

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

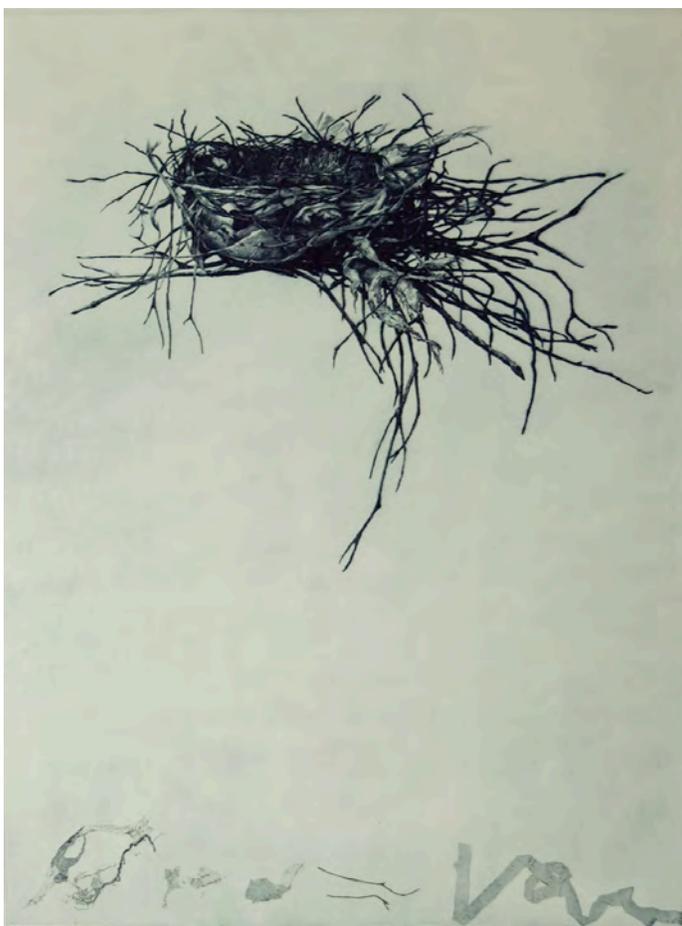
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Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery | 1632 U Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009

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Gallery Re-Opens, Sparking Healing Dialogues around the 10th Anniversary of 9/11

Washington, DC – August 24, 2011 – After a year of renovation the *Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery* is excited to re-open its doors and present its grand re-opening exhibition, VESSEL.



Since 9/11 fear has plagued our cultural psyche, resurrecting the divisive “we” and “other” in our communities. On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of 9/11, our small hope is to use art to open greater avenues for connection and to catalyze a healing discourse. VESSEL combines abstract works to evoke a sacred space of “holding,” where open community dialogue may be inspired. Selected works express an effort to move beyond and communicate that ‘healing is possible’ for everyone.

VESSEL features works by **Emily Biondo, Alonzo Davis, Jenny Freestone, Pat Goslee, Ani Kasten, MJ Kavian, Madeleine Keesing, Rachel Rotenberg, Angela White, and Millicent Young.**

Opening Reception & *The 9/11 Arts Project* Launch Event: Friday, September 9, 7–9pm

Featuring a dance performance by Nathaniel Bond, Anthony Gongora, Tzveta Kassabova, and Giselle Ruzany of Maida Withers Dance Construction Company, based on *Collision Course* with live music by Steve Hilmy.

Vessel, Recycle by Jenny Freestone, 2008.

The exhibition will run from September 9th through October 22nd, 2011.

VESSEL is also a launch event for *The 9/11 Arts Project: Healing 10 Years Later.*

For more project details and events please visit – www.911artsproject.com.

Regular Gallery Hours: W–F 11am–5pm, Sat 11am–3pm, and by appointment

About the *Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery* at Smith Center: The Gallery is a mission of Smith Center for Healing and the Arts, a Washington, DC nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop and promote proven healing practices that explore physical, emotional, and mental resources that lead to life-affirming changes. Programs and exhibitions in the Gallery celebrate and stimulate the dynamic creative resources that contribute to health and wellness in each of us. To learn more please visit: www.smithcenter.org/gallery