On Belonging and the Void Between

Donna Conklin King

July 8th - Aug 31st, 2017
Gallery Aferro Main Gallery
73 Market Street, Newark

OPENING RECEPTION
July 8th, 2017
7pm - 10pm

GALLERY HOURS
Wednesday - Saturday
12pm - 6pm
and by appointment

This exhibition is a selection of works about the nature of belonging and a look to the vacuous and vulnerable experience of being out of place. Without a sense of belonging, we are adrift in a sea of otherness. Of the ways we may untether from familiarity, the shift in becoming an outsider can shake the foundation of our very sense of self.
Environmentally and socially conscious, Donna is interested in transforming common materials, the detritus from our daily lives, into beautiful and evocative artwork. These sculptures form a wry commentary on the plight of feeling like an outsider, and sometimes an imposter, while living as an artist, a wife and a mother in the suburbs of New Jersey. Containing references to the fairy tale *The Princess and The Pea*, and highlighting the labors of marriage and domestic life, they both speak to the expectations of women, the choices we make and the lives we create for ourselves, both good and bad.

Donna Conklin King is a multi-disciplinary artist living and working in Essex County. Her sculptural work focuses on creating beauty from the objects and daily rituals of life. Often adapting the concept of Kintsugi*, King repurposes household objects such as Porcelain Tchotchkes, broken China, food containers and dryer lint, transforming them into desirable objects. Donna's sculpture and Mosaic work can be found at The Wildflower Sculpture Park and the Turtleback Zoo in Essex County. She has an MFA in Sculpture from Rutgers University, a degree in Studio Art from Skidmore and has received a Fellowship in Sculpture from the state arts council of NJ.

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*“Kintsugi is the Japanese art of fixing broken pottery with lacquer resin dusted or mixed with powdered gold, silver or platinum. As a philosophy, it speaks to breakage and repair becoming part of the history of an object, rather than something to disguise.”*

www.donnaconklin.com