

TOUCHSTONEGALLERY

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November 3 – 25

"One House Project"

An installation created by Art Watch DC with the support of Touchstone Foundation for the Arts

Opening Reception: Friday, November 3, 6 – 8:30 pm

Artist Talk: Saturday, November 11, 2 - 4 pm

Workshop: Saturday, November 18, 1 - 3 pm

Conceived by Art Watch DC, a group initially convened by Elyn Weiss and Jackie Hoysted, the One House Project embodies both resistance to the subversion of democratic principles and the assertion of their importance. Over 220 DC area artists have come together to demonstrate the power of visual communication to support values such as tolerance and inclusion and to resist the efforts to divide us by race, gender, sexual preference, class or region. The overriding principle of One House is the vision for a country where we are united as one rather than divided; the artists aim to universalize this message by bringing it to a very personal level.

Each artist has created one 12" square panel commemorating an ancestor of theirs who came to this country, voluntarily or involuntarily, or was here prior to the landing of the Europeans. The panels cover a broad span of time, including ancestors who came on the Mayflower and artists who came themselves very recently, who used the square to tell their own story as newcomers to this country. A structure will be erected in the Touchstone Gallery and covered entirely with these panels, representing the remarkable range of diverse humanity who have combined to make the strength of America.

With the support of Touchstone Foundation for the Arts, The One House Project will be on display during the month of November at Touchstone Gallery. The show calls for viewers to engage with the house structure as a whole while identifying individual panels and cultural history each panel holds within. Audio and video recordings of the artists' stories will be included and the project will be documented in photographs. As many artists have come together to make the One House Project, it is their hope that Americans come together to embrace the power found in a united people.

A group of the artists and those who conceived the project will hold a discussion about it on Saturday, November 11, 2 - 4 pm.



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