

Fractured Fairytales

Sculptures by Jenne Giles

September 6 - October 15, 2014

Closing Reception: October 11, 1:00-3:00 pm

The Addison Street Windows Gallery proudly presents *Fractured Fairytales: Sculptures by Jenne Giles*, an art exhibition organized by curator, Demetri Broxton. *Fractured Fairytales* assembles 11 felted sculptures created by Giles within the past two years. Felt and felt making is an art form dating back to at least 6500 BCE and is created when sheep's wool or animal fur is subjected to heat, moisture and pressure, or agitation. Through heavy working of the materials, the fibers become entangled, forming a fabric which can take on any desired shape.

Jenne Giles adopts this ancient art form and brings it to a fantastic level by forming it into sculptures. Each of her sculptures connects to a childhood fantasy or memory. In *Bomb Pop*, an oversized popsicle lies melting on the floor. The popsicle looks life-like, but upon closer examination, one notices the soft, fuzzy fiber. The piece recalls stuffed animals, but one which is dissolving away, like the fragile brevity of childhood. The Addison Street Windows Gallery is a project of the City of Berkeley, funded by the Berkeley Public Art Fund.

Jenne Giles is an Oakland based, mixed-media artist whose work explores boundaries between traditional fine arts and experiential modes of art. Jenne received her degree in Art & Art History from Rice University in 1997. After moving to San Francisco in 1999, she apprenticed for 5 years in architectural metalwork and completed 4 major installations for the annual Burning Man event in Nevada including the first keyhole project by a female artist.

She discovered felt-making and the possibility of fiber art in 2005. In 2007, she started her own business, Harlequin Feltworks, specific to felt accessories. Jenne continues to show nationally with her award-winning wearable artwork. She is presently developing new work exploring fiber in the context of contemporary, conceptual art as well as its relationship to painting and sculpture.

Demetri Broxton is an independent curator. He was born in Oakland, CA and holds a BFA in Art Practice from UC Berkeley and an M.A. in Museum Studies from San Francisco State University. Broxton has been curator with the City of Berkeley since February 2014. His past curatorial projects include *Past Forward* at the Sargent Johnson Gallery and *Decoding Identity* at Museum of the African Diaspora.

For more information, contact:

Demetri Broxton, Curator at demetribroxton@gmail.com