

# KATHERINE TZU-LAN MANN



*Parcel*, 132 x 132 cm, acrylic, sumi ink and woodcut on paper, 2013

Mann shows how patterned, highly wrought, decorative elements coalesce from the chaos and contingency of an organic environment—and how they dissolve into that environment again. She begins each piece with a stain of color, the product of chance evaporation of a puddle of ink and water on the paper as it lies on the floor of the studio. Her method of creation is slow and incremental, beginning with an initial pour of paint and then expanding, growing outwards. The painting eventually exposes the organic stain that she then paints around, sometimes collaging with woodblock prints. From this shape, she nourishes the landscape of each painting, coaxing from this organic foundation the development of diverse, decorative forms: braids of hair, details from Beijing opera costuming, lattice-work, and sequined patterns. Although articles of adornment, these elements are repeated until they too appear organic, even cancerous, as they at once highlight and suffocate the underlying ink-stained foundation. Each piece is tense with the threat of disunity and incoherence as nature and artifice spring from and merge into one another, and as different elements multiply and expand like poisonous growths. The works reference traditional landscaping painting although in an abstract form in the way that the larger works feel like environments.

Through this conflation of ideas—plants, bodies and diseases—her work explores a baroque abstract: a celebration of the abundance of connections and clashes that can be found in the disparate mess of matter in the world. As hybrids—life-sized fields punctuated by moments of absurdity, poetry, mutation, growth and decay—the works glory in the sensuous and the rambling, and intersperse the chaos with moments of neurotic control, suggesting not only the potentialities of growth, but also the threats of overabundance.

## GALERIE KASHYA HILDEBRAND

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# KATHERINE TZU-LAN MANN

Born in 1983 in Madison, WI, USA  
Lives and works in Washington DC., USA

## EDUCATION

2009 MFA, Hoffberger School of Painting, Maryland Institute College of Art.  
2005 BA Honors and Magna Cum Laude: Visual Art. BA Magna Cum Laude: Human Development. Brown University, Providence RI.

## SELECTED SOLO and TWO PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2012 *Clove*, Project 4 Gallery, Washington, DC  
*Embroideries*, Rawls Museum Arts, with Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Courtland, VA  
*Unquiet Kingdom*, Honfleur Gallery, Washington, DC  
*Root*, AIR Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
*New Works*, Blue Sky Gallery, Dayton, OH  
*Slurry*, Rice Gallery, McDaniel College, Westminster, MD  
2011 *Bound*, Hamiltonian Gallery, Washington, DC  
2010 *Byzantine*, Dayton International Airport, Dayton, OH  
2009 *Lost Cities*, Scott Center Gallery, Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD  
2006 *Laqi Taiyal*, Fulbright exhibition, Red Brick Gallery, Yilan, Taiwan  
*Bird Window*, Guandu National Park. In collaboration with Annalily Charles. Taipei, Taiwan

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2012 *IN/LIT*, Brian Morris Gallery, New York, NY  
*10x10*, Juvenal Reis Studios, Long Island City, NY  
*8 Hour Projects: Craft and Process*, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA  
*2,3,4*, Blue Sky Exhibition Space, Dayton, OH  
*All My Friends Are Painters*, Addison Ripley Fine Art, Washington, DC  
Janet and Walter Sondheim Artscape Semifinalists Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD  
2011 *Generations*, AIR Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
*Options Biennial*, Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, DC  
*Wish You Were Here*, AIR Gallery, Brooklyn, NY  
*Things Fall Apart*, Community College of Baltimore, Catonsville, MD  
2011 Juried Exhibition, Rawls Museum, Courtland, VA. Curated by Lisa Sigal  
*Buy What You Love*, Mariane Boesky Gallery, New York, NY  
2010 Art in Embassies Program, Ambassador's Residence, Yaounde, Cameroon  
Reagan National Airport, Washington, DC  
Fulbright Honorees, Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, Baltimore, MD  
Alpan Gallery, Alpan International, Huntington, NY, Juried by Hitomi Iwasaki,  
2009 *Vanity Affair*, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD  
Janet and Walter Sondheim Artscape Semifinalists, Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD  
*new. (now.)*, Hamiltonian Gallery, Washington, DC  
*No Soul for Sale Art Fair*, with Transformer Gallery, New York, NY  
2008 *Quasi-Painting*, Randall Scott Gallery, Washington, DC  
Ogilvy Art NY, The Giving Gallery, New York, NY  
*The Seven Deadly Sins*, Maryland Art Place, Baltimore, MD  
2007 *Repeat Respond React*, Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, MD

The artist has been recipient of numerous awards and grants.

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