Artist Statement & Proposal for Solo Exhibition
Torpedo Factory
Renee van der Stelt
Works on Paper
www.reneevanderstelt.com

The process, or time it takes to make a drawing is often as important as, and sometimes more interesting than, the final result. Recently, my work explores how a drawing can affect and shape space. I seek formal and conceptual ways to assimilate drawing into the sculptured form. As a result, I have become increasingly intrigued by how we think about space through mapping strategies and cartography as well as NASA and satellite images.

The sculptures/drawings are produced through cutting or repeatedly puncturing the surface of the paper with a pin or shaped punch. The resulting images and forms describe space in both diagrammatic and topographic ways. Depending upon the direction of the light and the placement of these forms in space, these visual maps appear as two and three dimensional dots, low reliefs, or points of light. The drawings, which can also be considered sculptures, suggest the globe and our galaxy. They also explore strategies for mapping three dimensional space as well as movements around the globe such as wind, water current, or bird migration patterns. They reveal the biases and limitations of how we think about space as well as of how we use maps as a tool to perpetuate those ideas.

I am currently an artist in resident at the Roswell Artist in Residence Program for one year until June, 2009. During this time, the work has focused in part on the mineral resources available in the geographic region: specifically the location of water, oil, gas, and electric lines. The desire to understand complex systems of local and global human interaction with natural resources is what lies behind the abstracted drawings/sculptures. Additionally, there is an equally strong desire to explore the definition of drawing through the works. If successful, when seen as overlapping images, there is an honest attempt to give the viewer a broader understanding of the region. Additionally, ink and graphite drawings exhibit a more intimate, response to the land by 'mapping' the movement of varied grasses in the wind.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK TO BE EXHIBITED @ TORPEDO FACTORY

For the Torpedo Factory exhibition, I will exhibit up to ten larger works exploring global mapping concepts created during the residency in Roswell. I will also will research, create and exhibit two to three new works specifically exploring local land use in the Alexandria, VA region - with the goal of encouraging viewers to re-consider how the local region is directly connected to global uses of space, natural resources and environments. The work will be hung on, or close to, the gallery walls with careful consideration of lighting. One new topographic, tyvek piece (currently in progress) may hang from the ceiling. I have also begun research into bird migration patterns along North and South America, and one of these works may be included in the exhibition.

BIOGRAPHY

Renee van der Stelt is from Baltimore, Maryland and exhibits nationally in solo and group exhibitions. Her work is included in the Drawing Center's Artist Registry, NY. She recently received grants from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, the City of Baltimore, and the state of Maryland. She was an artist-in-residence at the historic MacDowell Colony in 2008. She will move back to Baltimore to live with her husband and daughter in June/July of 2009.

20 - *Reversed Globe: B. Fuller,* 2004, paper, pins, 34 ½ x 70"

21 - *Milky Way,* 2004, paper, pins, light, 36 x 50"

22 – DETAIL of *Milky Way,* 2004, paper, pins, light, 36 x 50"

23 – Installation View of Villa Julie College, 2006

24 - *Ptolomy's Map,* 2005, paper, pins, light, 34 x 50 x 12"

25 – *Untitled,* 2005, 3 *cliché verre* prints, 50 x 70" each

26 – DETAIL of *Untitled,* 2005, 3 *cliché verre* prints, 50 x 70" each

27 – *Longitude Latitude II*, 2007, paper, Ellipse Art Center installation

28 – *Longitude/Latitude: Diptych*, 2007, pencil, paper, pins, dimensions variable
foreground: *Projections III*, 2007, Table, Tracing Paper, Blackboard paint, 36"x72"x35"

29 - *Flat Map II,* 2006, Paper, light

30 - *Wind / Flight,* 2007, paper, pencil, pins, 31 x 19"

RENEE VAN DER STELT

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EDUCATION

M.F.A. Drawing 1993
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

M.A. Art History 1990
University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

