

Propagation

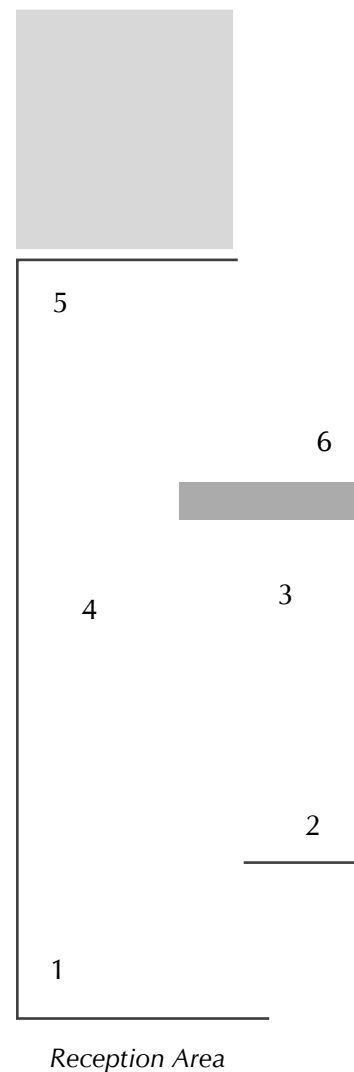
Mitra Fabian

Mitra Fabian creates oddly unique sculptures that straddle that elusive line between beautiful and grotesque. In her studio, which looks more like an operating room than an artist's work space, she manipulates glue, paper, tape and plastic medical supplies with the aid of a magnifying glass. The resulting installation looks a bit like a science experiment run amok.

Working with everyday materials, Fabian creates forms that suggest abnormal growths. Sprawling floor sculptures, egg-like forms that appear to be hatching in the corner and cellular structures clinging to the wall – all reflect Fabian's fascination with mysterious biological forms. This interest is a reflection both personal and cultural, as Fabian contemplates the parallels of abnormal growths in the body (like cancer and disease) and the environment (such as bio-engineered foods and sprawling housing developments).

She sees her labor intensive process as “a performance of nurturing as I create the object while simultaneously embellishing its abnormalities.” Her creative instinct lies in mimicking the process of growth within a context that addresses “Western relationships to our bodies, our environment, and to our mental and physical health.” Whether “malignant” or “benign,” Fabian's sculptures are disturbingly alluring.

Mitra Fabian received her MFA in 2005 from California State University, Northridge. She currently teaches sculpture at Sacramento State City College and maintains a studio in San Jose.



Installation Guide

1. *Plot, 2007**
Mixed media installation
Variable dimensions
Courtesy of the Artist
*See statement for *Plot* on back page.
2. *Multiplicity, 2007*
Cast white glue
Variable dimensions
Courtesy of the Artist and Bandini Art, Santa Monica
3. *Ventilate I, 2006-2007*
Paper and glue
Variable dimensions
Courtesy of the Artist and Bandini Art, Santa Monica
4. *Ventilate III, 2006-2007*
Paper and glue
Variable dimensions
Courtesy of the Artist and Bandini Art, Santa Monica
5. *Cluster, 2007*
Reinforcement sitckers, glue
Variable dimensions
Courtesy of the Artist
6. *Ventilate II, 2006-2007*
Paper and glue
Variable dimensions
Courtesy of the Artist and Bandini Art, Santa Monica