

womanMADE



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For immediate release

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WMG presents....

## The Whole Ball of Wax Group Show

and

## Fused: Solo Show by Kathleen Waterloo

**What:** **The Whole Ball of Wax**, group exhibition juried by **Joanne Mattera** & solo show by Kathleen Waterloo

**When:** May 23-June 19, 2003 with an Opening Reception on Friday, May 23, from 6-9pm. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Friday 12-7pm; Saturday, Sunday 12-4pm.

**Where:** Woman Made Gallery, 2418 W. Bloomingdale Ave., Chicago, IL 60647; 773-489-8900

**TO PREVIEW THE EXHIBITION ONLINE:** <http://www.womanmade.org/groupshows.html>

The juried exhibition **The Whole Ball of Wax** will display thirty-seven images by thirty-four artists, all of whom integrate the luminous and malleable medium of encaustic into their works. Despite the variety of media, including canvas, panel, and paper, as well as the abundance of different styles exhibited in this show, juror **Joanne Mattera** explains that the show coheres around several major themes: the body, growth, color, geometry, and repetition. For instance, the sculpture *Coal Feet* by **Laurel Sears Rush** integrates wax, handmade paper, fiber, and coal to fashion a surreally suspended pair of feet and ankles, encumbered by a skein of threads weighted with chunks of coal. Images of seeds, roots, circular shapes, and blooming and sprouting forms contribute to the theme of growth- vegetative, physical, and spiritual. For example, **Junko Iijima's** beeswax and paraffin sculptural installation *Object Study* manages to suggest with a simple lyricism, seeds, cells, eggs, and dividing atoms. A mastery of color, clarity, and geometric form also characterize many of the works in the show. **Mari Marks'** multimedia four part work *Sediments and Circles* exemplifies the exhibition's incorporation of works of

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[www.womanmade.org](http://www.womanmade.org) e-mail: [gallery@womanmade.org](mailto:gallery@womanmade.org)

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Mission Statement: Woman Made Gallery supports and cultivates the diverse contributions of women artists through exhibitions, educational programs and community outreach. We believe that such contributions are an essential component in the spectrum of cultural expression.



powerful simplicity. Marks mingles beeswax, pigment, ashes, and graphite to produce a remarkable lush and evocative set of circular/spherical forms which encourages the viewer to make associations with the cycle of blossoming and decay.

The solo show **Fused** by **Kathleen Waterloo** will exhibit a number of the artist's coloristically intense and compositionally bold encaustic paintings. These works mobilize a gesturally modified geometric abstraction which evokes the architectural structure of buildings and objects, both real and imagined. The artist describes her works as a "series of architectural fantasies which borrow spatial concepts from ancient architects. Volumes are placed in limitless space with an approach towards monumental simplicity."

**The group exhibition features artworks by:** Sasha Dela Anderson, Nancy Azara, Francesca Azzara, Kim Bartelt, Bellavia, Karen Benson, Angela Berkson, Laurel Garcia Colvin, Jill Douglas, Tamara El-Aasser, Barbara Ellmann, Mary Farmer, Cynthia Handel, Susan Lazar Hart, Carter Hubbard, Junko Iijima, Vaughnda Johnson, Olivia Koopaethes, Maria Pietri Lalor, Nancy Macko, Michelle Marcuse, Mari Marks, Nina B. Marshall, Mary Ellen McKeen, Lisa Ostapinski, Lynda Ray, Nola Richards, Paula Roland, Laurel Sears Rush, Denise K. Seider, Susan Sheedy, Liz Tran, Mona Waterhouse, Cynthia Winika, Donna Zarbin-Byrne.

**Joanne Mattera** has been a painter for 25 years. Over the past decade she has specialized in encaustic, showing her work in solo and group shows in the United States and abroad. She shows in Chicago at the Melanee Cooper Gallery. Her book, *The Art of Encaustic Painting: Contemporary Expression in the Ancient Medium of Pigmented Wax* (Watson-Guptill, 2001) has become the standard reference on the subject. Joanne Mattera divides her time between New York City and Salem, Massachusetts. Mattera's artwork can be viewed on her website: <http://www.ioannemattera.com>.

**Kathleen Waterloo** received her BFA from the School of the Art Institute and has served as a visiting artist at the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Chair of the Art Appreciation Dept. at the River Forest School District, and instructor at the Harrington Institute of Design. She has exhibited at a variety of galleries, including the Phoenix Gallery, New York, ARC Gallery, Chicago and Melanee Cooper Gallery, Chicago, Neoria Art Center, Crete, Greece, Townhouse Gallery, Belfast, and received numerous prizes, including an award from the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Small Works Exhibition, Chicago.

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