

Kristen Frederickson Contemporary Art

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NICOLA GINZEL | ARTIST'S STATEMENT

These objects are like marks of a pen as they are held by a pin within a horizontal system. Each object consolidates a memory, the continuum between space and time. There is no gathering and no preconceived concept to force upon the object prior to its transformation.

Transformation may include stitching, encapsulation, application of pigments or other materials to the surface. Some common and ordinary objects ultimately become delicate and fragile. Objects recall museum vitrines holding fetishes, relics or even artifacts from a people and from history. There is a play between the immaterial and the material states of individual treatment of objects - pushing a solid to become more ethereal in nature or the ethereal more solid.

The events of my life over the past five years, led me to delve deeply into Kundalini Yoga and meditation, where the process of my art work took on an entire new meaning. Coinciding with this unbelievable rich period of spiritual growth, I learned how to open energetic blocks in the body. Embroidering and transforming objects which were a part of my environment aided in grounding my energy.

I have chosen to call this language of objects koans. A koan is a short phrase used in Japanese Zen Meditation and is part of the vocabulary designed to help students transcend linear thought. "Genki Roshi (Zen master & Abbot) refers to them as a can-opener for the Heart/Mind (kokoro)." They are meant to be catalysts for awakening one's true, deep, pure nature. Finally, fire is the metaphorical concept I have been working with for over two years. I have drawn my inspiration not only from personal experiences but also by cross referencing fire. I cannot help but add this quote expressing the "edge" or fusion of fire's duality- it expresses White Fire as a purification agent ...the kind that distills gold (Rev 3:18).....the kind the Torah describes as the "Skin of God" - the fire of love.

Only in the light of the fire of love - an image of cardinal importance to alchemy and Surrealism alike- can we glimpse the longevity, or "true panacea,"- that contradictions are resolved and the "highest degree of fusion between existence and essence is achieved; only this can reconcile, in perfect harmony, without misunderstandings, these two notions that otherwise appear hostile."