

For Immediate Release

Anna Hepler: *arrest, array*
Curated by Beth Sellars

Exhibition Dates: August 21 – October 4, 2008

Opening Event: Thursday, August 21, 6-9 PM at Open Satellite

Artist Lecture: Wednesday, August 27, 7 PM at the Henry Art Gallery auditorium

Open Satellite Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 PM, second Thursday of the month 12-8 PM

Anna Hepler, an installation artist based in Portland, Maine, will respond to the physical space of Open Satellite by creating an installation composed of hovering particles and lines, a suspended swarm of fleeting geometries. Using thousands of aluminum and stainless steel rods of very small diameters and black PVC disks to articulate the connection points, the artist will fabricate a massive suspended structure that appears to flow through the gallery space with the controlled chaos of a flock of birds against the sky. In some instances the laboriously fabricated construction will sweep close to the floor allowing for intimate viewing; in other areas the rhythm of minute and repetitive detail will perceptually diminish into the ceiling or a corner of the gallery. Although the installation is physically static, the work expresses a dynamic movement, encouraging the viewer to appreciate the formal logic embedded in the frenetic flight of the swarm.

April Austin, in the July 12, 2006 edition of the *Christian Science Monitor*, said “Anna Hepler's art is a triumph of opposites: Though it looks fragile, it also gives an impression of tensile strength. And although she captures the moment of an object's dissolution, she celebrates the charged particles that remain. From installations of string and colored tape to a series of delicate three-dimensional spheres made of covered florist's wire to ink drawings on stacks of Plexiglas, Ms. Hepler tries to convey the moment of controlled explosion...Hepler is captivated by the way pieces come apart when suddenly freed from their moorings, like a nebula in space or the flight of birds when a flock simultaneously wheels into the sky. This rearrangement of particulate matter recurs in her work like a theme and variation in music.”

Born in Boston in 1969, Anna Hepler received her MFA in 1994 from the University of Wisconsin – Madison and her BA in 1992 from Oberlin College, Ohio. Solo and group exhibitions include numerous venues across the United States and Asia, including the Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo. Awards: Maine Arts Commission (2007); Henry Luce Foundation Fellowship, Seoul (1999). Residencies: Tamarind Institute (2007, 2001), KHN Center for the Arts (2003), Illinois State University (2002), Penland (2000), Centrum Center for the Arts (1999), Oregon College of Art and Craft (1997). Numerous public collections include the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; Tate Gallery, London; DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, Lincoln, ME; and the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Hepler has been Visiting Assistant Professor at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME since 2003.

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About the Curator:

Beth Sellars has worked as a curator since 1975 at several Northwest museums and university galleries, as well as the City of Seattle Art Collection. In 1998, she founded Suyama Space, a site-specific installation space in Seattle where she is curator. She has curated over 200 exhibitions, often traveling them; lectured in China, Mexico and the U.S.; served extensively as a panelist and juror on the West Coast; written and received over 100 local, regional, national and international support grants for non-profit programming; produced 40+ exhibit catalogues; and served as board and committee member for numerous regional museums and arts institutions.

About Open Satellite:

Open Satellite is a contemporary art exhibition hall for the Seattle metropolitan area. The residency-based program provides an opportunity for emerging and mid-career artists from outside the region to work for an extended period to create large-scale artwork in any medium. Exhibitions are staged four times annually with every fifth show focused on architecture as a critical position.

Open Satellite was formed in 2007 and is sustained by Su Development.
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