

WOMAN MADE GALLERY
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Contact Information

Amy Galpin, Gallery Coordinator

Phone: (312) 738-0400 Email: gallery@womanmade.org

womanMADE



GALLERY

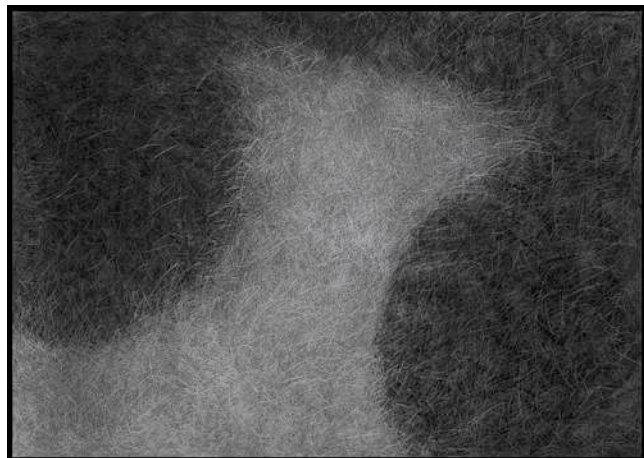
Divided Beauty by Ginny Sykes

Chicago artist's solo show examines feminist abstraction

Opening Reception: Friday, October 10, 6-9 p.m.

CHICAGO - Woman Made Gallery is pleased to announce the opening of *Divided Beauty*, a solo show by Chicago artist Ginny Sykes. Comprised of mostly works on paper, Sykes employs etching techniques with paint, charcoal, and other media to create totems, homages, and celebrations that examine historically gendered archetypes and symbols within a feminist discourse.

Sykes works in abstract figuration, suggesting alternate, metaphoric readings of classical and spiritual themes such as identity, sexuality, loss and transformation. Of the work, Joanna Gardner-Huggett, professor of art history at DePaul University, says, "there is an immediate engagement with Sykes's stirring gestures and organic forms that float, multiply, and clash within and against the boundaries of her (works). Ode to Pandora, 29 1/4" x 41", charcoal and pencil on paper by Sykes she initiates regarding women's practice of abstraction and feminism's conflicted discourse with modernism."



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Ginny Sykes's work explores contemporary notions of visual art and performance collaboration. She has exhibited in the US and internationally, including Transcultural Exchange's "The Tile Project, 2004-2008" (a permanent tile installation in 22 countries), and "Pandora Meets Sarajevo," an exhibition she co-curated featuring artists from Bosnia, Vietnam and the US.

Sykes's performance work incorporates dance, sound, text and visual art installations, most recently in "Velocity" by the collaborative group VIGA.

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“Lessons of Water and Thirst” was co-created with Pont des Arts Ensemble and their newest work, also entitled “Divided Beauty,” will premiere on October 24th at Woman Made Gallery.

Sykes has completed over 30 public art works, often initiating them within her community, including collaborations with the Chicago Department of Transportation and the Chicago Public Art Group, that have resulted in significant architectural and spatial interventions for parks, civic spaces, schools, museums, and hospitals. Recent projects include a glass tile mural at O’Hare airport and a mural for the Latin School of Chicago’s new middle school.

A respected educator, Sykes has taught in both the Museum and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, as well as through Gallery 37, the Illinois Arts Council, and Beacon Street Gallery residency arts programs. Sykes has received honor awards from the Illinois chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and has been awarded several Ragdale Foundation residencies. Her expertise ranges from traditional European painting techniques to contemporary and conceptual studio practice.

Sykes is Artist Liaison for the Chicago Public Art Group. Her work is included in the publications “A Guide to Chicago Murals,” “Urban Art Chicago,” and “The Chicago Public Art Guide.”

Woman Made Gallery is free and open to the public and the exhibition will be up through November 13, 2008. **Opening Reception: Friday, October 10, 6-9 p.m.**

CONCURRENT EXHIBITIONS and opening receptions:

Object of Desire: Group Show in the Main Gallery, juried by Claire Wolf Krantz

Object of Desire: Group Show at the Artisan Gallery

Woman Made Gallery

685 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Chicago, IL 60622

Website: www.womanmade.org

Gallery Hours: Wed-Fri noon-7 p.m. / Sat-Sun noon-4 p.m. / Admission: Free

Woman Made Gallery is supported in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; a CityArts Program II grant from the City of Chicago, Department of Cultural Affairs; the Arts Work Fund for Organizational Development, a donor advised fund of the Chicago Community Foundation; the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; the Hugh M. Hefner Foundation; the Efroymsen Fund, a CICF Fund; a major anonymous donor; and the generosity of its members and contributors.

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