



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Whitdel Arts Emerging Artist Gallery

The Realm of Repetition

Work by Hiroko Lancour

June 29 – July 7, 2012

Reception: June 29, 6-9pm

Whitdel Arts is proud to present *The Realm of Repetition*, featuring past and current work of Hiroko Lancour, in the Emerging Artist Gallery. Please join us for a reception for the artist on Friday, June 29, 6-9pm.

Hiroko Lancour is a multi-media artist. Born and raised in Japan, her original artistic sensibility was cultivated in the eastern world. Having lived in the United States most of her adulthood, Hiroko's aesthetics has become a hybrid between east and west. Exploring this condition of hybridity has become a major focus of her work. Hiroko had a career in information technology for nearly twenty years before she found her passion for art. Her favorite media are paper and fiber. Creating both two and three-dimensional works, Hiroko has exhibited at numerous juried art shows in Michigan, most recently in Ontario, Canada. She holds bachelor's degrees in English and Computer Science, and an associate degree in Art. Hiroko is currently pursuing a Master of Fine Arts at Wayne State University.

Artist statement from Lancour:

"Repetition is often used as a tool for mental introspection. For example, prayer beads and reciting mantras come to mind. For me, repetition is a gateway to a meditative state. I use a repetitive process to get into a "flow" where nothing seems to matter except for the task at hand. Because I am totally immersed in the repetitive operations, I lose track of time and myself. Some argue that repetition is a manifestation of one's attempt to reclaim what was lost. If that is the case, I may be trying to go back to an ego-less state of childhood. Perhaps, what I am yearning for is youthful innocence and optimism.

"The visual results, however, are far from childish. They have a meditative quality, and often reveal something unexpected. This sense of self-discovery is a key factor which motivates me to continue to create. The works I have chosen for this exhibition are linked by repetition. They are from my four series: Order in Chaos, Arrays, Uprooted, and Chance. Order in Chaos explores dual aspects of the whole. Just like a coin, my pieces in this series are double-sided. The seemingly orderly front side, filled with a traditional Japanese pattern, has a drastically different look on the back side. This is analogous to our public and private faces. Arrays deal with my fascination with rectangular forms. Using an Origami method, I created shadowbox-like spaces from single sheets of silk and felt. Uprooted is a tribute to the weeds that I removed from my yard. I captured their images on silk, which was coated with photosensitized solution. Climate conditions, such as the sun, wind, temperature and humidity influenced the outcome. In Chance, I went one step further to let a coin and dice to dictate the outcome. For example, I flipped a coin to determine the direction of the brush strokes of Zen inspired circles. For my woven piece, I threw dice to formulate threading and treadling (i.e. loom pedaling) sequences. The probability of each weaving pattern that I created is one in more than eight trillion. Designing such a unique pattern would not be possible without chance operations."

The exhibition will run from June 29th – July 7th. Open gallery hours are Saturdays during exhibitions, noon-3pm. For more information, e-mail lauren@whitdelarts.com or info@whitdelarts.com.

A division of CAID, Whitdel Arts is an 1800 sq. ft. professional exhibition space that showcases the work of local and international established and emerging artists. Whitdel Arts is located at 1250 Hubbard Street, Suite B1, Detroit MI 48209. Whitdel Arts is also located on the web at www.whitdelarts.com.