

Graduate School 30th Anniversary Celebratory Alumni Award Recipient Marie Yoho Dorsey

Presents: *Between Land and Sky: Mixed Media Sculptures and Hand-Embroidered Prints*



January 31, 2011 (USF Tampa) – The Graduate School will be honoring artist Ms. Marie Yoho Dorsey as a *Celebratory Alumni Award Recipient*. The Award, established as part of the Graduate School's 30th Anniversary Celebration honors graduate student alumni for outstanding professional accomplishments and service as a role model for present and future graduate students and scholars.

Marie will be exhibiting her work ***Between Land and Sky: Mixed Media Sculptures and Hand-Embroidered Prints***, February 14 through 18th from 11-3:00 PM daily, at the William and Nancy Oliver Gallery, FAS 103, where she will also receive her award at a presentation at 7 p.m. on February 18, 2011.

Marie received her MFA in 2005, specializing in sculpture, installation/mixed-media. Since graduating Marie has worked as an Instructor of Art at the University of Tampa – Photography Department, as well as participated in numerous shows and exhibitions. Her work has been displayed throughout the United States, including Tampa, Miami, Chicago, New York, as well as internationally with a show in Tokyo, Japan. Marie will be serving as Artist in Residence this June, 2011, at the Camac Art Centre, Marnay Art Center in France.

Marie Yoho Dorsey's image making process situates itself between the American and Japanese cultures, both of which are an innate part of her being. The blend of this geographical and cultural dichotomy has evolved within her growth as an artist and the resulting body of work pays tribute to the history, wealth, kitsch and tradition of Japanese culture from an ancient temple set against a sublime mountain range to the counter-culture world of "Hello Kitty" and to the modern space and contemporary contextualization of American post modernism.

Yoho Dorsey's work uses the metaphor of the cosmos and more specifically that of the landscape to represent her apprenticeship of folklore, culture, and ritual. Her work is an intuitive response to what she considers has been woven into the fabric of her individual existence. Yoho Dorsey, as a practitioner of Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement), is in constant research for the balanced relationship between the sky, the earth and man, the relationship of the artist to her spirituality and materiality. The Kimono sculptural landscapes and drawings are perfect examples of this search for beauty, as they explore the delicate nature and history of tattered and frayed vintage kimono clothing which were gifted to the artist or collected over the years. As the kimonos are intuitively folded, cut and sewn, they ultimately form a conduit to explore abstraction, to construct visual landscapes and their becoming of objects of personal and cultural identity brings them full circle within this metaphor of cosmic space.

The hand-embroidered prints work through a different process. Yoho-Dorsey creates an image on mylar that is both the ground and the debut of the narrative. Once the direct gravure plate is made, colors and papers are proofed until the right chemistry inviting the continuation of the image is achieved. The construction of the image continues its path through the use of embroidery and or crystals. The fabrication of the prints is labor intensive, which defines the small and unique editions.

The Graduate School is pleased to honor Ms. Yoho Dorsey for her outstanding accomplishments. Marie is the fifth recipient of this award. Previous recipients include Chief Gil Kerlikowske, grad alum from Criminal Justice Administration who now serves as the Director for Drug Policy and Control for the Obama Administration; Mrs. Sonja Garcia, grad alumna from Library and Information Science and former USF librarian and BOT member; Dr. Rony Francois, Director of the Division of Public Health (DPH) for the Georgia Department of Community Health; and Alzheimer expert Dr. Chad Dickey. The Graduate School will recognize one more outstanding graduate alumnus at the culminating event on the official anniversary date of March 4, 2011.

To request photographs or information on the work please contact Erika Schneider at Bleu Acier Inc.: bleuacier@verizon.net or visit www.yohodorsey.com.

For more information on this award or the presentation, contact Carol Hines-Cobb at 813-974-4239 or chines-cobb@grad.usf.edu