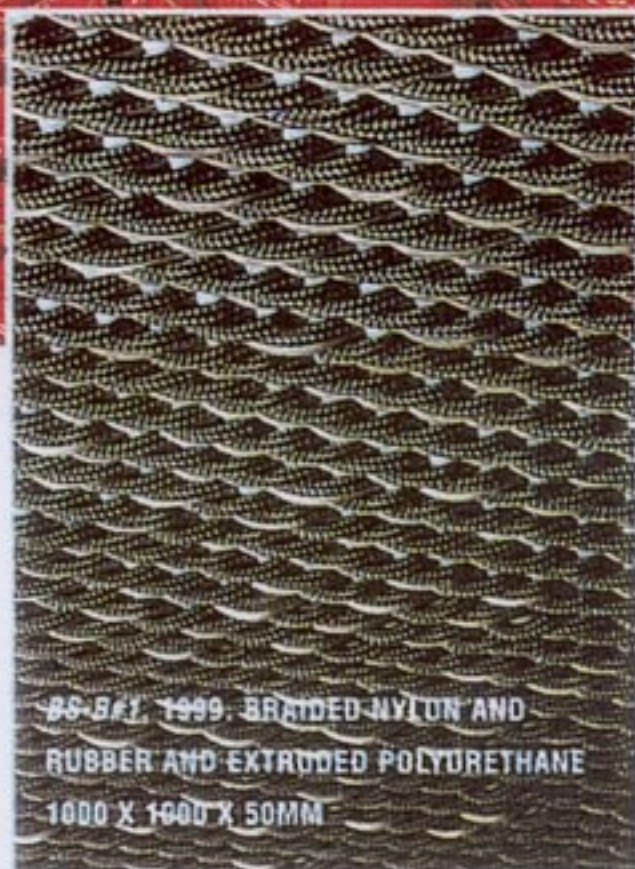
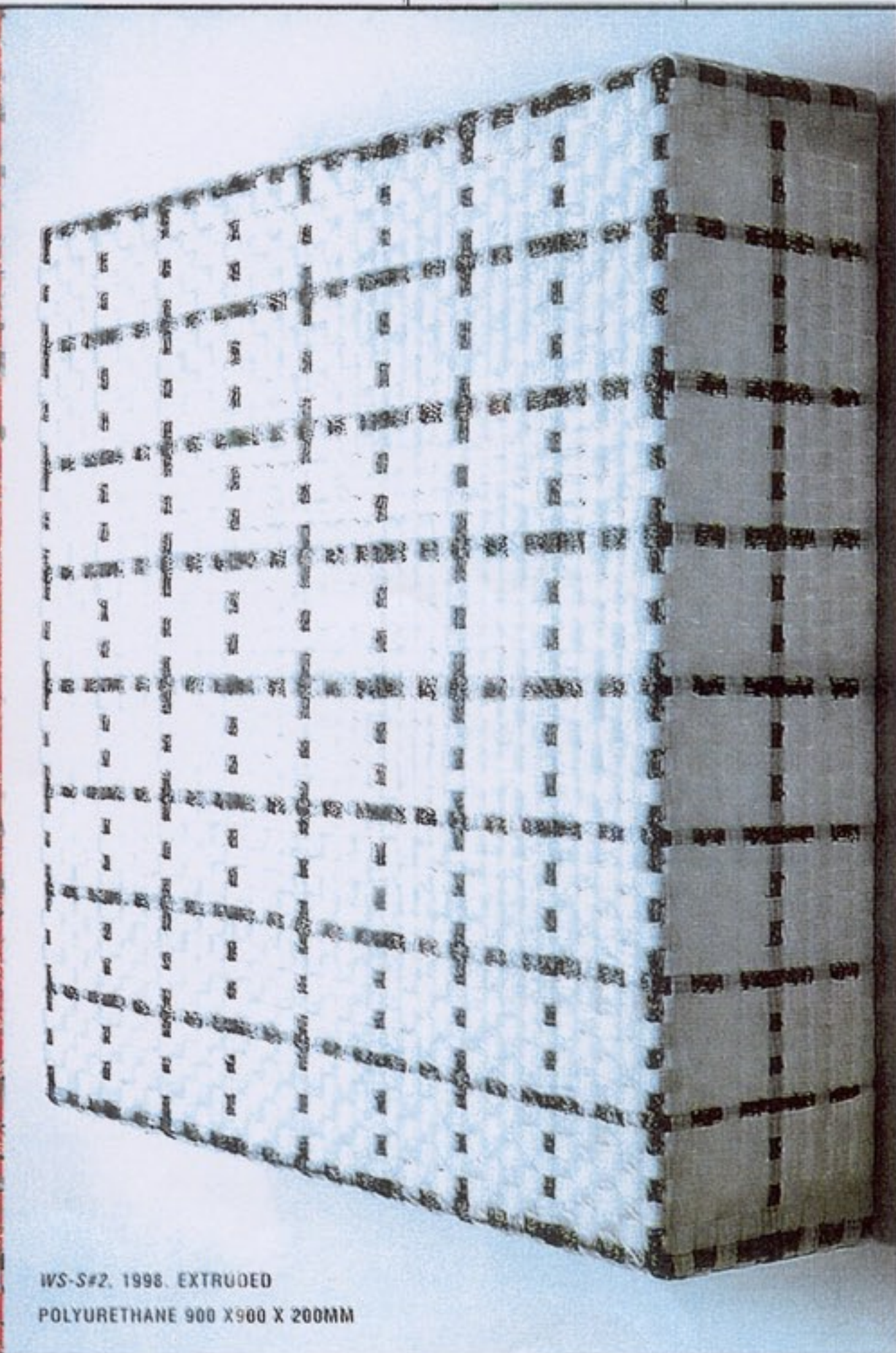


