

THE DRAWING ROOM 66H Newtown Lane, East Hampton, NY 11937 T 631 324.5016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SUE HEATLEY new works on paper

August 1-31, 2014



Night Turvy with Firefly Bulb, 2014
monotype, linocut, gouache on Sekishu paper, 24 x 18 ½ inches



Pop Storm, 2014
monotype, linocut, collage, acrylic on Sekishu paper, 24 x 19 ½ inches

The Drawing Room in East Hampton is pleased to present **SUE HEATLEY: new works on paper**, an exhibition of 12 unique, mixed media compositions that combine printmaking techniques with collaged elements and fluid brushwork. Influenced by the intense color and visual stimuli she encountered in Northern and Central India in 2012, Heatley approaches her recent abstractions on handmade paper with a vibrant palette and a bold new internal scale. A concurrent exhibition of whimsical, tabletop sculpture inspired by the history of aviation, **ADRIAN NIVOLA: sculpture**, is also on view.

Expanding on her longstanding interest in organic patterns and textures, Heatley's new imagery is achieved through a multifaceted process that embraces the spontaneity of monotype as well as the application of hand-carved linocut plates. Intricate layers of sweeping lines, looping archways and vegetal, ornamental fields transform the picture plane into chimerical visions.

Across her work in all mediums ranging from clay to painting to printmaking, Heatley's artistic decisions are predicated on her attraction to materials with inherent tactility and the potential for textured surface effects. In her abstractions on Sekishu paper, the translucent and fibrous surface of the paper provides an ideal ground for her dynamic compositions. In *Night Turvy with Firefly Bulb* (2014), a splattering of bright blue pigment transferred through monotype establishes a speckled field accented by salmon colored lines traced from a second inked plate. Together, these elements provide a delicate and pulsing backdrop for the black and white serpentine path that winds back and forth across the pictorial surface. A symmetrical arrangement of undulating yellow lines in gouache creates a contrasting gesture, animating the surface animated with a fresh, syncopated rhythm.

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Heatley uses her carved plates repeatedly, creating new contexts for motifs that may recur in two or three different compositions. While *Blackened Bubbles* and *Snow Bubbles* both feature bold clusters of petal-like forms, the presence of the imagery in each work is distinctive. In the former, the bubbles are anchored within the foreground, superimposed over rippling blue waves that recall Japanese woodblocks. By contrast, in *Snow Bubbles* the bulbous forms are rendered in soft grey, receding into the distance as if in a shallow pond.

Finding inspiration from the myriad visual impressions she observed throughout India, her source material has ranged from billboard calligraphy to agricultural plantings, to the endless layers of textiles in silk, cotton and brocade stacked along market stalls. Upon returning to her East Hampton studio, Heatley retained the dramatic, nearly hallucinatory visual experience that surrounded her in Rajasthan, transforming it into the mesmerizing works on view.

Sue Heatley's studio is nestled between the woodlands and bays of Springs, East Hampton's historic artist's community. Her original works in the print medium as well as paintings, sculpture and ceramics have been widely exhibited. Heatley is represented in numerous private collections including the United States Department of State, Washington, D.C.; Virginia Commonwealth University and Hunton & Williams in Richmond, Virginia; Estee Lauder Companies, Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, and Media General Company in New York City. Her art has been featured in numerous publications, among them *Hamptons Cottages and Gardens*, *Beach Magazine* and *Ceramics Monthly*.

Gallery hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10-5; Sunday 11-5

For further information and reproduction quality images, please contact Janet Goleas at 631.324.5016 or info@drawingroom-gallery.com