

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Gallery @ 220**

**a Pop-Up Art Loop™ Gallery, 220 S Wabash, Chicago, IL 60604**

***"Big Paper" - an Art Exhibition***

**March 4 - May 7, 2011**

**Opening Reception Thursday, March 10, 2011, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.**

The Chicago Loop Alliance announces a new art exhibition titled *"Big Paper"* at the Pop-Up Art Loop™ Gallery located at 220 South Wabash, Chicago, IL. The exhibit, curated by Shayne Wulbert, features the unusual cut paper works of four artists - Allison Svoboda, Tanya Hastings Gill, Reni Gower and Richard Shipps. Each artist has a unique approach to the use of paper as art. Paper's role in society has changed dramatically with recent advancements in digital technology. Paper is simultaneously precious and disposable, obsolete and new. These artists explore the nature of paper in new ways, invoking traditional paper cutting traditions and discovering new modes of expression.

The exhibition runs from March 4 through May 7, 2011.

**EVENTS**

**MARCH 10** - There will be an opening reception on Thursday March 10 from 5:30 to 8:30pm at the gallery. All gallery events are free and open to the public.

**MARCH 16** - Join us for an evening of live Miles Davis jazz while enjoying some unique art. This program is brought to you by the Chicago Loop Alliance and Auditorium Theater of Roosevelt University as part of the Miles Davis Festival.

**APRIL 27 - MAY 1** - The gallery will be open for extended hours during Art Chicago with live paper cutting events with the artists.

**MAY 5** - Closing Reception for "Big Paper" in conjunction with the Pop-Up Art Loop First Thursday Gallery Walk.

The gallery is open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and by appointment. The gallery, (between Adams and Jackson on Wabash) is just one block from the Chicago Art Institute, in the South Loop. Take the Brown, Purple, Green, Pink. or Orange line to the Adams, Wabash station. Open to the public All events are free.

**ABOUT POP-UP ART LOOP™**

**Pop-Up Art Loop™** transforms empty storefronts in the Loop into a moveable feast of public art galleries, exhibits and studios. A new initiative of Chicago Loop Alliance, Pop-Up Art Loop™ creates partnerships between artists and property owners, creating temporary gallery space at no cost to the artist in prime Loop locations. Enjoy photography, sculpture, 2D art, video and new media, installations and more.

[www.popupartloop.com](http://www.popupartloop.com)



CHICAGO LOOP ALLIANCE



#### **SHAYNE WULBERT**

Curator Shayne Wulbert has worked as a consultant, curator, and associate gallery director over the past decade. She received her BA in Art History from University of Wisconsin, Madison, followed by a Masters in Arts Management from Columbia College. Shayne recently curated the previous show at Gallery @ 220, "INTENSITY".



#### **ALLISON SVOBODA**

The expressive ink paintings of Allison Svoboda are both ethereal and ominous at the same time. Finding this edge of beauty in nature, she lets the hundreds of brush strokes speak for themselves. After years of working in architecture and traveling extensively throughout Asia, Allison has turned to painting to express her love of the geometry in nature. Her work can be found in corporate and private collections throughout the United States, Europe and Israel. Her latest commission can be seen in the lobby of Prudential Plaza in Chicago. School of the Art Institute of Chicago: Purdue University, B.A. Design: Salzburg Academy for Fine Arts, Austria  
[www.allisonsvoboda.com](http://www.allisonsvoboda.com)



#### **TANYA HASTINGS GILL**

Tanya Hastings Gill has mastered the age-old art of paper cutting in a contemporary context. She utilizes reflective color, shadows and open installation to engage the space with her hand cut paper creations. Gill has been a fellow at McDowell Artists Colony, an Artist in Residence at The Ragdale Foundation, an Affiliate at Headlands Center for the Arts and a recipient of the Individual Artist Grant from the Marin Arts Council. Gill has completed numerous public and private commissions, and actively exhibits. Gill received her MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art in 1997 and her BFA in 1992 from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. She lives in Chicago, Illinois, where she has been teaching at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Contemporary Practices Department.  
[www.tanyaqill.com](http://www.tanyaqill.com)



