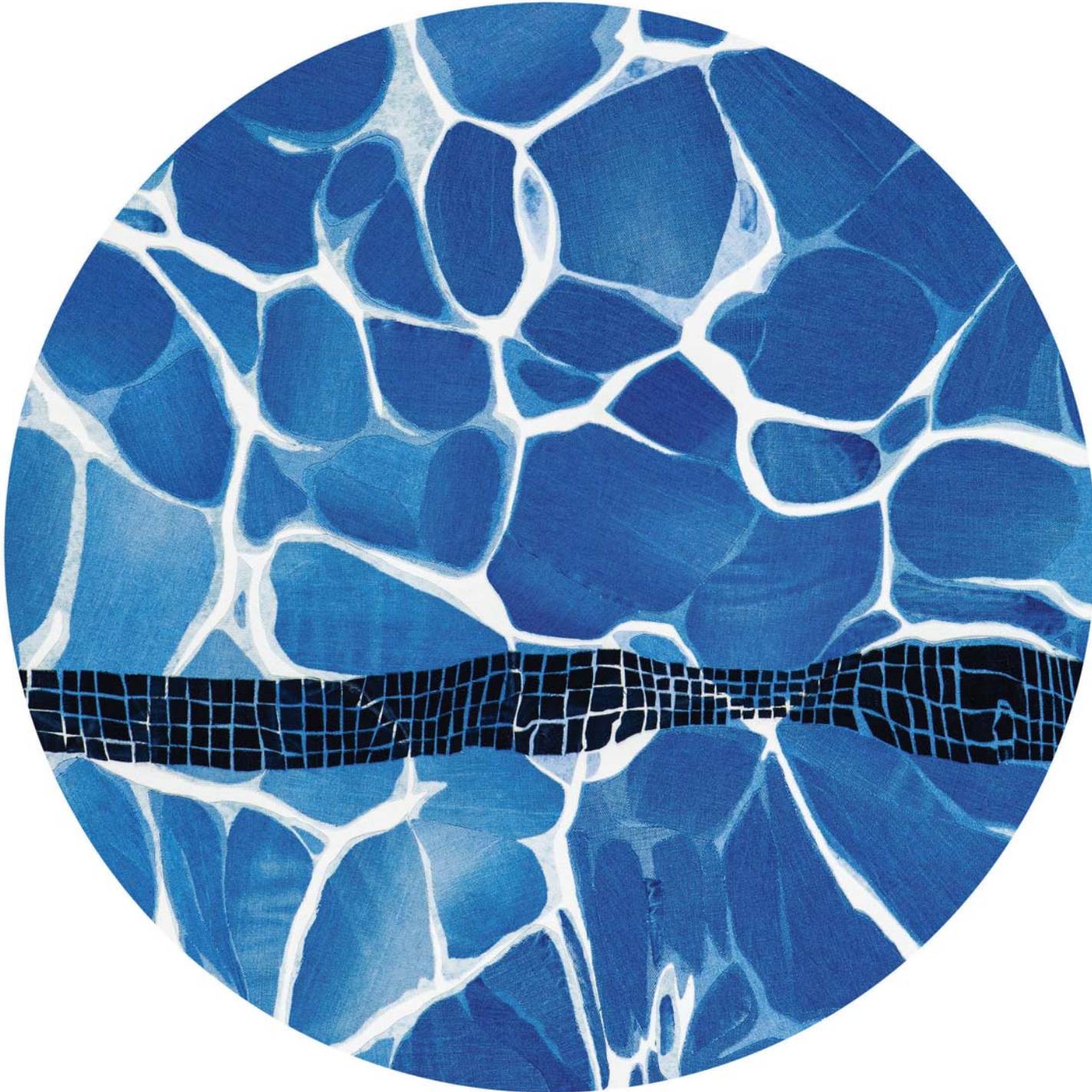


My Head Grew Heavy And My Sight Grew Dim | 90 x 180cm

Roosevelt Hotel, LA | 92 x 122cm



Pool Study 1 Tiles | 70cm Diameter



Any Time of the Year You Can Find it Here | 31 x 80cm





Detail



Shimmering Light | 70cm Diameter



Photography Lucinda Grange

The Secret Garden

Previously showcased at the Children's Museum of the Arts in New York, this three-dimensional installation can be tailored by the artist to be site specific.





Photography Sadia Rafique





Photograph Opal Turner

THE VINYL STORE

Impacted by the digital download age and the recent recession, music retail on the high street has changed. With his Vinyl Store installation, Ian Berry marks the marriage of denim and rock history but also thinks about this struggling retail sector where famous record stores are only a memory now.

His work lovingly recreates a display of classic LPs that had a heavy influence both on what music is today, and denim – from obvious links with bands who wore denim and used denim in their album cover design.

The installation is filled with record covers, tee shirts, vinyl discs and framed albums. With acts and genres ranging from Elvis to heavy metal, Bob Dylan to punk and including albums such as the Stones' Sticky Fingers denim jeans album.



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Opening times: 10am - 6pm Mon - Sat • 12.30pm - 6pm Sunday • and by appointment

Exhibition dates: 1st – 22nd July 2019