

An underwater photograph showing sunlight filtering through the water, creating a shimmering, iridescent pattern of light and shadow. Several small fish are visible swimming in the background.

ART EVENTS

Invitational Exhibition at Tampa International Airport

This invitational exhibition showcases seven artists based in the Tampa bay area. The invited artists met once when they toured the Public Art Collection at Tampa International Airport but worked on this artwork separately in their studios. Thus, creating this visual dialogue with no ongoing conversations between the artists about their personal interpretations of the title. Photography, mixed media, sculpture, painting and glasswork are represented.

Collectively titled *Ninety Seconds*, **Jenny Carey** presents a series of nine photographic images from a pool of flowing water, the movement creating small ripples and occasional ghost-like reflections. The ebb and flow of the water represents the memory of an emotional response continuously swept away, a visual illustration of time passing.

Questioning What floats? What sinks? and What survives? **Melissa Fair's** sculptural work represents a journey utilizing the natural elements of water, air and the possibility of land. The infinite sky above, the dark depths of the ocean below and the brave figures trusting that there will be wind and that they will cross.

Akiko Kotani's *White Falls* is inspired by the tumbling action of water as it falls from a

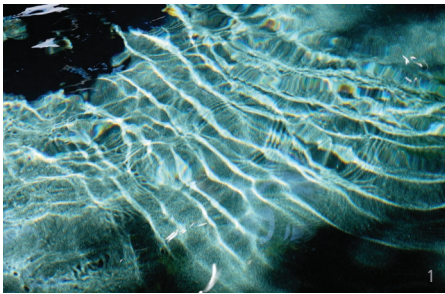
precipice. Slicing white garbage bags into strips, Akiko meticulously crochets a larger than life white waterfall that puddles onto the floor, patiently working one stitch at a time.

Kim Radatz's mixed media series titled *The Travelers*, presents the viewer with a travel diary in the form of dresses representing memories of various travel destinations.

Soaring high above the clouds, **Debra Radke** is inspired by a different perspective of the natural landscape. Atmospheric forms, ordered space and ephemeral colors reveal abstract patterns of irreducible simplicity she captures on canvas, juxtaposing our perceptions with reality.

Babs Reingold's mixed media pieces explore the Chinese system Wuxing, which lists five elements – fire, water, wood, metal and earth that are the basis of all matter. Her work touches on all five elements, with climate change seen as the existential crisis of our time.

Rose Rosen is a glass artist who creates work that emphasizes earth as a place of utilitarian beauty. For Rosen, element is defined *as a part or aspect of something abstract that is essential*, which perfectly aligns with her process of melting fragments of glass into a functional piece of beauty.



Elements* is a visual dialogue exploring multiple interpretations of the word **Element.*



- 1) *Ninety Seconds* #5; Jenny Carey
- 2) *Hope is the Thing With Feathers*; Melissa Fair
- 3) *White Falls*; Akiko Kotani
- 4) *The Travelers*; Kim Radatz
- 5) *Tetrad*; Debra Radke
- 6) *Double Vessel Series*; Babs Reingold
- 7) *Utilitarian Beauty Series*; Rose Rosen

For further information on the exhibit, please contact **Jenny Carey**, jcarey@msn.com



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