

NEW YORK ART

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Julianne Swartz, 2012, *Alma's Blanket*, wire, speakers, electronics, 4 channel original soundtrack, 59 x 59 x 9 inches

Julianne Swartz

Critics' Pick

by Jerry Saltz

Josée Bienvenu

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Thru 6/23 Tue-Sat, 10am-6pm

Julianne Swartz is a sculpture whisperer. She simultaneously transforms the gallery into a sound garden, landscape of strangeness, and field of sensation. Using mainly magnets, teeny speakers that produce cricket-ish sounds, wooden rods, and cement embedded with flecks of mica or containing hidden tick-tocking clock movements, Swartz channels her inner John Cage. We get a Zen rush of wonder, noticing poles hovering in midair or leaning against but not touching walls, arrangements that turn into silicon-based families, chairs that balance against all odds. It all adds up to a quiet storm. — Jerry Saltz