

ZENITH GALLERY PRESS

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INTO THE WOODS

James Butler, Amanda Richardson, and Larry Ringgold

Show Dates - January 30- April 29, 2017

MEET THE ARTISTS RECEPTION: Wednesday March 8, 5-8 pm

The Sculpture Space at 1111 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, WDC 20004

“Into the Woods“ is a fascinating exhibition featuring wood sculptors James Butler and Larry Ringgold. We’ve paired these magnificent sculptors with fiber artist Amanda Richardson. Together this trio creates an enchanting and naturalist experience.

James Butler assembles tree limbs, once living, ready-made shapes, into abstracted sculptures. With enough heat and violence, the biomorphic transformation begins to occur. His new endeavors are inspired by thoughts of nature’s repetitiveness; the ignored and *unseen*; and left-handed tooth brushing.

Cornish artist, **Amanda Richardson**, hand dyes fabrics to create highly detailed applique landscapes, inspired by her beloved flower gardens and Cornwall countryside. Depending on the light-source, these dynamic artworks reflect and absorb the changing light, continually presenting a fresh experience to the viewer.

Widely traveled, the artist lived on San Juan Island in Washington State for ten years. Having returned to Cornwall, she continues selling her work internationally both to private and corporate clients. Her art can also be seen in her working studio in the Penberth Valley, near the Land's End, surrounded by the exuberance of her garden that provides subject and inspiration for much of her art.

Larry Ringgold was born and raised on the Chesapeake Bay, growing up crabbing and fishing with local Watermen, and always feeling a connection to the Bay. He has been a Carpentry/Woodworking Teacher and woodworker for over 42 years. Making driftwood art is a recent endeavor that was made convenient by summer hurricanes and the opening of the Conowingo Dam. Due to the massive flooding, great amounts of all types of wood drifted down to the Maryland beaches. Having always found driftwood art fascinating, and now plentiful, he saw his first driftwood sculptures in California in the 70’s and since then found others online, such as Deborah Butterfield, Matt Torrens and Heather Jansch, all doing magnificent work.

Ringgold gathers select pieces of driftwood from the beaches of the Chesapeake watershed and joins the pieces together to form figures from both natural and mythical worlds, emphasizing life and attitude, while highlighting the beauty of the wood.

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