



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE 111 Front St. #228, Brooklyn, NY 11201, 212-255-6651,
WWW.AIRGALLERY.ORG

Gladys Tietz Mercier, **Floral Fractals: Imaging in a Digital Culture.**

October 5- 29, 2011

Opening Reception: Thursday, October 6, 6-9pm



In her first solo show at A.I.R. Gallery, Gladys Tietz Mercier exhibits 6 foot tall, large scale floral portraits and iterations of varying widths made with ink on film. The work is presented wall-mounted, without frames.

Using floral imagery as a metaphor for fertility, aging, and beauty, Mercier's work questions feminine issues. Growing the tulips, iris, peonies, and gladioli featured in her work is integral to Mercier's process. She chooses floral containers for their height, width, form, and texture juxtaposing them against the windblown stems, stalks and blooms of her flowers. This combination creates rhythmic compositions and relationships through form, color and pattern. Taking a lesson from Georgia O'Keefe, Mercier uses scale to move beyond potentially saccharine floral still-lifes to creating fresh, reflective images.

Mercier questions the association of flowers as strictly evocative of feminine charms by presenting the viewer with a more universal image. Her flowers are beguiling, strong yet fragile, portraying a host of paradoxical feminine attributes.

Currently at the crossroads of expanded possibilities photography, new technologies and materials enable a fine art output from commercial processes. Working within a camera based practice, Mercier updates traditional imagery with these technologies while being keenly aware that both camera and computer can distort, disguise and manipulate.

Mercier's work is captured on a Canon system, edited in Adobe Photoshop, and produced on an EPSON Stylus Pro – Aqueous using Epson Ultra Chrome K3 ink 9-color pigment-based professional ink. Instead of traditional papers she produces each work on film: A 10.4 mil, anti-curl, block-out polyester film w/ matte coating, laminated with 5.0 mil floor guard Vinyl, with a solvent acrylic adhesive. The textured surface simulates a satin paper while it hides and masks fingerprints, resisting scuffing from rigorous handling. Each edition is 125.

Gladys Tietz Mercier currently lives in Kappa, IL. Her work is in the Xerox Collection, SUNY, Dunbar Breitweiser, Bloomington, IL. Her work has been exhibited at the McLean County Arts Center, The Larry Aldrich Museum. She is a national member of AIR Gallery, a member of NAWA - FLA and founding member of Long Island Network of Women Artists. She taught studio arts at Lincoln College, Normal, IL. Her website is www.coyoteridgestudios.com.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 11 Front St. #228, in the DUMBO section of Brooklyn. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday 11am to 6pm. For directions, please see www.airgallery.org. For additional information please contact the gallery director, Julie Lohnes, at 212-255-6651 or jlohnes@airgallery.org

