

For Immediate Release

A. I. R.
GALLERY
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tues-sat, 11-6

SYLVIA NETZER

December 4, 2007 – January 5, 2008
Reception: Thursday December 6, 2007 6pm – 8pm

New York, N.Y., November 2007 – **A.I.R. Gallery** is pleased to announce, *Hopeful Monsters* a solo exhibition of works by Gallery Artist, **Sylvia Netzer**. The exhibition will be on view from December 4th to January 5th, 2008. The Opening Reception will be held on Thursday, December 6th from 6pm to 8pm.

Due to the transformative nature of both science and art, Sylvia Netzer has had a lifelong interest in exploring where the two disciplines might meet. In this exhibition Netzer incorporates references to scientific discoveries through her choices of forms and techniques.

The exhibition includes nine new ceramic pieces and a monumental brick sculpture, “Glen Gery Olympia II” made in the summer of 2006. “Glen Gery Olympia II,” is part of a series of large works that reference Manet’s famous “Olympia,” and address issues of female sexuality and power.

Hopeful Monsters refers to the theory that genetic abnormalities are nature’s way to quick jump evolution rather than a disaster. Netzer’s nine earthenware pieces depict the artist’s interpretation of stem cells and basic cell division. The grooves, channels and nodes that mark each work suggest points of attachment for amino acids, viruses, DNA and RNA.

Since 1999, Netzer has been working with non-plastic clays at both ends of the ceramic spectrum from carving brick to using casting slip with molds. These most recent “cellmates” are made up of terra cotta (common clay) and developed from simple pinch pots, one of the basic methods of hand-building clay. As further reference to the work’s scientific inspiration, Netzer aptly chose this essential clay technique – one which she teaches in Ceramics I classes at the City College of New York.

Sylvia Netzer has exhibited regularly at A.I.R., among other galleries and museums, since 1994. Her work is featured in a number of books on ceramics and encaustic. She has curated numerous exhibitions at A.I.R., Gallery 128 and other locations. Ms. Netzer holds an MFA in sculpture from Columbia University School of the Arts and currently heads the ceramics area at The City College of New York.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 511 West 25th Street, NYC. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 11am-6pm. For information please contact the director, Kat Griefen at 212.255.6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org.