

t r a n s f o r m e r

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Jessica Cebra: CAVE
December 14, 2013 – January 25, 2014

Exhibition Opening Reception:
Saturday, December 14, 6-8pm

Artist Talk:
Saturday, January 18, 3pm

Continuing our commitment to highlight the work of exceptional DC-based emerging artists, Transformer's *11th Annual DC Artist Solo Exhibition* presents the work of **Jessica Cebra** in her first solo exhibition.

Jessica Cebra transforms the gallery space into a fantastical constructed cave, obsessively plastered with imagery drawn from the artist's personal museum souvenir postcard collection. Inside the cave, the legacy and stability of institutionalized narratives of art history are distorted and embellished to obscurity, covered in paper mosaic and collage – a fabricated shrine to impermanence. Fascinated by how history and collective memory are shaped by the ways we collect, preserve and present cultural artifacts, Cebra explores notions of impermanence, growth and decay by appropriating and manipulating imagery of man-made iconic idealizations, monumentality, and opulent materiality in the face of larger natural forces.

"I have been interested in memorials and reliquaries, things that preserve the remains of the past, or things that point to the past and insist on being remembered. How will the whole of human existence be memorialized?" ponders Cebra. Having studied Library Science, archives management and historic preservation, she understands that collecting, arranging, categorizing, preserving and exhibiting objects is as important as the significance of the artifacts themselves.

"Everyone has their own museum and archive in their mind, but how much of each of us will be remembered in the unpredictable future?" Envisioning caves as storehouses, safe-havens, and reclusive, introverted spaces, Cebra nods to artist Thomas Hirshhorn's quote as a source of inspiration for her work: 'I like to think of all the existing undiscovered caves. The real Lascaux cave remains undiscovered.'

EXHIBITION HOURS: Wednesday-Saturday, 12-6pm and by appointment. Transformer will be closed December 23, 2013 - January 6, 2014.

Image: Jessica Cebra, *CAVE Study*, 2013



t r a n s f o r m e r is a Washington, DC based 501 (c) 3 artist-centered non-profit visual arts organization, providing a consistent, supportive, and professional platform for emerging artists to explore and present experimental artistic concepts, build audiences for their work, and advance their careers. A catalyst and advocate for contemporary artists and emergent expression in the visual arts, Transformer connects and promotes emerging visual artists within regional, national and international contexts through exhibition and programs partnerships with artists, curators, commercial galleries, museums and other cultural institutions.

t r a n s f o r m e r's 2013/14 Exhibition Series and programs are supported by: The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities/ NEA, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Bernstein Family Foundation, The Robert Lehman Foundation, The CrossCurrents Foundation, The S&R Foundation, The National Endowment for the Arts' Access to Artistic Excellence Award, and The Visionary Friends of Transformer – individual donors, members of our Annual Auction Host Committee, and Corporate Sponsors.