B.A. Studio & Art History 1988
Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI

Study in Foreign Language & Art History 1985
Free University, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

GRANTS

Pollock Krasner Foundation, Artist Grant, 2007 ($20,000)
TKF Foundation, *Open Spaces / Sacred Places*, 2007
($5,000 for CADVC Educational Program)
Maryland State Arts Council, Artist Grant, 2006 ($6,000)
Baltimore Office for the Promotion&Arts, Artist Grant, 2005 ($500)
Maryland State Arts Council, Artist Grant, 2005 ($1,000)
TKF Foundation, *Joseph Beuys Tree Partnership*, 2000-2001
($95,000 for CADVC Educational Program)
I have also assisted the Director of CADVC with grant application budgets for to The Norton Foundation, Lanan Foundation, The Andy Warhol Foundation, Maryland State Arts Council (1999-2004).
Iowa Arts Council, Mel Andringa and the Drawing Legion: *The Man Who Discovered Iowa,* 1996, ($5,000 for Cornell College Gallery Programming)
Iowa Arts Council, Reframing the Sonnenshein Collection, 1995
($1,500 conservation of drawings in permanent collection)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

Global/Local, Roswell Museum and Art Center, Roswell, NM 2009
Drawing Imagined Space, School 33, Baltimore, MD 2005
Pin Drawings, SPARE ROOM, Baltimore, MD 2004
Drawing to Space, Millersville University, Millersville, PA 2003
Recent Sculptures/Drawings, Berea College, Berea, KY 1998
7 Dresses on a Hill, 7 Hands in Shade, 7 Paintings in Trees
Faber's Farm, Parnell, IA 1996
Transitions, *Painting First,* Iowa City, IA 1994
Inscapes: Drawings, Prints, and Books, Dordt College Gallery, Sioux Center, IA 1993
Recent Drawings, Eve Drewlowe Gallery, Iowa City, IA 1992

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

Washington Project for the Arts Gala, Washington DC 2009
All Over the Map, Kohler Art Center, Sheboygan, WI 2009
Dry Heat, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, NM 2008
Look Now Look All Around, MSAC, Baltimore, MD 2008
Cardinal Points, Park School, Baltimore, 2008
MSAC / 40, Maryland State Arts Council, Baltimore, MD 2007

Checklist of works
Renee van der Stelt
www.reneevanderstelt.com

1 - Installation View (from left to right):
-*Longitude/Latitude & Global Continent Lines*, 2008, graphite on paper, 64 x 24 x 13"
-*Longitude/Latitude & Northern Continent Lines*, 2008, graphite on paper, 51 x 42 x 10"
-*Moon Craters with Northern/Southern Sky*, 2008, ink on hand cut paper, 25 x 27" (SOLD)

2 - *Rolled Globe: North of Equator*, 2008, paper & halogen light, 7 x 53 x 7"

3 - Installation View of exhibition *Obsessive Aesthetics*, Maryland Art Place
-*Projections III*, 2007, Table, Tracing Paper, Blackboard paint, 36"x72"x35"
-*Projections I*, 2007, Tyvek (4 of 5 elements), dimensions variable
-*Black Hole / Iceberg*, 2007, Paper, light, shelf, 52 x 62 x 13"

4 - Installation View, Goucher College, 2005
-*Double Globe: Longitude*, 2005, paper, pins, 32 x 30 x 15"
-*Globe*, 2005, paper, pins, light, 54 x 50 x 9"
-*Equatorial Flat Map: Bonne*, 2004, paper pins, light, 34 x 50 x 12"

5 - *Globe*, 2005, paper, pins, light, 54 x 50 x 9" (SOLD)

6 - *Black Hole / Iceberg*, 2007, Paper, light, shelf, 52 x 62 x 13"

