

Asheville Art Museum



Volume 66, Number 3

September – December, 2014



"My work is made up of gestures that imply 'anthropomorphic' beings. It is my intention for them to have beauty, character and humor through the materials of which they are made, trying to contribute to the world as another 'species' to be encountered by anyone who meets them. I create characters that in their simplest form evoke playful imagination and promote conversation."

— Sharon Louden

Sharon Louden, *Community at the Asheville Art Museum*, 2014, aluminum and steel screws, 16 feet x 19 feet 10.5 inches x 24 feet 3 inches. Courtesy of the Artist and Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY. Photography: Christopher Gialo, Brooklyn, NY. © Sharon Louden.

This exhibition is sponsored by the John and Robyn Horn Foundation.

# Profile



## East Wing Exhibitions (continued)

### *Community: Sharon Louden*

Saturday, July 19, 2014 – Ongoing

EAST WING | ARTWORKS PROJECT SPACE

The second work in the Museum's Artworks Project Space, Sharon Louden's innovative installation *Community: Sharon Louden* is a continued conversation based on a series of work that she started in 2013 that traces its path through installation, animation, painting and drawing. This iteration is a never-ending loop of highly reflective and colorful aluminum inspired by the circular ceiling architecture of the Museum. Long, curling strips interact with a background of large, rectangular, mirror-like sheets and flat, colorful blocks of aluminum that together create a living/breathing environment of changing reflection, color and "bling." *Community* celebrates the beauty and spectacle that is both interactive and contemplative.

Louden is dedicated to encouraging and educating aspiring artists. Four local apprentices were selected to help Loudon install this exhibition. After the installation was complete, one of the apprentices said, "As a beginning artist, I am confounded by Sharon's illuminate nature, not only through her personable and upbeat character, but *Community* reflects her positivity and fervor for the arts. The title *Community* is perfect because it not only reflects Asheville's aspirations for a thriving art collective, but also gave the opportunity for local artists/art enthusiasts to collaborate."

Louden graduated with a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an MFA from Yale University, School of Art. Her work has been exhibited in numerous venues, including the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, the Drawing Center, Carnegie Mellon University, Birmingham Museum of Art, Weatherspoon Art Museum and the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. Loudon's work is held in major public and private collections, including the Neuberger Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, National Gallery of Art, Arkansas Arts Center, Yale University Art Gallery and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. Loudon has taught for 20 years

since graduating from Yale in 1991. Loudon is also the editor of a peer reviewed book published by Intellect Books and distributed by the University of Chicago Press entitled *Living and Sustaining a Creative Life: Essays by 40 Working Artists*.

This Artworks Project Space site specific exhibition is sponsored by the John and Robyn Horn Foundation.



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