



Contact:
Chantal Zakari, Director
Kingston Gallery
450 Harrison Ave, No. 43
Boston, MA 02118
617-423-4113
Direct: 617-584-1254
marketing@kingstongallery.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

In the Main and Center Galleries
Ann Wessmann: *Gathering: An Homage*

in the Kingston Project Space
Joan Baldwin: *Solitary*

October 30 – December 1 , 2019
Opening reception: Friday, November 1, 5 – 8pm

SOUTH END BOSTON, MA (September 19, 2019) – Ann Wessmann’s installations explore time, memory, beauty and the ephemeral, evoking the strength and fragility of human beings and the natural world. In this exhibition, the artist pays tribute to trees in a broad sense, while focusing on a few trees that are of particular importance to her. *Gathering* refers to the actual process of her work, gathering and sorting the many objects that fall to the ground from trees – leaves, twigs, nuts, hulls, seeds and leaf bracts, as well as the poignant accumulation of personal remembrance, observation and discovery from trees that have been in her life for decades. ***Gathering: An Homage* is on view in the Main and Center Galleries from October 30 – December 1, with an opening reception on First Friday November 1st from 5–8pm.**

Wessmann’s works are full of emotional resonance, with a strong relationship to text and textiles, pattern, transformation, order and chaos, landscape and the body. In the Main Gallery, geometric shaped twigs arranged in a wall-sized pattern resemble ancient script. The tour de force cascade of horse chestnut hulls evokes a beaded curtain. These gathered materials pay homage to a pair of horse chestnut trees in the yard of the artist’s childhood home in Scituate, going through their cycle of life as Wessmann goes through her own. The installation **Homage to the Linden Tree**, in the Center Gallery, focuses on a linden tree in a school yard directly behind her small urban backyard in Dorchester. Leaves and bracts float from filament threads, filling the space, and enveloping the viewer in fragile beauty.

Ann Wessmann is an artist living and working in Boston. She received a BS from Skidmore College and an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art. Wessmann was a professor in the 3-D Fine Arts Department at Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston, from 1978–2017. She is currently Professor Emerita. Wessmann's mixed media wall reliefs, sculptural objects and site specific installations have been exhibited throughout the US, including locally at the Fuller Craft Museum, the deCordova Sculpture Park & Museum, the Art Complex Museum, the Mills Gallery, Spoke Gallery @ Medicine Wheel Productions, and Suffolk University Gallery. Her work is included in numerous public and private collections. Wessmann has been a member of the Kingston Gallery since 2002 and has had six major solo shows and six smaller solo shows at the Kingston since 2001.

On view concurrently in the Kingston Project Space is *Solitary*, an installation with paintings by Joan Baldwin. Known for her fantastical landscapes, Baldwin will transform the space of the back gallery into an imagined experience of solitary, being alone with one's thoughts, watched over by the eyes of a guard through a full-sized door painted on canvas and nailed to the wall. Five other paintings suggest windows, looking out onto bizarre scenes. The totality becomes "a place where the imagination can rule, and a metaphor for someone going a little crazy," says Baldwin.

An artist-run gallery incorporated in 1982, Kingston Gallery exhibits work of Boston-area contemporary artists. Gallery Artists specialize in a diverse range of media, including painting, photography, sculpture, and installation. Kingston Gallery exhibitions are widely viewed and receive regular attention in both print and online publications including *Art in America*, *Art New England*, *Artscope*, *The Boston Globe*, and *Big Red & Shiny*. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday 12-5 pm and by appointment.

###

For press-ready images contact Chantal Zakari: 617-584-1254,
marketing@kingstongallery.com

For more information about Kingston Gallery visit: kingstongallery.com