

Charlevoix Circle of Arts Inner Circle Gallery Talk

February 8 / 10 am with:

Valerie Mann and Jeanne Bieri

The Charlevoix Circle of Arts will host an Inner Circle Gallery Talk with two artists representing the current exhibition: Chasing the Running Stitch on February 8th beginning at 10 am. Valerie Mann from Saline and Jeanne Bieri from Grosse Pointe Farms will be present, and both are highly accomplished artists renowned in their field.

Valerie Mann has shown her work professionally in the U.S. and abroad for 26 years. Her work has received numerous awards and is in public and private collections in the U.S., Europe and Asia. Mann is inspired by the outdoors, people, materials and pushing the boundaries of possibility with those materials. She will be discussing her installation, *Fortunes* that she has been working on since 2004. This piece is a clothesline installation of vintage baby garments, each embroidered with a "fortune", a destiny that a child has come into the world with - seemingly random, arbitrary. The idea is, each of us comes into this world in a set of circumstances beyond our control and at some point, in our lives we can make the opportunity to transcend those circumstances.

Jeanne Bieri was recently awarded a 2017 Kresge Artist Visual Arts Fellow in Detroit. Kresge Fellowships are administered by the College for Creative Studies and are a comprehensive community development effort to strengthen social and cultural fabric of the city and surrounding region. Being awarded a 2017 Kresge Fellowship means that you have been selected one of eighteen out of a pool on 1,200 candidates.

For Bieri, "Art is about relationships and a sort of curiousness that taps into the nature of the materials used, it is about collecting and asking why, a wondering about the past, the current and future, an excavation of memory and forgetting, permanence and loss, the expression of vaporous ideas realized thru the act of making an image permanent in paint or mending to make whole".

Inner Circle Gallery Talks are free and open to the public. In an informal gallery setting, guests are encouraged to ask questions and learn more about their process and their evolution as an artist. For more information, please contact the Charlevoix Circle of Arts at 109 Clinton Street, (231) 547-3554 or go online to: www.charlevoixcircle.org.