

Mira Lehr

FATHOM

March 14 - April 27, 2013
Opening Reception: March 14, 6 - 8pm

In *FATHOM*, Lehr uses nature as a departure point, and with tangible materials, evokes the sublime in a creative process that mirrors nature itself. The tangles of rope and swaths of burnt paper function as objects as well as activated representations that evoke the dramatic sprawling roots of mangroves and the flowing tentacles of jellyfish. Lehr's work shares the mystique possessed by mangroves and the deep ocean, yet focuses on the intimate, creating a dynamic experience of movement that is simultaneously graceful and powerful.



Adaptation, 2012, resin, nylon, hand drawing, ink, and kozo paper on acrylic sheet, 50 x 45 inches

“At this late date, it is almost too much to expect an experience unexpectedly compelling and new - catalyzed by a representation of nature, and yet, here is Mira Lehr's recent work - playful, mysterious and as it wrests beauty from danger and violence, in the deepest sense sublime.”
 Thom Collins, Director of the Miami Art Museum

Mira Lehr is a graduate of Vassar College and studied painting with Robert Motherwell, James Brooks, James and Nieves Billmyer (long time students of the pioneer of modernism, Hans Hofmann). Lehr has been called “the mistress of light” by 60 Minutes correspondent, Morley Safer, “the spiritual heir to O’Keeffe”, in the London Times Literary Supplement and “a painter not of this world” by Oxford poet, Kelley Grovier. As a young female artist in the 50's-60's, Lehr was at the forefront of abstract expressionism and had much to do with

mobilizing the female voice in cities like Miami, where she cofounded the Continuum Gallery. Irving Sandler, renowned art historian wrote, “Mira Lehr proves there is a vital art going on now in Florida.” In 1969, Lehr was an original participant with Buckminster Fuller on the first World Game Scenario Project at the New York Studio School. Critic, Eleanor Heartney wrote, “For Lehr's optimistic vision of reality, her association with Buckminster Fuller is key. From Fuller she absorbed the sense that ideas and creativity can change the world and that human beings are meant to be a success on this planet.” Through her unique experience in the field, Lehr had affected a new generation of female artists extending beyond

the gallery circuit. Today, Lehr's work can be found in numerous museums, galleries as well as private and public collections all over the world. One of Lehr's major works was recently purchased by Memorial Sloan-Kettering in New York for the lobby of their new Evelyn H. Lauder Breast Cancer Center and a major work was purchased for permanent collection of the Miami Art Museum. Lehr was selected by the Art in Embassies program to exhibit her work in the American Embassy in Sofia, Bulgaria and in Mexico City.

Selected Solo Exhibitions:

- 2011 Post Fair Event, video projection during Art Basel, Wynwood, Miami, FL
Detour Basel, STA Group, Wynwood, Miami, FL
209 Ignition, Kelley Roy Gallery, Miami, FL
Burnt Offerings, Flomenhaft Gallery, New York, NY
- 2010 New Work, Sanford Smith Fine Art, Great Barrington, MA
Fire and Heat by Three, The Bascom Visual Art Center, Highlands, NC
Artful Explosions, Guthrie Contemporary Art, New Orleans, LA
- 2009 New Works, Flomenhaft Gallery, New York, NY
Synergies, Rohm Gallery, New Orleans, LA
- 2008 Tanglewood, Sanford Smith Fine Art, Great Barrington, MA
GenSpring Family Offices, Grand Opening, Sarasota, FL
- 2007 Dreamscapes, Flomenhaft Gallery, New York, NY
- 2006 Modern Masters of Tapestry, Bass Museum of Art, Miami Beach, FL
Mira Lehr for Odegard, Chicago, Minneapolis, NY
Between the Meadow and the Moon, Elaine Baker Gallery, Boca Raton, FL
- 2005 Mira Lehr for Odegard, Paradeisos, Celebrating Art Basel, Miami, FL
Moon and Bellflower Variations Flomenhaft Gallery, New York, NY
- 2003 World Game: Celebrating Art Basel, Odegard, Miami, FL
Affinities with the East, Elaine Baker Gallery, Boca Raton, FL
- 1997 New Work, Dorothy Blau Gallery, Bay Harbor Islands, FL
Icarus, Continuum Gallery, Miami Beach, FL
- 1996 Past and Present, Continuum Gallery, Miami Beach, FL
- 1995 Orientations, Continuum Gallery, Miami Beach, FL
- 1993 Sources, Continuum Gallery, Miami Beach, FL
- 1991 Night Paintings, Gloria Luria Gallery, Bay Harbor Islands, FL