

# FORM+CONTENT GALLERY

For release February 15, 2014

## **PARTICULA OBSCURA**

**A Cryptic Installation by Jody Williams**

### **What**

An installation of specimens, artist's books and boxes, drawings, and cast bronze by Minneapolis artist Jody Williams

### **When**

Thursday, April 17, 2014 – Saturday, May 24, 2014  
Gallery hours: Thursday – Saturday, 12:00 – 6:00 pm  
and by appointment

### **Opening Reception**

Saturday, April 19, 2014 from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

### **Additional Reception**

Saturday, May 3, 2014 from 5:30 to 9:30 pm - coinciding with other North Loop area openings  
All events are free and open to the public

### **Where**

Form+Content Gallery  
Whitney Square Building  
210 North 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Suite 104  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

### **Information**

Gallery: 612/436-1151  
[formandcontent@gmail.com](mailto:formandcontent@gmail.com)  
<http://www.formandcontent.org>

### **Description**

(Minneapolis, MN) – Form+Content Gallery presents *Particula Obscura*, a cryptic installation, in a solo exhibition by Jody Williams. Taking up the entire gallery, the installation honors the tradition of 17th-century *Wunderkammern*, the historical precursors to museums. Unlike traditional cabinets, which often presented extensive collections in a haphazard manner, this conceptual cabinet will display a select group of distilled elements with an austere aesthetic.

(description continues)

(*Particula Obscura* description, continued)

Hinting at the botanical, the zoological, the alchemical, and the philosophical, *Particula Obscura* is divided into three sections: *Dust*, *Earth and Air*, and *Flora and Fauna*. Each section is comprised of smaller components, including relief boxes, shelves and drawers. Historical Cabinets of Wonder featured both naturalia and artificialia (natural specimens and man-made artifacts) as well as artificialia constructed from naturalia. All three will be included in this installation in the form of natural specimens, cast bronze objects, drawings, artist's books, and not-empty boxes.

"Over the past ten years, I have been including actual specimens and artifacts in my work, documenting with physical evidence the process of collecting and ordering specific moments in specific places. This obsession began with a commissioned Cabinet of Wonders permanently installed in the Carleton College Library in Northfield, Minnesota. *Particula Obscura* will be a larger, more ephemeral Cabinet that presents specimens but reveals no real answers about the meaning of their, or my own, existence." -Jody Williams

**Press Images:** High and Low Resolution Images are on the enclosed CD, with an Image List list and a copy of this Press Release.

### **Artist Biography**

Jody Williams lives in Minneapolis, where she publishes artist's books under the name Flying Paper Press and teaches at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design and the Minnesota Center for Book Arts. She received a BFA from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and an MFA in printmaking from the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. Her work is in the collections of the Walker Art Center, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minnesota Historical Society, and many other museums and libraries in the United States, Canada, and Europe. She has participated in over 200 exhibitions nationally and internationally.

Williams' honors include fellowships, grants and awards from the Jerome Foundation, the Minnesota Craft Council, the Minnesota Center for Book Arts and the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. She has held residencies at the Frans Masereel Printmaking Center (Kasterlee, Belgium), ArtPark (Lewiston, New York), Women's Studio Workshop (Rosendale, New York), and the Carleton College Library (Northfield, Minnesota). In 2008 she was the inaugural recipient of the Minnesota Book Artist Award, and in 2012 she received an Artist's Initiative Grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board.

Williams' website: [www.flyingpaperpress.com](http://www.flyingpaperpress.com)

### **Mission Statement**

Form+Content Gallery will nurture 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 forward in new and lively ways. Suggestions and ideas for cultural partnerships and programs are welcome.

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