

January 1, 2006  
**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Woman Made Gallery – 312-738-0400

## Group and Solo Shows at Woman Made Gallery

### Photography and Masks by Women

**January 20 - February 23, 2006**

**Opening Reception: January 20, 2006 from 6-9pm** Woman Made Gallery is starting the New Year with a group show and three solo shows exhibiting photography by women. Simultaneously Woman Made is featuring masks by fifteen women in its Artisan Gallery. The exhibitions will open with an artist reception on Friday, January 20, 2006 from 6-9pm at the Gallery's new home, 685 N. Milwaukee Avenue. The event is free and open to the public.

Gallery hours are Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from noon to 7pm and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 4pm.

### Click Art - Group Exhibition

The Click Art group exhibition features 30 photographic works by eighteen artists from across the United States.

Entries were juried by Chicago artist Whitney Bradshaw who serves as the Assistant Curator of the LaSalle Bank Photography Collection. In her juror statement Whitney Bradshaw writes: "Jurying an exhibition is always invigorating. I usually curate exhibitions from a collection of photographs I know quite well which is exciting and challenging, but choosing pieces for a juried exhibition such as this allows me to work more instinctually. The time to look and consider is much shorter. It feels spontaneous and experiential.

In the end, the pieces I chose were the ones that were fresh, engaging, and well executed. Each artist I've included has a unique perspective that when grouped together gives a sense of the myriad visual ideas at work within contemporary photographic practice."



**The exhibition opens on January 20th with an artist reception from 6 - 9 pm at Woman Made Gallery's new location, 685 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Chicago's River West neighborhood.**

Exhibiting artists include Theresa Bertocci, Ellie Brown, Mare Dianora, Christine DiThomas, Mary Rachel Fanning, Mary Farmilant, Courtney Kotsionis, Judy A. Langston, Kate Love, Amy MacWilliamson, Monika Merva, Lydia Moyer, Colleen Plumb, Christina Richards, Kris Sanford, Karen St. John-Vincent, Susan Tennenbaum and Martha Thomas.

Image: 'Visitor' color photography, 16 x 20", by Karen St. John-Vincent

## Crossing the Divide - Solo Show by Karen Hanmer

In her artist statement Karen Hanmer describes her work as follows: "My sculptural books and installations fragment and layer content to mirror the experience of personal and cultural memory. The work often has a playful presentation, taking the form of puzzles, games, or decks of cards. It is made to be handled. The intimate scale and the gestures of exploration required to travel through a piece evoke the experience of looking through an album, a diary, or the belongings of a loved one.

I began the installation and artists' books that comprise 'Crossing the Divide' shortly after the death of my father. My mother predeceased him by 34 years. He never remarried. I am intrigued with the idea that they are now reunited, at least figuratively, and perhaps in a more tangible form."



**The Solo Show by Karen Hanmer will be on display from January 20 to February 23, 2006.**

Image: 'Reunion' - artists' book: Pigment inkjet prints, silk brocade, goatskin, 7 x 7.5 x .5" by Karen Hanmer

## Soul Tree - Solo Show by Jody Magrady



The photographic series 'Soul Tree,' begun in 1996, is a continuing exploration for the artist Jody Magrady.

"Soul Tree reflects my response to the place, space, and the trees I find there. I photograph what I see, what I want to preserve and what I want to bring back to share with others. When working, I also think of "sole tree" and of making individual images, not emphasizing the landscape nor creating a scientific or botanical study.

I purposely use the formal considerations, or visual grammar, of black and white photography to organize and create each image before pressing the shutter. The prints are titled by location, but the images are not meant to reflect the totally external. Soul Tree is a canvas for my visual thoughts - ones that aren't always translated at the time into words, but can be further examined later. "

**Photography by Jody Magrady is on display from January 20 to February 23, 2006.**

Image: 'Trees, Sarasota, Florida (0331050D-1)' - archival selenium toned gelatin silver print, 20 x 16" by Jody Magrady

## Tribute to Nancy Maguire

Simultaneously with the group and solo exhibitions Woman Made Gallery is paying tribute to Nancy Maguire, artist and past president of the Chicago Womens' Caucus. (b. 9/9/1941 - d. 5/25/2002)

Photographic work on display includes a piece made in 1998 called "Atavism." It consists of 24 portraits of Nancy's female maternal relatives fitting together into one large installation.

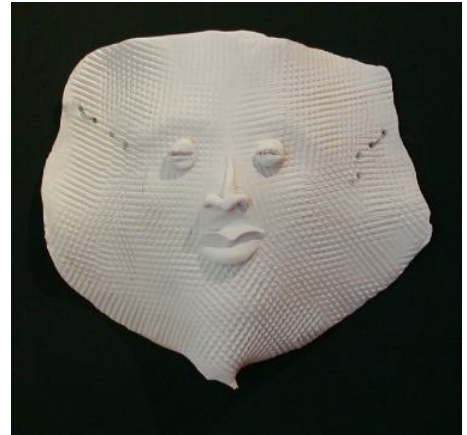
Another work depicts a portrait (~5ft h x 4ft w) from her MFA thesis work from 1992, showing four generations of her family (Nancy, her mother, daughter, and granddaughter.)

**The Tribute Exhibition with work by Nancy Maguire is on exhibit from January 20 to February 23, 2006.**

## Artisan Gallery - All Manner of Masks

Our Artisan Gallery was established in Spring 2005 in replacement of our gift shop. Its mission is to honor the many fine women working in traditional and untraditional craft disciplines which is consistent with WMG's mission by offering expanded exhibiting, marketing and selling opportunities to women artists and artisans.

'All Manner of Masks' at Woman Made's Artisan Gallery begins an exhibition cycles of eight weeks rather than four. The exhibitions will explore material, as well as conceptual themes in an effort to provoke both artists and viewers into thinking differently about the notions of function, decoration and narrative as they pertain to the craft disciplines.



'All Manner of Masks' features women artisans exploring the concept of mask or masking in a variety of craft media. The artists were asked to approach the idea of mask or masking as a literal, abstract or conceptual exercise and result.

Participating artists include: Beth Bartley, Judie Benzer, Parbati Dasgupta, Wendy Deerly-Reese, Arlene Egelberg, Judy Freeman, Barbara Harris, Nicael Leistikow, Melissa Maguire, Darcy Meeker, Julie Pitzen, Lynne Richards, Harriet Schneider, Marian Slepian, and Kathy Zajac.

**The "All Manner of Masks" exhibition is up through March 30, 2006.**

Image: 'Cross Hatch', unglazed clay by Darcy Meeker, Blacksburg, VA

**Dates: January 20 – February 23, 2006**

Opening Reception: Friday, January 20, 6-9 pm

### Where:

Woman Made Gallery

685 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, IL 60622

Website: <http://www.womanmade.org>

### Gallery Hours

Wed-Fri noon-7pm / Sat-Sun noon-4pm

Woman Made Gallery is supported in part by grants from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; a CityArts Program II grant from the City of Chicago, Department of Cultural Affairs; the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation; the Polk Bros Foundation; the Hugh M. Hefner Foundation and the generosity of its members and contributors.