



17420 North Avenue of the Arts | Surprise AZ 85374  
623.972.0635 | fax.623.972.0456 | wvam.org

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Contact: George Palovich  
623/972-0635, ext 24 8:00am—noon  
gpalovich@wvam.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Word Ribbon  
An Installation by Linda Asakawa  
September 19 through November 23, 2008**

West Valley Art Museum will open a new exhibition in the Mr. and Mrs. George Heffernon Room on September 19. The exhibit will actually be an example of "Installation Art" where a gallery is transformed into a single unit of expression rather than a series of paintings. The floor, ceiling and wall are all utilized toward a uniform artistic statement. The visitor enters being surrounded by a total environment that is the art itself. Throughout the 27 year history of the Museum there have only been a few exhibits of this type.

Linda Asakawa was born in Bremerton, Washington and raised in San Diego, California. She lives and works in Cave Creek, Arizona with her husband Don. Together they established their first art studios in 1974 and throughout their careers have professionally collaborated making pottery and photography. She enjoys reading, nature, and traveling. Of her installation she says:

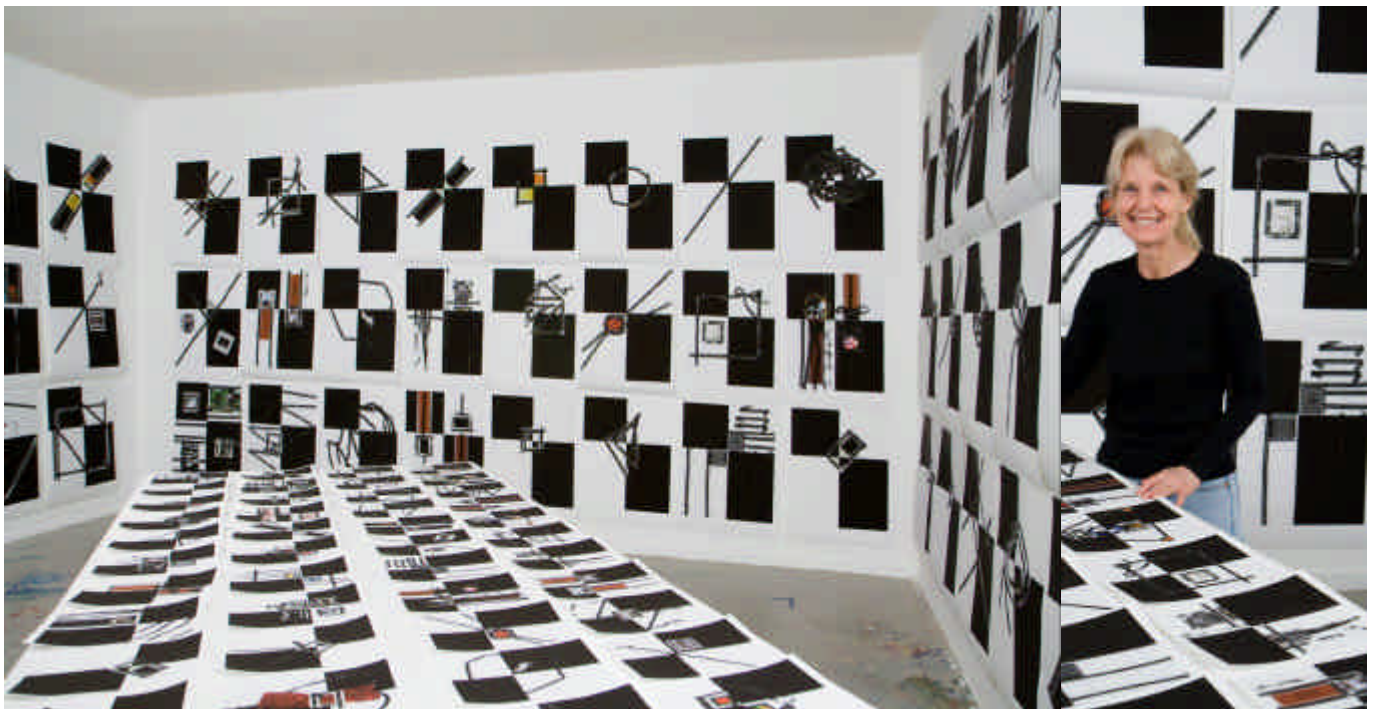
*"Word Ribbon* is the fourth in the series of *Separate Incomplete Journey* installations. The series starts with recollections of past experiences, and continues with processes utilizing painted and photographic elements, collected and found objects, and fragments from everyday use. The installations are journeys through transforming states of experiences, traces of the past, hints of the future, lost memories and forgotten stories. These excursions inhabit the personal space where past and present intersect with narratives of context and thought. The installations involve the integration of physical reality with the temporal effects of time. They are developed within a process of discovery, a structured presence, and an established, flexible set of conditions. Visual and material expression open surfaces to chance as diaristic layers add contrast to unite their juxtaposition.

*Word Ribbon* began when I came across my old typewriter ribbons from journals, records and other writings. I experienced flashes of vivid memories and began to read the ribbons. As fragments of the writings appeared I began to think of ways to use them applying current technology (computer, scanner, printer) juxtaposed with the former technology (typewriter, film, slides, c-prints). I made 8x10 backgrounds using solid black and white 4x6 glossy c-prints from a past developing process. I attached typewriter ribbon into shapes and gestures retaining some of the words. As I worked I

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added filmstrips, slides, and fragments of prints to the backgrounds making individual pieces, then scanned and enlarged them. The resulting prints are arranged to interact with the installation space and makes it possible for the viewer to discover traces and experiences from the journey. The process is a total immersion from exploring an idea to the planning, preparation, doing, documenting, dismantling and transforming. Each journey has a material moment in time. After it is dismantled the materiality of the installation is transformed again into a transitory state and begins another journey."

She received a Visual Arts Fellowship from the Arizona Commission on the Arts in 1995, as well as many other awards. Travel linked to her work includes the United States, France, Spain, Canada, Japan, and Mexico. She has previously shown at West Valley Art Museum/Sun Cities Museum of Art over ten years ago in the exhibition "Visual Metaphors".



"Word Ribbon" installation art by Linda Asakawa

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