

EAST HAWAII CULTURAL CENTER

WHORL

Jacqueline Rush Lee

Exhibit On View: April 6 - May 31, 2024

Opening Reception: April 5 at 6 PM.

EAST
HAWAII
CULTURAL
CENTER

141 KALĀKAUA ST. DOWNTOWN HILO · 808.961.5711 · WWW.EHCC.ORG

“Jacqueline Rush Lee defies our expectations of what books can be with fecund meditations on nature and permanence. With a deft hand, Lee explores the material possibilities, drawing parallels between the life-cycles of books and those of humans through forms found in nature.”

— Curator Beth McLaughlin, Fuller Museum

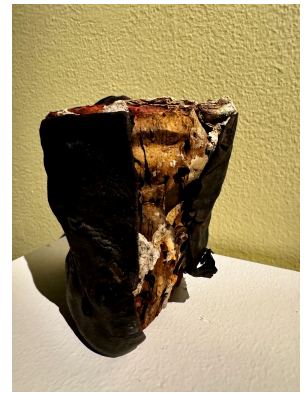
Is the meaning of a book – a physical object consisting of ink, pages, and binding – static? Or does the narrative change with the passage of time, where the book is placed, and the impact of natural elements like weather and insect damage?

Artist Jacqueline Rush Lee invites viewers to consider these questions through her exhibition “Whorl.” A Hawai’i-based artist originally from Northern Ireland, Lee creates conceptual objects by sculpting books, inserting them into the cavities of trees, and allowing nature to warp and desiccate the pages. The result is eerily reminiscent of individual human fingerprints – the “Whorl” of the title – while at the same time suggesting cultural artifacts.

Explains Lee, “I initiate chance occurrences by hand, hoping to create a meditation on the interconnectedness and precariousness of the relationship between nature and culture. Traces of the original text remain, but each object becomes a palimpsest – a document that bears remnants of its original text but which has been overwritten with a new narrative.”

Lee has exhibited widely, including at the Yale Art Gallery, the Fuller Craft Museum, the San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art, Hui No‘eau Visual Arts Center, and the Hawai’i Contemporary Museum. She holds Bachelor and Master degrees in Fine Arts from the University of Hawai’i.

1. ***Flesh Made Word*** \$4,000.00
Transformed Book
6.5 x 5 x 6 inches



2. ***Untitled***
Transformed Book, Plastic
8 x 6.5 x 6 inches



3. ***Scape*** NFS
Transformed Book Components with Greenery
10.5 x 3.5 x 3 inches



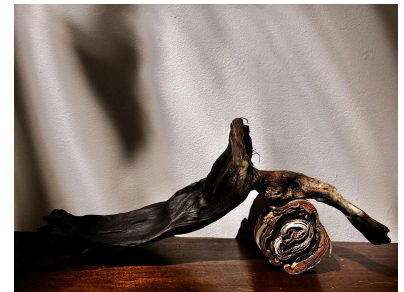
4. ***Untitled*** \$5,000.00
Transformed Book
11 x 7 x 7 inches



5. **Tome [2020]** \$5,000.00
Transformed Book
9 x 10 x 7 inches



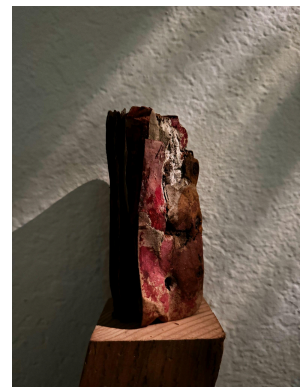
6. **Embrace** \$5,000.00
Transformed Book with Lichen Trails, Scorched
Tree Limb
25 x 12.5 x 8 inches



7. **Untitled** NFS
Transformed Book on Tree Branch
18.5 x 7 x 10 inches



8. **Untitled** \$500.00
Red Transformed Book
6.5 x 2.5 x 2.5 inches



9. **Untitled** NFS
Pink Transformed Book
8 x 3 x 3.5 inches



10. **Field Work**
Hand-Made Accordion Book. NFS
Copper with Living Patina, Photographic Prints
on Hahne Muhle Rag Paper, Leather.
14.5 x 23 inches closed and approximately 19'
extended



11. **Moss Code** \$12,000.00
Moss Floor Installation
12' x 12'
In the form of a Fibonacci sequence of hybrid,
preserved moss, this installation echoes
“nature’s code” and the material elements that
have interacted with the Book Whorls. This
work can be purchased as is or framed in
sections or as a whole and priced accordingly.

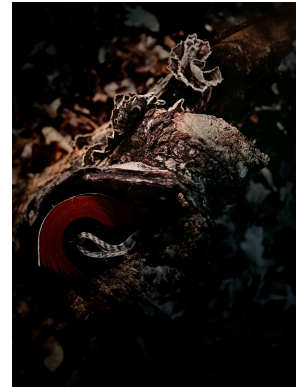


12. **Portal**
Site-Specific Installation in Main Gallery Niche
Gold Leaf Application
11 x 8'



Large-Scale Prints of Site-Specific Installations (3)

13. ***Trail Marker Print***, VA. NFS
Documentation of Manipulated Book Inserted
into Tree Stump



14. ***Decomposition Print***, HI. NFS
Detail of Decomposition Stages in Site-Specific
Work, HI



Video

15. Title: ***Questions to a Waterfall***
(Kulaniapia Falls) filmed by Ricky-Thomas
Serikawa



16. Title: ***Do the Trees and Plants Whisper
Secrets to You?***
Bird Video. Filmed by the Artist





EHCC is a 501 C-3 Tax Exempt organization within the state of Hawaii.
Thank you to our team of volunteers & supporters.
-Your contributions are tax deductible-

**EAST
HAWAI'I
CULTURAL
CENTER**