

news from BELLAS ARTES

Bellas Artes started 2008 by participating in the Los Angeles Art Show in January. The gallery will end the year exhibiting at ART MIAMI in December.

This year has been an extremely successful time for many of our artists. Colombian fiber artist Olga de Amaral's architectural tapestries turn textiles into radiant surfaces of gold and silver light. Her installation, *Field of Stelae*, was acquired by BGC International for the atrium of its London Headquarters. The installation is composed of 22 suspended sculptures of varying dimensions and shapes. Reminiscent of ancient standing stones, the abstract vertical shapes illuminate the surroundings. One face of each stela is coated with gold leaf, the other with silver, evoking the brilliance of the sun and the pale glow of the moon. *Field of Stelae's* poetic luminosity in the atrium reminds us of the passage of time and the radiance of the cosmos.



Ruth Duckworth at the foundry with "Attendant Spirit"

Sculptor Ruth Duckworth's most recent commission, *Attendant Spirit*, was installed in early October at the new Tarble Arts Center at Eastern Illinois University designed by Albuquerque architect Antoine Predock. The biomorphic and abstract forms present in Duckworth's 15 foot high bronze sculpture reveal the sensuality of the body in concert with the rhythms of the organic world. Although the 89 year old artist currently is working primarily on commissions, she is creating new works for Bellas Artes for ART MIAMI that include wall murals and sculptural forms.

A visceral presence also inhabits the large photographs of Korean photographer Jungjin Lee. Printed on hand coated Mulberry paper, the images inhabit the fibers, giving each work a distinct physicality. This summer Lee exhibited photographs from her *Wind Series* at Bellas Artes and the Santa Fe Art Institute. The gallery is



Olga de Amaral "Field of Stelae" London



Installation showing gold face



Reverse in silver

pleased that the Metropolitan Museum of Art acquired three prints from this series. The artist writes that these images "represent my introspective states and thoughts... The wind and the movement in time and space are excellent communication mediums that create a harmonized space with my perspective on life and dreams." The images also evoke breath and the deep meditative states that an awareness of breath creates. Another meditative image, a photograph from Lee's *Pagodas Series* will be on view in an exhibition at the American Embassy in Seoul.

In August, the gallery hosted the seventh exhibition of Judy Pfaff's works on paper. Pfaff, known as a pioneer of installation art, presented *Very Recent Work*, a tour de force of three dimensional drawings. These complex, gestural, and multi-layered works seem like small installations, capturing the energy and spontaneity of her larger works. The drawings extend beyond their frames - inhabiting the space of the gallery - giving each work an architectural presence. In this exhibition Pfaff expands her fertile journey of exploring materials and developing new techniques and visual vocabularies, to magnify and share her thought provoking, viscerally engaging, and color saturated vision of the world. In September Pfaff inaugurated the new Massry Center for the Arts in Albany with an installation that included drawings and a site specific work.

Next summer the gallery will be steeped in an atmosphere of gold when we present exhibitions of new work by Robert Kushner and Olga de Amaral. Please visit us this year at ART MIAMI December 3 - 7.



Louisa Stude Sarofim, Forrest Moses, Bob Kornstein at Judy Pfaff's opening



Jungjin Lee, Charlotte Kornstein, Susanna Carlisle



Celebrating Jungjin Lee's opening



...and Pucci is hoping to go to ART MIAMI