

November 3, 2015 for immediate release

In Woods and Branches and Vines

What

New paintings and drawings by Joyce Lyon and Karen Dekro

When

February 25 – April 2, 2016

Gallery hours: Thursday – Saturday 12:00 – 6:00 pm and by appointment.

Public Reception Reception: Saturday, February 27 6– 8:30 pm

Gallery events are free and open to the public

Where

Form+Content Gallery, Whitney Square Building. 210 North 2nd Street, Suite 104. Minneapolis, MN 55401.
Metered street parking.

Information

formandcontent@gmail.com

<http://www.formandcontent.org>

[612/436-1151](tel:6124361151)

Description

Form+Content Gallery presents *In Woods* and *Branches and Vines*, drawings and paintings by Joyce Lyon and Karen Dekro. The exhibition juxtaposes works by the two artists inspired by observation of nature combined with interests in visual structure, metaphor and abstraction.

Artists' Statements and Biographies

Joyce Lyon

The rhythmic structure of a small woods on a Wisconsin farm, the repetition of vertical and horizontal and the play of light through the trees suggest an almost sacred geometry. Place has always provided the metaphor through which I understand and communicate experience. I am interested in the fragile and essential ways by which meaning is conveyed and in the resonant relationship between silence and what can be understood. In these explorations I have been stimulated by writers and artists who reclaim our connections to the natural world, to reverence, intuition, loss, and the responsibilities of bearing witness.

“There are holy places and unholy places that speak to us when we walk upon them.” --Marge Pierce.

Joyce Lyon's work has been exhibited nationally. She has received grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Jerome Foundation and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts. Her work is in museum and institutional collections nationally and in private collections internationally. Locally, she is represented by Groveland Gallery and Form+Content.

Joyce was a founding member of WARM: The Women's Art Registry of Minnesota, where she learned to value mentorship. She is a member of the *Healing Place Collaborative*, an indigenous artist led group collaboratively examining the identity of the Mississippi River as a source of healing and as a place itself in need of healing.

Karen Dekro

As a Minnesota gardener, I am always amazed at the reemergence of the trees and plants after the long, frozen winter. I'm especially amazed at the delicate plants and vines that return. The ways that vines twist and almost crochet fascinate me. Sometimes they swing. Sometimes they hang. Sometimes they curl.

In ways trees are almost the opposite of vines. They are generally strong and textured. But branches and vines have similarities. They both make intricate patterns and lace-like designs that blow in the wind and both create images that easily lend themselves to abstraction. Together, when they use the sky as a backdrop, they perform a dance that is always changing.

Karen Dekro is a painter who is inspired by nature. In 1991, artist/teacher Sally Brown put an oil bar in her hand and thus began a relationship with materials that continues today. She enjoys the tactile experience that the mark of these bars on paper provides.

Joyce Lyon has been her primary mentor for thirty years. She also gives credit for her development as an artist to Christine Baeumler and Mark Ostapchuk. She studied ceramics at the University of Missouri and later worked toward a BFA in painting at the University of Minnesota.

Karen participated in a three person show at the Sally Brown Studio and has shown her work in Regis West Gallery at the University of Minnesota.

Press Images

High-res images available at

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/n5f3q34swvqds87/AABlCsOF3z1L4SUEcWdXBW5Ta?dl=0>

Images:

Joyce Lyon

JLyon_01 *In Woods #4*, 30"hx40", oil and oil bar on board, 2015

JLyon_02 *In Woods #3*, 22"hx30", oil bar on paper, 2015

JLyon_03 *In Woods #1*, 22"hx30", oil bar on paper, 2015

JLyon_04 *In Woods #2*, 22"hx30", oil bar on paper, 2015

Karen Dekro

KDekro_01 *Untitled/Triptych (left)*, 36"hx28", oil bar on paper, 2008

KDekro_02 *Untitled/Triptych (right)*, 36"hx28", oil bar on paper, 2008

KDekro_03 *Branches and Vines #4*, 28"hx21", oil bar on paper, 2007

KDekro_04 *Branches and Vines #6*, 28"hx21", oil bar on paper, 2007

NOLO

Form+Content Gallery is a member of NOLO (North Loop Arts), Minneapolis.

Mission Statement

Form+Content Gallery nurtures diverse artistic practice and thoughtful dialogue. We value art as a catalyst for critical thinking. We value integrity and the artistic process. We aspire to link personal expression to broader social contexts. Form+Content Gallery is dedicated to moving the definitions and practice of culture

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