

Objects for Objects: Work by Venetia Dale



Dollar General, digital print, 24x 36 in. 2008



Commemoration of Occasion
fragments of metalwares
cast in plastic,
42x 38x 36 in., 2010



VILLA TERRACE DECORATIVE ARTS MUSEUM

2220 N. Terrace Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202

Museum Hours: Wednesday through Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$5 Adults • \$3 Seniors, Veterans & Students

FREE Members, Active Military & Children

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JULY 6 – SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

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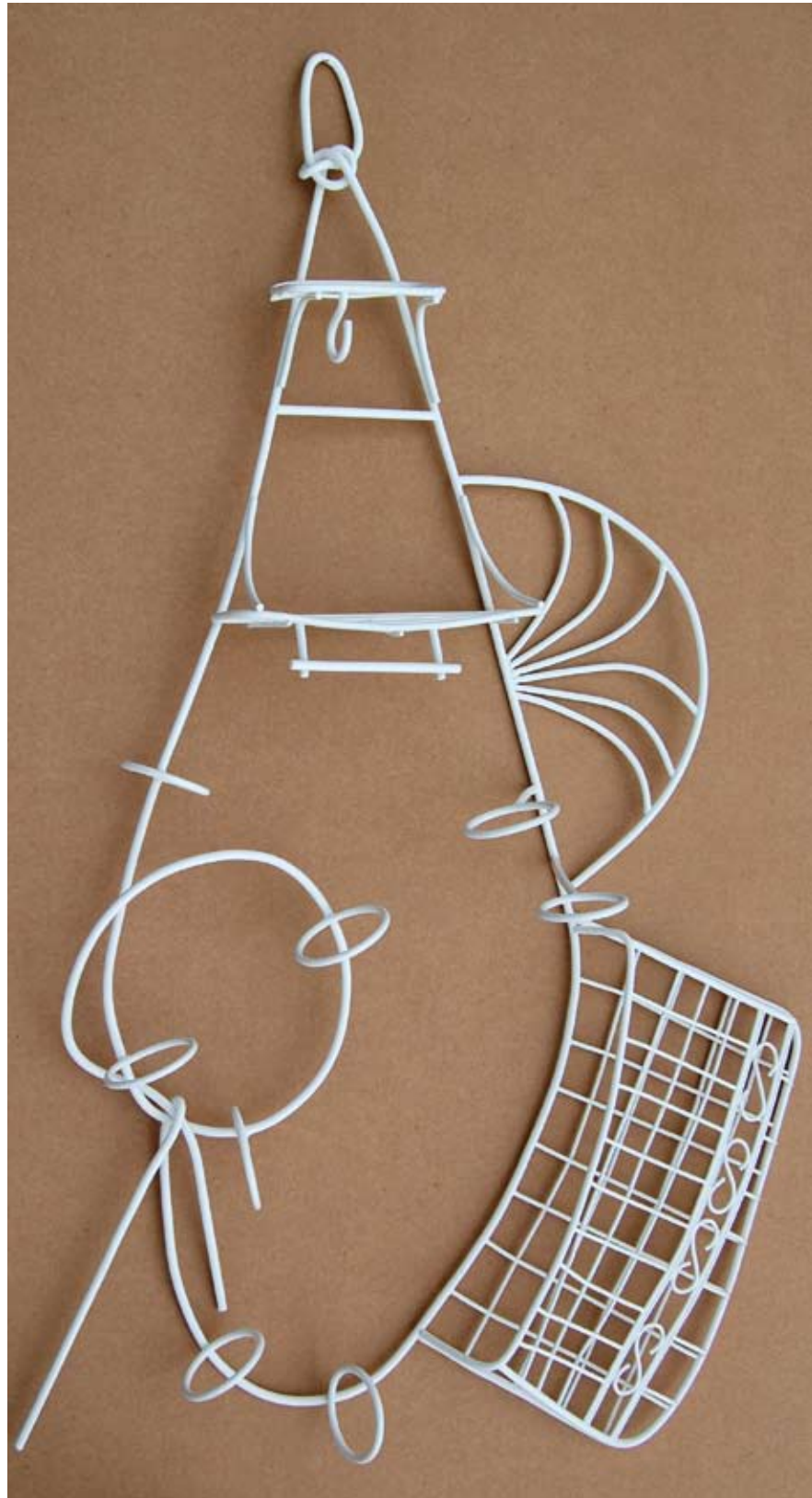
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Artist's Statement

Objects for Objects is a collection of works exploring themes of utility and exchange within a global economy. Patterns, materials and forms sourced from mundane objects are fragmented, abstracted and re-imagined to create sculptures that reflect a visual landscape that is both familiar to and distant from the vernacular of the everyday.

The regal setting of the Villa Terrace begs for pomp. The classical details of the gallery such as the exquisite ornamental ceiling, windows and mantel interact with the displayed works imposing a heightened sense of grandeur. The works in *Objects for Objects* use a similar, formal language of the decorative arts as well as references to kitsch, the mass-produced, and the mundane. The tension between the perceived quality and authenticity of a decorative past and a mass-produced, commodified present are negotiated in the fabricated pewter TY beanie baby of *Retain Tag for Reference* with missing limbs sitting limply on the green marble mantel, or the oversized shower caddy of *Objects for Objects* encroaching from the wall and decorative molding onto the hardwood floor. Positioning the works, in context and in form, between the familiar and the unknown, begins to reclaim the space between what is lost and re-invented in the evaluation and transformation of our material world.

Special thanks to: Collins Foundation and OCAC in Portland, OR, Liz Spankowski, Yevgeniya Kaganovich, Chad Bridgewater, Michele and Denis Dale, Andrew Siesennop, and Martha Monroe.



Objects for Objects: Shower caddy, powder coated copper, dimensions variable, 2010

Retain Tag for Reference, pewter and found tag, 6x 6.25x 5 in. 2008



About the Artist

Venetia Dale, a Wisconsin native, received her BFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2004 under the tutelage of Lisa Gralnick and Fred Fenster. In 2009, she received her MFA from State University of New York at New Paltz, working under Myra Mimlitsch-Gray and Jamie Bennett. Dale exhibits, lectures, and curates both nationally and internationally. Her curatorial project *Exhibition in Motion: Objects Performed* (co-curated with Stefano Catalani and Tia Kramer) was recently hosted by the Bellevue Arts Museum in Seattle, WA. Her current project, a group exhibition entitled *Relatives*, will open in October at Galerie Noel Guyomarc'h in Montreal, Quebec.

Dale's personal and professional interests focus on cross-cultural relationships and exchange. In October, she will present her research on tourism and material culture as part of "The Arts: Catalyst for Caribbean Development" Conference hosted by Edna Manley College in Kingston, Jamaica. Dale continues to share her metalsmithing knowledge by leading workshops home and abroad. This summer she will be teaching at Penland School of Crafts in North Carolina and in January she will lead a pewtersmithing workshop at 92nd Street Y in New York City. Dale is currently an Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Art Department at UW-Milwaukee.

For more information please visit: www.venetiadale.com