#### **RENI GOWER**

Using only a box cutter, *Papercuts* are created with unique stencils based on Celtic knotwork patterns that are traced and hand cut into interlocking motifs. The works are installed floating off the wall to maximize cast shadows, reflected color and delicate illusions. Through intricate cutting, the artist celebrates the redemptive nuance of work made by hand. While also addressing issues of beauty, her art becomes an intimate vehicle for reflection or reprieve. Gower is a Professor in the Painting and Printmaking Department at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA. Her work has been showcased at international and national venues for over 30 years. She is the recipient of numerous grants and awards including a NEA / SECCA Southeastern Artist Fellowship and Virginia Commission for the Arts Project Grants. She holds a MFA from Syracuse University, a MA from University of Minnesota-Duluth, and a BS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In addition to her teaching and painting practice, she curates award winning traveling exhibitions.  
[www.renigower.com](http://www.renigower.com)



#### **RICHARD SHIPPS**

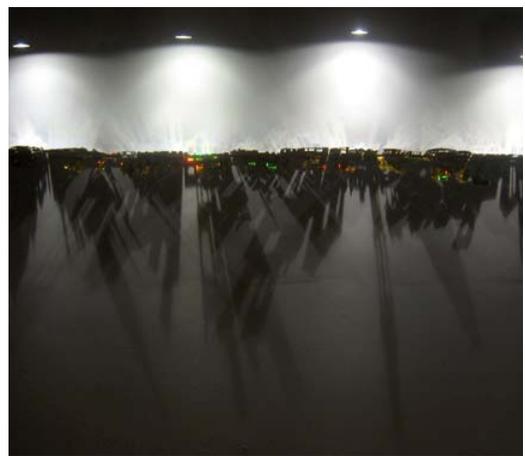
Richard Shipps attended Detroit Society of Arts & Crafts, Wayne State University and Albion College. He has shown his work throughout the Chicago area since moving here in 2007 from Michigan. His precision-cut dimensional paper work focuses on the intersection of positive and negative imagery. Richard developed his paper cutting skills in the late 1960's while working for a production studio creating paper artwork for slides and motion picture animation. Since then he has gone on to explore, in depth, the boundaries between form and counter-form. Interlocking forms and individual patterns are revealed through subtle or sometimes jarring changes in relationship. Shapes migrate through a series of states to reveal the narrative. His varied paper work has a special sculptural quality that he often translates into steel, acrylic, vinyl and other materials. Shipps says, " My process looks at shadow as light, light as shadow, informed by shape, memories and emotions. These forms reveal imagery in both positive and negative space in a framework of changing references. I try to work from a limited palette of simple shapes, cutting multiples and variations. The complex counter-forms revealed by these primal shapes is what I find fascinating."  
[www.richardshipps.com](http://www.richardshipps.com)

"Big Paper" - Gallery@220, a Pop-Up Art Loop™ Gallery, 220 S Wabash, Chicago; March 4 - May 7, 2011 - IMAGES

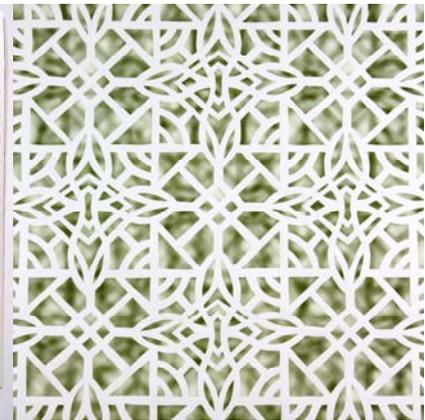
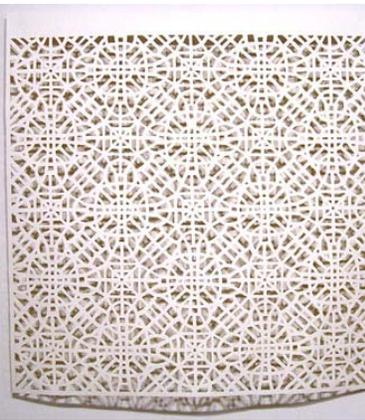
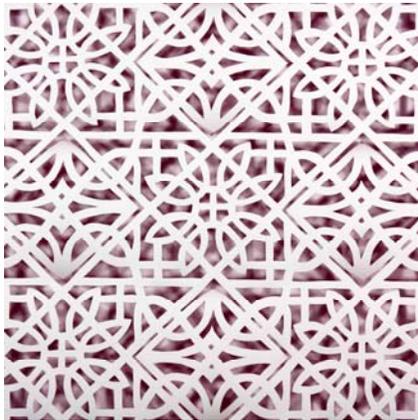
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Chicago Loop Alliance; 27 East Monroe, Suite 900A, Chicago, IL 60603; (312) 782 9160, Michael Perry**