

WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE **FINE ARTS GALLERY**  
ACADEMIC ARTS BUILDING 3RD FLOOR  
75 GRASSLANDS ROAD VALHALLA NEW YORK 10595  
MON-SAT 10am-3pm + THUR 4-6pm  
914.606.6621  
[www.sunywcc.edu/gallery](http://www.sunywcc.edu/gallery)

\*If not included in this email, exhibition images are available upon request.

**TRANSFORMERS: THE ART OF ASSEMBLAGE**

**NATASHA COHEN**

**SHIELA HALE**

**LUCY KRUPENYE**

**CURATED BY J. PINDYCK MILLER**

**presented in conjunction with The Studio: An Alternative Space for Contemporary Art**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22**

The Westchester Community College Fine Arts Gallery in Valhalla, New York is pleased to announce *Transformers: The Art of Assemblage*. The exhibition includes works by three artists from the Northeast region; Natasha Cohen, Shiela Hale, and Lucy Krupenye. *Transformers: The Art of Assemblage* is curated by J. Pindyck Miller and presented in conjunction with The Studio: An Alternative Space for Contemporary Art. The exhibit will run from October 12 through Sunday, November 22, 2009.

The curator, J. Pindyck Miller has curated exhibitions at Vassar College Art Gallery, The Hammond Museum and other galleries in the Northeast region. Miller has long been associated with the Art Museum of Vassar College; he has written extensively on art and has lectured widely throughout the Northeast at museums, galleries, libraries and art centers.

For this exhibit, Miller writes in his curatorial statement as follows: "An icon of modern art, a bicycle wheel mounted on a wooden stool, we recognize as two familiar objects, but at the same time, objects that are entirely altered and transformed. Duchamp's construction, an intellectual whimsy, embodies the paradox of all visual art; what seems entirely real is also other than real, not of the everyday world. Famously, Rauschenberg claimed to be acting between art and life, a credo that might well serve all artists; making one thing out of another. By virtue of assemblage, objects fall out of the everyday world and into the allusive world of art. We experience a paradox: there is the familiar thing and there it is not. The mind grapples with these opposing definitions."

Natasha Cohen collects cast offs, household furnishings, utensils and implements, utilitarian objects and miscellaneous junk. These mundane objects are assembled into striking configurations and are completely transformed. Evocative of shrines or devices for rituals, Cohen's pieces are often infused with a wistful nostalgia and often with a raucous humor. Ms. Cohen resides in Connecticut.

Lucy Krupenye, also a Connecticut resident, seeks cast off objects that are already undergoing transformation by process of wear and deterioration. Steel and wood, stone and bone are all altered by exposure to time and the elements, the original structure or function of these fragments, most often completely obscured. Bearing a meditative and nostalgic quality, Krupenye's work evokes lost civilizations, lost worlds.

Shiela Hale's pieces evince a strong influence of, and interaction with, nature. There is, evident in her work, a poetic contemplation of the natural world and also, an engagement with the storehouse of mankind's literature and knowledge. Her finely crafted constructions evoke the activity of both scientist and bibliophile and the artist implies that knowledge, well applied, is the key to future survival. Ms. Hale is a New York resident.

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Westchester Community College Fine Arts Gallery supports the teaching functions of the college with a diverse range of exhibitions, lectures, and colloquia. Exhibitions feature work by contemporary artists of regional, national, and international reputation who reflect the diversity of the college's student body. The gallery also features exhibits of student and faculty work. This exhibition program is supplemented with periodic gallery talks by visiting artists and scholars. Gallery exhibitions and events are free and open to the public. By providing a space in which individuals from both within and without of the college community can gather for stimulation, reflection, and exchange, the Fine Arts Gallery strives to enhance Westchester Community College's commitment to lifelong learning and community service.

*Transformers: The Art of Assemblage* is presented in conjunction with *The Studio: An Alternative Space for Contemporary Art*. The Studio's offsite exhibitions are for the cultural enrichment of the Westchester community. Exhibitions and events showcase the work of various Westchester artists and artists from the region, from the emerging to the mid-career to the established. For more information about The Studio's not-for-profit arts organization and exhibitions please contact Katie Stratis, the Director at Tel: 914.274.7873, email: [thestudiony@verizon.net](mailto:thestudiony@verizon.net) or refer to the website at [www.thestudiony-alternative.org](http://www.thestudiony-alternative.org). If not included in the email, exhibition images are available upon request.

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