OB-S#5, 1998. EXTRUDED AND
BRAIDED NYLON AND POLYURETHANE
2000 X 2000MM



OB-S#1, 1999. BRAIDED NYLON AND
RUBBER AND EXTRUDED POLYURETHANE
1000 X 1000 X 50MM



WS-S#2, 1998. EXTRUDED
POLYURETHANE 900 X 900 X 200MM

light industrial

EXTRUDED PLASTIC safety netting, road reflectors and plastic shell fish nets may not sound like a palette to inspire creativity, but in the hands of artist, Dani Marti, these materials have been transformed from the prosaic to the sensuous.

Marti is a Spanish-born artist who came into contact with this palette in the course of his nine-to-five world and immediately fell in love with the pure durability and functionality of the plastic materials. A life-long love of weaving, developed in his home town of Barcelona, made sense of the industrial materials and the resulting art is an intoxicating collision of old world methods and new world sensibilities.

Using only factory fresh textiles, Marti's large format sculptures are a refreshing take on the modernist obsessions with light and respect for materials. His starting point is the materials themselves and from this he extrapolates a highly minimalist aesthetic based on a three dimensional form that is both sculptural and painterly. He is fascinated by space and describes his work as "shapes designed to both hold and reflect the two simple minimal dimensions of light and silence."

To Marti, weaving is a simple and very human process. He explains his process of working as an attempt to "emulate the meditative experience where the repetition of the same action gives the sense of an endless process." In this way, the process becomes the meaning and the form of his works an expression of the act of making them.

Marti's work is a reference point in a line which stretches from the meditative and devotional aspects of the basket-weaving practice of Shaker women, to the monochromatic modernist aesthetic of pure, clean lines and truth of materials. The power of his work is his ability to capture and express the essence of both. He recently exhibited in a group show at Sydney's Gallery 19 and has a solo exhibition this month, *WS-S/99*.

Brian Boys

WS-S/99, Gitte Weise Gallery, Darlinghurst, Sydney,
26 October - 20 November.