



BAINBRIDGE ISLAND
MUSEUM OF ART

***Revering Nature* Curatorial Statement**

Revering Nature is inspired by my sense of a growing global malaise, and that many regional artists shifted their work in the past ten to twenty years from the beauty of nature to concern and alarm. They have responded to diverse and personally urgent calls to action, addressing environmental topics such as endangered species, pollution, and global warming.

My hope is that we will engage in ongoing global discussions, and find ways to remain inspired with what we know as beautiful, powerful, and even mysterious within our physical realm. This will help to fuel our daily, and nightly journey on planet Earth.

Artworks reflect a wide range of artistic expression. The exhibition ranges from lovely, graceful, and more colorful works to those that more profoundly explore the force and scale of what surrounds us. One anchor of this exhibition is a large basalt carving by Will Robinson. This sculpture is an elegant gesture – as if stone becomes liquid again – about the notion of our ever expanding universe. Another anchor is the bark painting by Becky Fletcher – both recognizable and abstract – at first glance a story book unfolding.

Other artworks reflect natural elements, creatures, and landscapes. Still others are more conceptual, addressing less tangible aspects of nature. Several of the artists use raw materials, such as Aaron McKnight's work with bark and seeds, Chris Maynard's feather cuts, and Caroline Cooley Browne's sculptures. Visitors immediately encounter nature's wondrous presence through the stripped cedar logs by Hans Nelsen.

Only a few works hint at the presence of humankind. These include Leslie Wu's canoe, Kimberly Trowbridge's backyard landscape, and a few of Tracy Lang's mixed media paintings.

Greg Robinson
Chief Curator
Bainbridge Island Museum of Art