

MASTERS OF ECLECTIC MATERIALS, EACH OF THE SIX ARTISTS FEATURED IN THIS COLLABORATIVE INSTALLATION USES A COMMONPLACE MATERIAL THAT THEY MANIPULATE – BE IT BY SLICING, CHAIN-SAWING, PHOTOGRAPHING, STITCHING OR WEAVING – HUNDREDS OR THOUSANDS OF TIMES TO CREATE FORMS THAT EXPLORE THE FRAGMENTS OF OURSELVES.

LEFT: Denise Driscoll, *DNA Blanket (labyrinth)*, detail, 2008, paper, paint, string.
RIGHT: Jodi Colella, *Undercurrent*, detail, 2008, wire screen, assorted fibers.

MATERIALIAL MEDITIT

New Art Center in Newton
61 Washington Park
Newtonville, Massachusetts

September 15 through October 26



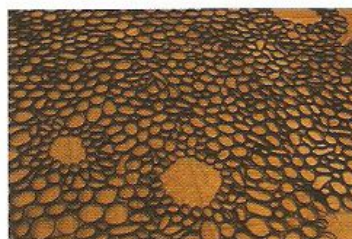
Lisa Kellner, *Untitled (the emperor has no clothes)*, 2008, hand-dyed formed silk organza.

to a mythical tribe of piano people and a recent Radiohead show, all of which somehow fueled the inspiration behind the works that will be on display.

Virginia-based Lisa Kellner and Massachusetts artists Jodi Colella, Linc Cornell, Denise Driscoll, Michael Frassinelli and Yuya Shiratori (who also lives in Japan) created six separate pieces, each committed to the repetition of material and form.

"We all love material," said Driscoll, the show's curator, whose past two and a half years have been devoted to the manic folding of envelopes. "We're interested in how material affects you while you're affecting it."

"The repetition of motion is our mantra," Frassinelli added. Using an assortment of materials ranging from piano parts to discarded fisherman's rope, the artists created works that will hang, climb and billow out of the gallery's corners and off its walls. Not only does the converted church lend



Yuya Shiratori, *RE*, detail, 2008, bicycle inner tubes, glue.

itself to the meditative aspect of the show as a spiritual house of art, but also the shapes and colors of its stained glass windows appear, quite literally, in the installation.

Aside from its obsession with pattern and repetition, the show's dominant undercurrent is the juxtaposition of micro- and macro-worlds. Biological blow-ups become distant galaxies, making it impossible for the viewer to take one look and walk away. Visitors will find themselves examining pieces from a nose's-length, and experiencing them anew from the opposite end of the gallery.

Driscoll's labyrinth is comprised of thousands of metallic and sea-colored envelopes she has folded and tied up, color-coded to a single strand of DNA. The labyrinth will cover a large portion of the gallery floor, and visitors are invited to consider their basic biological components through the meditative process of walking it. Frassinelli has created a self-supporting spiritual structure made entirely out of piano parts. The visitor is encouraged to sit on a piano bench inside of this holy house - created for his invented mythical tribe, the Pianistas - while music made from deconstructed piano parts emanates within it.

By slicing bicycle inner tubes into myriad laces, Shiratori has spun what looks like a glossy rubber lace into a web that will emerge from the corner of the gallery as the latest expansion of his ongoing recycling project, "RE." Kellner has stitched together hundreds of colorful sacks of hand-dyed silk organza that look like breathing, bulbous forms,

I sat down with three of them in this church-turned-gallery/studio to find out more about the fruition of this extraordinary show, its vision, and the unique space that will house these works. The energy in the room was palpable as they described each other's work. Our conversation zinged from DNA strands to time and space,