

Stephanie Garmey

Wetlands

Friday, October 18—Sunday, November 17, 2013

Maryland Institute College of Art
Bunting Center: Pinkard Gallery

RECEPTION: Friday, November 1, 5-7 pm



(above) Encaustic on natural cut logs
(left) Installation view

General fine arts faculty member Stephanie Garmey will explore the solitude of travel and place through nature. Looking at water, trees, plants, animals, and color will help translate the movement, rhythm, perspective, and time of place. Working with cut paper, drawing, encaustics, wood, and glass, several vignettes will be created throughout the gallery. The viewer will walk through these environments to evoke subtle and sometimes surprising shifts of moods and space.



Lotus leaves and turtle, handmade abaca paper, wax, hemp, and reed

While growing up in Maryland, my parent's house was on the edge of deep woods. I was always interested in playing and exploring in the woods through the years of my youth. My activities included building forts, climbing trees, riding horses, watching wildlife, collecting natural specimens, and arranging them in my room. During my adult life I continued to seek out places to camp, hike, canoe, collect, relax, and meditate. Today in my home I keep a "curiosity cabinet", a room filled with natural objects that range from my childhood to current finds. This has always been and continues as a source of inspiration.

I painted about this imagery for 30 years. The last four years I have stopped painting on canvas for now. With

the latest work, I am exploring new media possibilities and will work my way back to painting perhaps, or not. I do not know.

With this new work, my subject has not changed but the medium in how I speak about it has. I now explore other ways of making work other than painting and choose materials that seem to fit best for each idea. With these installations, the challenge for me has been getting off the wall after spending so much time there. However, the desire to create a recollected place in nature and the corresponding moods that I remember from my explorations continues to be the interest for me.



Heron, cut paper, wood, and wax

Artist Statement:

I am interested in the slowing of time and a meditative recollection of the regenerative and corroding events of nature.

A canoe gliding on the surface of a river.

A heron returning to a stream.

The muddy undergrowth and continuous humming of the swamp.

A fish skeleton picked clean.

The sound of woodpeckers tapping into trees.

The weathered scattered bones of a deer.

These images come from time spent exploring natural areas along the east coast.



River Rocks, ceramics with watercolor and wax

MICA

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