

Lori Hinrichsen

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Common Grounds, Birds of Vermont Museum, May 1–October 31, 2018

artist statement:

The inspiration for my artwork comes from an insatiable desire and intimate awareness of my natural surroundings. Exploring and connecting with the land and sky. Observing decay, growth, potential and microcosmic mysterious yearning to be discovered; distilling these moments into their essence, creating unfettered imagery that is contemplative and expressive.

The starting point of my stitching series was inspired by an 8,000 mile solo road trip from Vermont to California and back. The series has continued to evolve as I investigate line through trails, roads, routes and paths that I walk and drive; recording daily activity with thread & paper. Why a stitched line versus drawing with pen or pencil? PROCESS. The sound of the needle puncturing the paper creates a rhythm, a meditation, a conscious slowing down, as I process my journey.

Being drawn to the markings and patterns in nature is a core inspiration, and a natural leap for me to associate lines to routes, mapping, circuits. Why? Curiosity of how things are interconnected. What the options are for getting to (and returning from) a point of interest. The challenge of taking an unknown path and the discoveries along the way. Navigating unfamiliar territory, which can be challenging & exhilarating. A metaphor for living.

I have always been fascinated by the familiar call of the birds in autumn. It causes me to look skyward and wonder....where are they headed? how do they know when to go? who's in charge of the travel plans? This show was a great opportunity to do some investigating on migration patterns. The hand stitched map in this show reflects the winter destinations of Boreal land birds and the western, central & eastern flyways.

bio:

Lori grew up in Iowa in a family of 13 kids and graduated from the University of Kansas. She was actively involved in consecutive art residencies and teaching workshops in Northern California at the Mendocino Art Center and was on staff at the Vermont Studio Center in Johnson. She received a Fellowship from the Virginia Center for Creative Arts and was awarded a Full Fellowship from the Vermont Studio Center in printmaking.

Lori has enjoyed teaching art workshops and being a guide to people in their creative process. She has facilitated workshops at the Helen Day Art Center, Shelburne Craft School, CVU Adult Access and private gatherings. Her creative processes include printmaking, photography, drawing and stitching. She lives in Montpelier, Vermont.