



Paradigms

The writing of the scientific philosopher Thomas Kuhn inspired the title of the work, as he described in his book, 'The Structure of Scientific Revolutions', that "in order for ideas to progress old paradigms need to be toppled by new ones."

Built as a spiralling stack of tetrahedral steel blocks that increase in size by a set percentage at every twist, Shawcross explained that the *Paradigm* "is a beacon for progress and endeavour, but contains fallibility and should serve as a constant reminder of the precariousness of knowledge." These pieces grew from the tetrahedrons of the *Axiom* series and into the controlled explosions of the *Fractures*, and were born out of Shawcross' research into his commission for the Francis Crick institute, London in 2014.

CONRAD SHAWCROSS