

Since 1973, a gallery promoting the work of women artists and serving the community through public events

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C H E L S E A

For Immediate Release:

Elizabeth Bisbing More life than still

September 3 – September 28, 2013

*Opening Reception:
Friday September 6th, 6-8pm*



Above: Knapweed (detail) 14x11 inches, painted paper collage, graphite, 2012

In the more than forty cut paper studies of wildflowers, observed during the artist's summer residence in upstate New York, Elizabeth Bisbing explores plant life in relation to botanical study and artistic observation. Among the native regional plants, Bisbing included medicinal flowers, exotic intruders and weeds, labeling and categorizing her findings with the assistance of Greene and Columbia County Master Gardener Bonnie Blader. Also on view are two stop-motion animations by Bisbing, "Metamorphosis" and "The Swamp", which are based on the paper cut works. The animations not only introduce the wondrous world of the plants' diversity and beauty, they convey fictional narrative moments involving the character of Little Betty Jane. The magical universe of the wildflowers then becomes a stage for the seemingly naïve adventures of Little Betty Jane. In these episodes distinguished by a disturbing humor– the wild side of nature turns into a metaphor for subliminal fears of mortality and internalized traumas. Bisbing's female hero can only overcome the fear by completely accepting being part of the archaic and mortal cycle of nature.

If Bisbing's work stunningly presents the desire to depict nature as the source of all art, it actually reveals the artist – as a media possessing the unique, sensitive ability to index art found in nature and the everyday commonplace. Her very personal approach of contrasting the studies with narrative elements makes this understanding of the principle of art even more obvious. We are invited to re-discover the overlooked beauty by the wayside through her seeing eyes.

Elizabeth Bisbing was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She earned her BFA in painting from Moore College of Art & Design and her MFA from Vermont College of Fine Art. She has been a member of the Soho20 Gallery New York City since 2002 and has had four solo shows and participated in several group shows at the gallery. She is also affiliated with the Projects Gallery of Philadelphia where she has been in group shows and one solo exhibition. Projects Gallery brings her work to the Red Dot and Bridge Art Fairs in Miami, New York, and Chicago. She participated in The Veil: Visible & Invisible Spaces, an exhibition, which traveled across the country from 2008 through 2013. Her work has been reviewed in Art-Vetting.com, New York Sun, Distinction Magazine, and New York Magazine as well as the Lincoln County News of Damariscotta, Maine and The Garland News of Dallas, Texas. Her work is in many private collections as well as Rowan University's Art Gallery permanent collection. She lives and works in New York City.

For more information, please contact the gallery at (212) 367-8994 or