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Anne McKeown
Getting In Front of Flow

January 28 – February 22 2014

Reception: January 30, 5-8pm

Open House: Saturday, February 1, 3 -5pm

SOHO20 Chelsea Gallery is pleased to present *Getting In Front of Flow*, an exhibition of recent works on paper by Anne McKeown. For nearly two decades, papermaking has been central to Anne McKeown's artistic practice. "Paper," she says "can assume many different identities." And it is her exploration of paper's plasticity: as a substrate for paint (and ink) as well as its delicacy and surprising durability as sculptural material, for which she's best known. But in this show, in addition to her signature paper work, she explores her long-term interest in creating artwork out of unconventional materials. It is in the central installation of this show, *Wall of Imperfect Thoughts* that McKeown melds her mastery of paper-making with her passion for what is "cast-off" in our society in order to explore what, for her, is a familiar theme: the intersection between memory and perception.

Wall of Imperfect Thoughts, an architectural structure with characteristics of screens; carries paper, wire, Mylar and shade cloth, marks and messages. These pieces are a collection of both current creations as well as records of past actions. Screens protect one space from another, one person from another. Some allow one to peer out, and also to peer in through piercings in the structure. The Spanish choir screen at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the intimate Catholic confessional screen, the marble screens of the Taj Mahal, the darkened windows of a passing car, these structures and devices hide and separate.

In McKeown's work there are bits of the familiar, but these are simply hints and allusions. She does not look to create an order. The work is a mirror of a world where systems and beliefs shred and reform. The work depends on the viewer to interpret.

Anne Q McKeown's art practice includes: painting, printmaking, and papermaking. Color, chance, and intuition are her tools. She exhibits nationally and internationally. She is a graduate of the Yale School of Art. Her work has been shown in Japan, Belgium, Cuba, Canada, and South Africa. She is Master Papermaker at Brodsky Center, Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, where she collaborates with nationally and internationally recognized artists to make multiples of their work using paper as a medium. She recently completed a commission in Takoradi, Ghana, co-sponsored by international artist El Anatsui and Rutgers University, where she introduced thirteen African artists and art professors to the possibilities of papermaking. Further information about this artist may be found at her website: www.anneqmckeown.com.

For more information, please contact the gallery at info@soho20gallery.com, or 212-367-8994