7 – Installation View (from left to right)
-*Untitled*, 2008, paper, 62 x 82"
-*The New Oil: New Mexico Water*, 2008, paper, 59 x 50"
-*Desert City: New Mexico/Texas Natural Gas & Liquids Pipelines in 1987*, 2008, paper, 52 x 45"

8 – *The New Oil: New Mexico Water*, 2008, paper, 59 x 50"

9 - *Top Ten Oil Extractors in 2007*, 2008, paper, 52 x 70"

10 – DETAIL of *Top Ten Oil Extractors in 2007*, 2008, paper, 52 x 70"

11 - *Hidden Globe, 2008*, paper, vellum and graphite, *49 x 57 x 16"*

12 – *Longitude/Latitude & Northern Continent Lines*, 2008, graphite on paper, 51 x 42 x 10"

13 – Mapped Global Maps, 2008, graphite on paper, 52 x 70"

14 - *Wind Currents: Mean Directions & Stream Lines*, 2006, paper, pins, light, shelf, aluminum, 19 x 31 x 6"

15 - *Wind Currents: Mean Directions* – DETAIL, 200, paper, pins, light, shelf, aluminum

16 – *Northern/Southern Sky*, 2004, paper, pins, light, 70 x 90"

17 – DETAIL of *Northern/Southern Sky*, 2004, paper, pins, light, 70 x 90"

18 - *Moon Map*, 2005, pencil, paper, 43" diameter

19 – DETAIL of *Moon Map*, 2005, pencil, paper, 43" diameter

GROUP EXHIBITIONS CONTINUED

You are Here, Ellipse Art Center, Arlington, VA 2007
Obsessive Aesthetics, Maryland Art Place, MD 2007
Reenactments, Current Gallery, Baltimore, MD 2007
Here and Now, Maryland Institute College of Art, Balt., MD 2006
Nature: Redrawn, Redux, Charlottesville, SC 2006
Drawing: Tradition & Innovation, Arlington Art Center, VA 2006
Observation Deck, Baltimore Museum of Art, MD 2005
Will and Grace, Goucher College, Baltimore, MD 2005
Villa Julie Artscape Summer Exhibition, Baltimore, MD 2005
Proliferate, U of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI 2004
Achromatic, Villa Julie College, Baltimore, MD 2004
SURPLUS, Area 405, Baltimore, MD 2004
The BIG Show, Creative Alliance, Baltimore, MD 2004
Intersections, CHELA Gallery, Baltimore, MD 2004
The Door and Window Project, Station North, Baltimore, MD 2003
NOTEBOOK, Artscape 2003, Baltimore, MD 2003
10 Pages/10 Books, Baltimore Book Festival, 2003
Curator's Choice, Corcoran Art Museum, Washington D.C. 2002
Wildflower, School 33, Baltimore, MD 2001
Like A Prayer, Tryon Center for Visual Arts, Charlotte, NC 2001
College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 2000
Outdoor Sculpure at ArtScape, Baltimore, MD, July 2000-2001
Sci+Art: Extensions of Being, M.A.P., Baltimore, MD 2000
Perelli Gallery,Baltimore, MD 2000
Cornell College Faculty Exhibition, Cornell, IA 1998
WARM 1997 Group Exhibition, Minneapolis, MN 1997
Honarary Mention for paintings
Kunstfeest, Center Art Gallery, Grand Rapids, MI 1997
Area Faculty Exhibition, Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, IA 1996
Faculty Exhibition, Armstrong Gallery, Mount Vernon, IA 1995
Current Work, Summit Street Gallery, Iowa City, IA 1995
Contemporary Dutch Art, Center Art Gallery, Grand Rapids, MI. '95
Faculty Exhibition, Redeemer College Gallery, Hamilton 1994
Graduate MFA Exhibition, The University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, IA 1993
Alumni Exhibition, Center Art Gallery, Grand Rapids, MI 1993
Iowa Landscapes, an exhibition with Anne Swett, Johnson County Arts Center, Iowa City, IA 1992
North Dakota Print and Drawing Annual, The University of North Dakota, Juror: Wilfred Wayne Kimball, Jr., Grand Fks, ND
National Graduate Drawing Exhibition, The University of Wisconsin, Juror: Heather McAdams, Oshkosh, WI, 1992
Recent Drawings by Regional Graduate Students, Winona State University, Winona, MN 1991
Annual Student Art Exhibit, Juror The University of Iowa Fine Arts Council, Jenny Snider, Iowa City, IA 1991
Sanchez/van der Stelt: Collaborations, Eve Drewelowe Gallery, 1991

