

GreaterRestonArtsCenter

For immediate release: December 15, 2011

Contact: Erica Harrison

ericaharrison@restonarts.org

2012 Winter Focus Exhibitions

Extensions of the Hand – Suzi Fox

Light and Dense – Leah Frankel

Distorted – David Meyer

January 6 – February 17, 2012

Reception and Gallery Talk: Saturday, January 21, 5 – 7pm

Gallery Hours: Tuesday – Saturday

11am – 5pm

12001 Market Street, Suite 103, Reston, VA 20191

703.471.9242

www.restonarts.org

Reston, VA: Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE) is pleased to announce its 2012 Winter Focus exhibitions featuring new works by Suzi Fox, Leah Frankel, and David Meyer from January 6 to February 17, 2012. GRACE's Focus exhibitions are awarded through a competitive process to artists from the mid-Atlantic region. The 2012 Winter Focus exhibitions feature artists whose works are primarily conceptual and inspired by personal experiences, an investigation of natural phenomena, and the process involved in making art. Each artist shares a passion for manipulating common materials to transform them into unique works that are universally accessible.

Extensions of the Hand by Suzi Fox



Extensions of the Hand is an exhibition of new works by sculptor Suzi Fox, exploring connections between the act of making objects and her ideas of identity expressed through the physical manipulation of materials. Fox chooses materials that have a history or a specific personal memory associated with them and focuses her process as a way to develop an idea. Fox states “objects are personalized by subverting their function or by adding autobiographical elements.” The tools she uses to create the works are transformed from a utilitarian object with a function to her primary focus. Only after

laboring over the pieces and physically transferring something of herself into each work, can they be linked to a deeper insight. No piece is fully realized until the rhythm of her physical work and her understanding of the materials coincide. In *Profile*, pictured above, Fox shows us the plaster and spackle knife used to create the “molding” of her face on the wall. Several of her other pieces include works that involve playing with shadows and text. Due to the subtle nature of Fox’s work, it may first appear that each work is simple, but close examination offers the viewer deeper insights and humor that is pervasive throughout the exhibition. Fox lives and works in Falls Church, VA and is an adjunct professor of three-dimensional Design and Sculpture at The George Washington University.

Light and Dense by Leah Frankel



Light and Dense is an exhibition by Leah Frankel whose work enhances the mundane and allows us to focus on unnoticed phenomena that often map the passage of time through natural decay or evaporation. Her exhibition features two major installation pieces that explore conditions of translucency, porosity, and density by manipulating common materials. In *Salt Bricks*, Frankel has combined salt and ice to document the reaction between the two elements. In this site specific installation, salt blocks are stacked on top of one another in the windows of the gallery to create a rolling horizon. Each block has a void left by the evaporated ice which creates small openings to the outside world, mimicking the office windows that surround the gallery. In *Paper Webs*, multiple handmade-paper, cell-like structures are clustered together to create a larger form. The form itself is constructed organically on site and is intended to be viewed in the round to allow the individual an opportunity to see through it. Frankel hopes that viewers will see it “breathe” from the different perspectives. Frankel is currently a Masters in Fine Art candidate at Ohio State University’s College of Arts and Sciences.

Distorted by David Meyer



Distorted is an exhibition by David Meyer whose work explores many aspects of the human condition in relationship to the physical world through his unique manipulation of materials. His work ranges from complex installations to simple objects that compel the viewer to take a second look. The works in this exhibition “stem from (his) thoughts and ideas concerning the distortion of seeing in relationship to our personal experience.” All of the work originates from a photographic image and through various processes, such as punching holes or sifting flour; it is altered to create a new mysterious reality. A detail of the work, *Plain Sight*, pictured above, shows a floor view of flour carefully organized into cones to create a pattern and perhaps an image. Much of the meaning in Meyer’s works depends on the personal reaction of the individual thinking about what they are seeing and relating it to their own life. Meyer lives in Delaware and is an Associate Professor of Sculpture at the University of Delaware.

GRACE programs are supported by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Reston Community Center.

Image Credits:

Suzi Fox, *Profile*, spackle knife, plaster, dimensions variable, 2011 (detail)

Leah Frankel, *Salt Bricks*, salt, water, dimensions variable, 2011 (detail)

David Meyer, *Plain Sight*, flour, 3” x 128” x 57”, 2011 (detail)

Other Images available upon request.

Public Programs:

Reception and Gallery Talk with the Artists

Saturday, January 21, from 5 – 7pm

Talk begins at 5:30pm

Free and Open to the Public

TGIF Free Fridays with InteractSTORYtheatre

Think, Generate, Imagine, Form – GRACE opens its doors after hours for an evening of family art-making, storytelling and exploration that promises to excite the senses while strengthening literacy and looking skills.

Fridays January 6 and February 3, 5 – 7pm

Free and Open to the Public

hub theatre at GRACE staged reading

Be part of the first audience to join in fun with the actors of hub theatre as they establish their next big play!

During a staged reading the actors get into character and perform the whole play with great passion so you can experience the theater without the ticket prices! The artwork in the gallery creates a beautiful intimate stage and lets you be a part of the show.

Dental Society Midwinter Meeting (a play with teeth)

Thursday, February 9, 7:30pm – 9:30pm

Free and Open to the Public

Appetite for Art – Contemporary Art Dialogues for Adults

(18 and older)

Explore the world of contemporary art through discussions with exhibiting artists, curators and special guests at GRACE! Morning treats fuel an artful dialogue.

Mondays 10am - noon *

January 23, January 30, and February 6.

Super Studio

(children ages 7- 10)

Monday, January 23, 3:30 –5 pm *

Hands-on art workshop designed to cultivate creativity and curiosity.

*Contact GRACE or Reston Community Center 703.476.4500 for fees and registration

GreaterRestonArtsCenter www.restonarts.org

12001 Market Street Suite 103 Reston, VA 20190 p: 703.471.9242 f: 703.471.0952