



GEMINI G.E.L. ^{AT} JONI MOISANT WEYL



Green-barred Woodpecker, 2021

Two-panel, 5-color lithograph
overall 36 x 42 5/8" (91.4 x 108.3 cm)
Edition of 30

For Immediate Release

Ann Hamilton – Five New Lithographs

February 4 – March 26, 2022

Gemini G.E.L. at Joni Moisant Weyl is pleased to present a series of five new lithographs by **Ann Hamilton**. The exhibition will be on view February 4 through March 26, 2022 in our Project Space.

Ann Hamilton is well known for her large-scale installations and collaborations with diverse groups of visual artists, poets, and performers. Physical works, such as sculptures, handmade collages and limited-edition fine art prints, have emerged from this practice throughout her entire career. The artist's relationship with Gemini goes back more than two decades, and in that time she has produced a wide range of prints and sculptural multiples using a variety of media and non-traditional materials.

The five new lithographs on view now are a continuation of a previously published series of eight screen prints related to the artist's 2015 exhibition *the common SENSE*, commissioned by the Henry Art Gallery. As a Visiting Fellow at the University of Washington, Hamilton was given unfettered access to the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture, where she was seduced by the extensive collection of mammal, bird, and amphibian specimens. Inspired by Aristotle's idea that touch is the sense that is common to all animal species, the artist focuses on what it means to 'touch' by way of seeing.



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When placing the specimens on a rudimentary flat-bed scanner, only the sections of the animal's body that physically touch the surface of the glass are in focus; the vulnerable underbelly of a green-barred woodpecker or jackass penguin, the relatable hands of an assam macaque, or the plummy neck of a long-tailed koel. The resulting images give us a larger-than-life view of the most intimate details of their bodies, as the artist provides an opportunity for the viewer to inspect each individual feather and tuft of fur up close. In the Henry Art Gallery's show, hundreds of images of different animals were printed on thin newsprint, and visitors were invited to not only touch but to tear them away from the wall and take the pages home with them. In this sense, the observer fulfills a new role in the realization of the work by becoming an active participant in it. Several of these specimens are endangered or threatened species, and the depletion of the newsprint echoes the disappearance of these beautiful animals from our world. For Hamilton's Gemini project, the artist selected several of these images and elected to print them on a very delicate Gampi paper that has similarities to the warm tone and physicality of the newsprint. Unlike the Henry Art Gallery exhibition, the archival prints are enclosed in wooden frames with UV-resistant glazing, preserved and protected for posterity.

Born in Lima, Ohio, in 1956, Ann Hamilton received a BFA in textile design from the University of Kansas in 1979 and an MFA in sculpture from the Yale School of Art in 1985. From 1985 to 1991, she taught on the faculty of the University of California at Santa Barbara. Hamilton has served on the faculty of The Ohio State University since 2001, where she is a Distinguished University Professor in the Department of Art. Among her many honors, Hamilton has been the recipient of the National Medal of the Arts, Heinz Award, MacArthur Fellowship, United States Artists Fellowship, NEA Visual Arts Fellowship, Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, Skowhegan Medal for Sculpture, and the Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship. She represented the United States in the 1991 Sao Paulo Bienal, the 1999 Venice Biennale, and has exhibited extensively around the world. Her major commissions include projects for Waterfront Seattle (upcoming); World Trade Center Station (upcoming) Dell Medical School (2015-17); Park Avenue Armory (2013); The Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts, St. Louis (2010); The Guggenheim Museum, New York (2009); Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto, Japan (2006); La Maison Rouge Fondation de Antoine Galbert, Paris, France (2005); Historiska Museet, Stockholm, Sweden (2004); MASS MoCA, North Adams, Massachusetts (2003); The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington D.C. (2003, 1991); The Wanas Foundation, Knislinge, Sweden (2002); Akira Ikeda Gallery, Taura, Japan (2001); The Musee d'art Contemporain, Lyon, France (1997); The Stedelijk Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands (1996); The Art Institute of Chicago (1995); The Museum of Modern Art, New York (1994); The Tate Gallery, Liverpool (1994); Dia Center for the Arts, New York (1993); The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (1988).

For inquiries, please contact Director Chris Santa Maria at gemini@joniweyl.com or 212-249-3324

For additional images and information please visit www.joniweyl.com