PUBLICATIONS

Voices in Dialogue, *The Principal of Visuals in the Practice of Dialogue Education; Synesthesia*, online publication, Autumn, 2007
RADAR, Issue 5, Review of Bread and Roses, 2003
Maria Elana Gonzalez: Selected Works 1996-2002, text by Mark Alice Durant, and Interview b/w Renee van der Stelt and the artist, Center for Art, Design and Visual Culture, UMBC, 2002

REVIEWS

Roswell Daily Record, *Artist-in-Residence Exhibit*, January 8, 2009
The Washington Post, *Mapping Out the Possibilities*, Sept. 14, 2007
Arlington Connection, *Map of the Human Art*, Sept 19-25, 2007
Baltimore Sun, *Attention to Detail*, September 2, 2007
Baltimore Sun, *Four Good Shows in Advance of Artscape*, July 4, '07
Baltimore Examiner, Review, *Obsessions are Beautiful*, June 22, 2007
Art Papers, September/October, 2005, p. 44
Baltimore Sun, Review of *Observation Deck*, 2005
RADAR, Issue 13, Review of Goucher Exhibition, 2005
Insights, UMBC, July 2003
Baltimore Magazine, review of Door/Window Project, July 2003
Washington Post, *Maria Elena Gonzalez at UMBC*, Oct 24, 2002
Sculpture, Vol 20, No. 6, Joseph Beuys Tree Partnership 2001
Baltimore Sun, *Conceptual Art Takes Root in Baltimore*, Selby, 2000
City Paper, *The Greening of Baltimore*, Eileen Murphy, Oct 25, 2000
Sculpture, Vol 16, No. 7, Installation of *Bridesmaid Dresses*, 1997

OTHER PUBLICATION

Snip! Snip!, by Tina Celona, Fence Publications, Cover image, 2005
The Real Moon of Poetry and Other Poems, by Tina Brown Celona
Fence Publications, Cover illustration, 2002
Iowa Woman Magazine, story illustration, Spring, 1992
Iowa Woman Magazine, Fall/Winter, 1991, cover print

VISITING ARTIST LECTURES

Summer M.F.A. Program, Guest artist/critic 2008
Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD
Visiting Artist 1996
State University of New York, College of Ceramics, Alfred, NY
Visiting Artist Lecture, Millersville Univ., Millersville, PA 2003
Visiting Artist Gallery Talk, U of Wisconsin, Eau Claire, WI 2004
Visiting Artist Lecture, Berea College, Berea, KY 1998
Visiting Artist Lecture, Sioux Center, IA 1993

ARTIST RESIDENCIES

Roswell Artist in Residence, June 2008 – June 2009
MacDowell Colony, Artist in Residence, April/May, 2008

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Drawing Center, NY, Slide Registry, 2005-present
College Art Association, Member
Founding Board Member, NaNa Projects, Baltimore, MD
The Contemporary Museum, Member, Baltimore, MD

EXHIBITIONS JURIED

Juror, Maryland Hall 2002-2004
Juror, Sculptors Inc. Annual Exhibition 2004

EXHIBITIONS CURATED

Maria Elena Gonzalez: Recent Work 1995-2002, CADVC, UMBC

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Basic reading and speaking knowledge of Dutch
Basic reading in German

WEBSITE

www.reneevanderstelt.com