



PAVEL ZOUBOK GALLERY

533 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10011
(between 10th and 11th Avenues)
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Donna Sharrett * REVERB

Echoes, repeating rhythms, reverberations of thoughts, emotions, sights and sounds—such are the movements in the heart and in the mind that have become both the fleeting subjects and, along with beads, dried rose petals, used clothing and even copper-penny coins, some of the raw materials of Donna Sharrett's distinctive art.

Her mixed-media creations are not quite sculptures and not quite paintings but certainly are the products of meticulous compositional calculations, impeccable craftsmanship and extensive background research. Now, in Sharrett's new "Reverb" series, her thematic focus has shifted from an earlier interest in memorials to the ineffable nature of memory itself. For Sharrett, such memories usually are deeply personal. At the same time, her art feels quietly and invitingly therapeutic; for all its ornamental fineness, it is still abstract, and viewers may find in its conjoining of unlikely, jewel-like materials their own resonant meanings.

To create these works, Sharrett used the bead-like, round, metal ends of her late, musician brother's guitar strings and string ends from dozens of other musicians who donated them to her. Her new works also allude to music because they take their titles from actual songs. Admirers of Sharrett's art gave her articles of clothing (denim jeans, men's cravats) and antique-damask linens, which she incorporated into these new works. All of these elements, the artist notes, "actually contain memories," for before she acquired them they all really had been used by their former owners. Now they serve, like Proust's pastry, as both "placeholders for memories," as Sharrett says, and as talisman-souvenirs to provoke them.

We all share, she observes, "a basic desire or need to remember." With imagination and skill, in works whose richly elaborated, round-shaped compositions evoke the simple form of the ring, a symbol of the everlasting and of time as a cyclical whole made up of past, present and future, Sharrett continues to explore—and to honor—that unshakable impulse to look back that is an enduring mark of the human spirit.

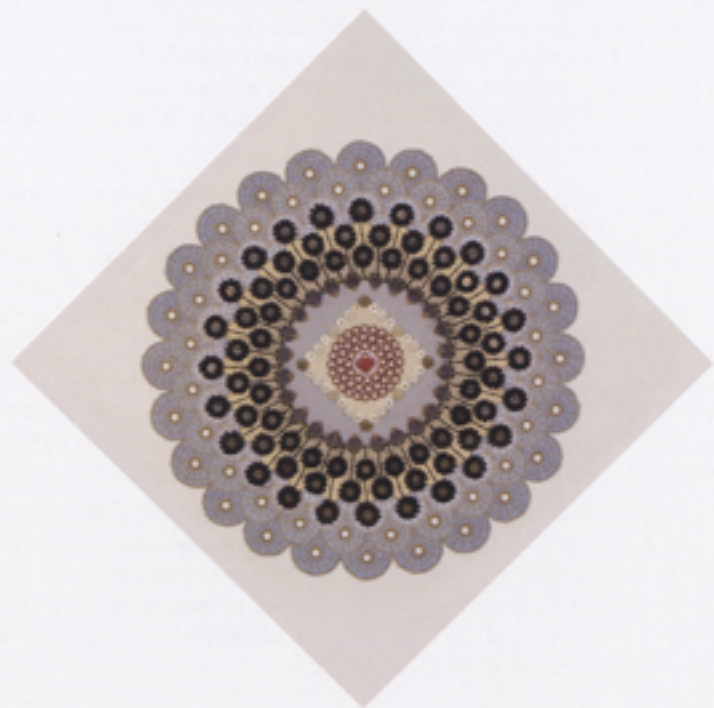
Edward M. Gómez

The Long Black Veil, 2003-8
rose petals, handmade rose beads, synthetic hair, guitar-string ball-ends, pennies, blue jeans, cotton fabric, rings, bone beads & buttons, garnets, synthetic pearls, & thread
27 x 27 inches

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April 23 – May 23, 2009

Opening reception: Thursday, April 23, 6-8pm



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