

## PRESS RELEASE

# STEPHENIE BERGMAN

## THE WIRE AND OTHER WORKS



Image: Stephenie Bergman, works in progress

5 MAY - 19 JUNE 2011

Stephenie Bergman transforms Marsden Wool Gallery's Project Space into an extraordinary habitat furnished with bold and exotic artefacts, both functional and decorative. They include room dividers and lights, arrangements of boxes and ceramic boulders, tables and cups, all far from orthodox in form. The collection also comprises newly invented things, such as a playful sculptural object that serves as a shrine-like receptacle for a special pair of shoes.

A delight in the interplay of shape, line, colour and texture has been a feature of Bergman's art and design work since she first came to prominence as a painter, in the 1970s. Since that time she has moved effortlessly between different media (canvas and paint, wood, clay and glaze), following her creative concerns to make a great variety of artefacts. Now working mainly with ceramic materials she finds inspiration in her immediate surroundings (dividing her time between bases in the Var, France and Taroudant, Morocco, with occasional trips to the UK). She also works to meet her own domestic needs, or by commission to meet the requirements of others.

Bergman's intuitive and innovative approach results in fresh, arresting objects. Made to be used or otherwise lived with, these are life-affirming works that lift the human spirit.

### Biographical notes

Stephanie Bergman (b. 1946) studied Painting at St Martin's School of Art, London graduating in 1967. She subsequently moved to the USA for a few years, winning a Gulbenkian Foundation Award, 1975-77. She has exhibited in both fine and applied art galleries internationally and in numerous landmark exhibitions in the UK such as *Stephenie Bergman and Nicholas Pope* (1975), Southampton City Art Gallery/Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield; *The Maker's Eye* (1983), Crafts Council, London; *Craft Matters* (1984), John Hansard Gallery, Southampton; *Vessel* (1987), Serpentine Gallery, London; *The Raw and the Cooked* (1992 - 95), Barbican Art Gallery, London and tour; with her most recent solo exhibition at The Artist's House, New Arts Centre, Roche Court, Wiltshire in 2006. Public collections that hold examples of her work include the British Council, Arts Council and the British Government Art Collection.

Marsden Wool Project Space is curated by Tessa Peters

The Marsden Wool Project Space runs alongside our programme of solo and small group exhibitions by gallery artists. The Project Space allows us to respond quickly to significant bodies of innovative work and showcases the work of talented emerging artists and designers and fresh directions in the work of more established artists. The exhibitions are organized at short notice, so please check our website regularly for news on forthcoming shows and events.

For more information, images, or to arrange an interview with the artist please contact:  
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