RACHEL KOHN

BORN
Brooklyn, NY, 1981

WORKS
New York City

EDUCATION
Hunter College (NY), MFA
Skidmore College (NY), BFA

MATERIALS
Plaster and foam as the base, which is carved into like a sculpture, the covered with wax and sometimes metal.

SUBJECT MATTER
Cycles of growth and decay and how nature transforms over time. Finding beauty in the process of decay and harmony in the cycles of life and death.

INSPIRATION
From an early age Kohn had the desire to draw everything around her. She liked to view the world, through light, reflections and energy and to transform it into a drawing.

For more information: www.RachelKohnArt.com www.stac.edu/amag

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE
The process behind this work is important. Look closely at each surface. Kohn creates a thick plane using foam and plaster that she then carves into. Additional materials and pigments are added to the surface to highlight these cuts and digs.

TO TAKE AWAY
Think about examples from the history of art- some artists hide the process of their making by doing things like varnishing over brushstrokes, while others show it. How does this change a viewer's perception of the relationship between an artist and their work?

HOW COULD THIS RELATE?

CHEMISTRY
While this work is abstract, it is also about layers of the earth and cycles of life and death. How does Kohn use the integration of materials (wax, resin, charcoal and metal) to show this? Notice the chemical reactions happening in the layers of materials. How does the wax affect the metal and work with the clay?

MATHEMATICS
Kohn was a dual major in studio art and mathematics. While many people would think Art and Math are complete opposites, there are many connections between the two in her work: energy, balance, chaos and spatial depth are all relevant. How can process of making art be very similar to solving a mathematic theorem?

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Kohn is interested with the physical connections between nature and the human body. How does this work talk about growth, decay and fragility?

AZARIAN MCCULLOUGH ART GALLERY

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