

Art Bound Momma: Claire Sherwood

Second Nature: First 'Review' with N at The Albany International Airport

POSTED ON OCTOBER 24, 2013 BY CSHERWOOD39



(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/dsc2039morning.jpg>)

In observation area near Third floor gallery

If you read my [first post \(http://artboundmomma.wordpress.com/2013/10/05/let-the-wild-rumpus-begin/\)](http://artboundmomma.wordpress.com/2013/10/05/let-the-wild-rumpus-begin/) you'll remember one of the reasons for writing this blog was to catalog my experiences with my youngest daughter during her last year before starting school. One of my ambitions is to take her to a variety of local/regional exhibitions and

have the chance to experience the artwork together. It's difficult for me to get out to most of the openings/receptions as they occur at the pinnacle of meltdown/bedtime hour(s), yet there is a fair amount of contemporary work I want to see in this area during any given month. The Albany international Airport's Art and Culture Program is one I have long admired and luckily for me, they just opened their latest exhibition on their third floor gallery: *Second Nature*.



(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/20131023-205408.jpg>)

The show features the work of eight artists “for whom the perception and interpretation of natural phenomena are central to their work.” Jenny Kemp, Karin Stack, Jill Parisi, Laura Moriarty, Jason Middlebrook, Adam Frelin, Katie DeGroot and Roberley Bell’s work will remain on view through March 9 in the third floor gallery.

If you have never been, the gallery at the Airport is the perfect venue to take your children to and has been on my list of time-killing things to do for a few years now. There is always exciting, contemporary artwork to look at and talk with your children about; *Second Nature*, was not an exception.

The exhibition statement reads, "Nature is a word often used to describe the things we have not manufactured or meddled with, but today, it's hard to identify what we haven't modified-by choice or by chance." Much of the work on view has a direct connection to the landscape (albeit, abstracted, flattened or conceptualized) and the human hand upon it. In the work of Jenny Kemp, organic systems and structures are invented and revealed through intricate line work and flattened out areas of color. At once these paintings and stop motion video reference microscopic organisms and topographical patterning.



(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/20131023-102939.jpg>)

The video shown above is created by photographing the process of her work resulting in choppy, stop motion, staggered video, suggestive to me, of footage from weather satellites or from deep ocean exploration dives.



<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/20131023-102904.jpg>

I loved hearing N's reaction to Kemp's work as she took a quick look and stated matter of fact, "that ones a bladder Mom". "Hmmm...maybe it is" I reply. Wouldn't it be liberating to have the air of certainty a four-year old possesses? Check out more of Kemp's work [here](http://www.jennykemp.net/wordpress/). (<http://www.jennykemp.net/wordpress/>)

The work of [Laura Moriarty](http://lauramoriarty.com/) (<http://lauramoriarty.com/>) perhaps more directly references the modification of natural form(s) as she creates small rock like structures from pigmented beeswax. These particular sculptures were created and then used as drawing instruments to mark the scroll of paper hanging behind the collection. The repetitive marks add up to a long meandering section of strata referencing geological mapping and the human hand within this process. With the combination of drawing and object Moriarty creates an appealing commentary on how science intersects with our day to day lives and perception of time.



<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/dsc2031morning.jpg>



(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/lauramoriarty.jpg>)

You can check out more of Laura Moriarty's artwork here

(<http://www.lauramoriarty.com/>)

There is an array of interesting responses to these “familiar hallmarks of our environment” in Second Nature. From the obsessively beautiful lithographs of Jill Parisi (<http://jillparisi.com/>) to the projected video work of Adam Frelin (<http://adamfrelin.com/>) each response is distinctive and unique, yet I found an overarching theme of artificial materials and/or color palette throughout the show.

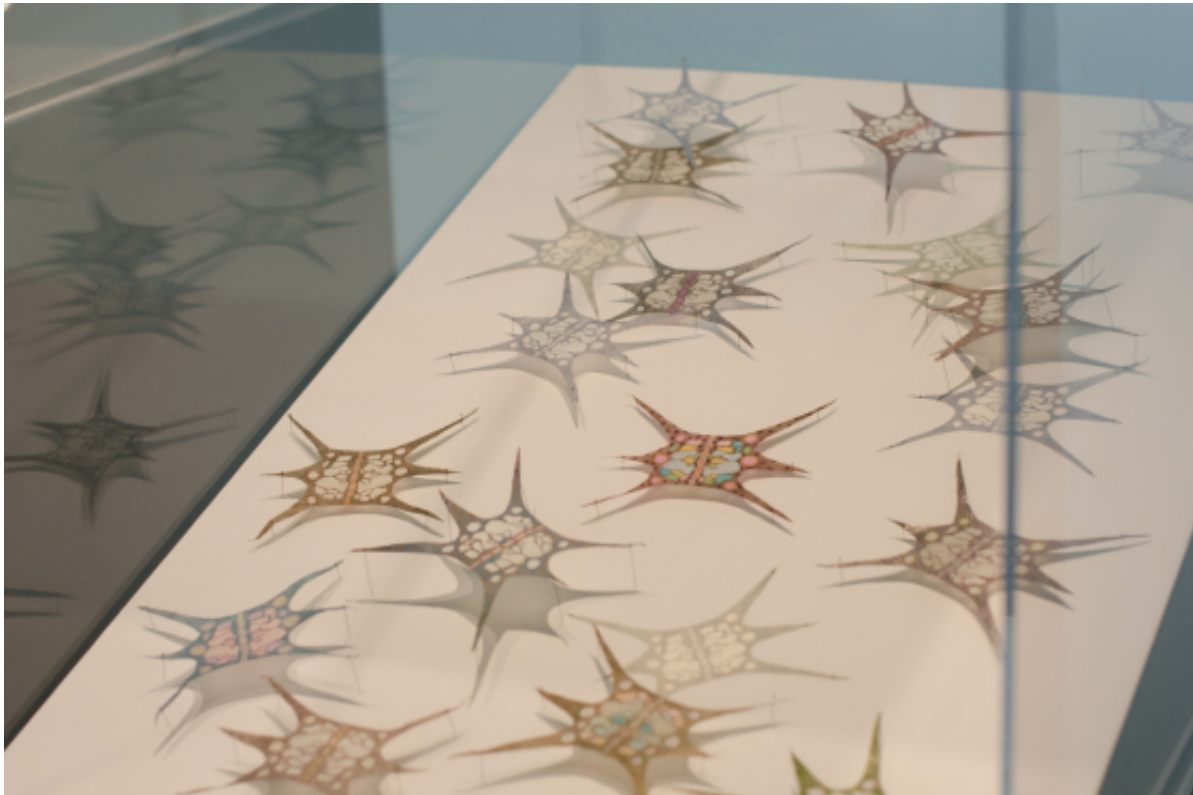


(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/dsc2036morning.jpg>)

N admiring the beautifully obsessive work of Jill Parisi



<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/dsc2035morning.jpg>



(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/dsc2034morning.jpg>)



(<http://artboundmomma.files.wordpress.com/2013/10/dsc2033morning.jpg>)

In fact, some of the best commentary I had with N. regarding work in the gallery was over the video work of Adam Frelin. It's probably a testament to how plugged into technology children are-but if there is any video work in any show my kids gravitate towards it. Running time was approx. 10:30 on Terranauts and N appreciated every box pushing