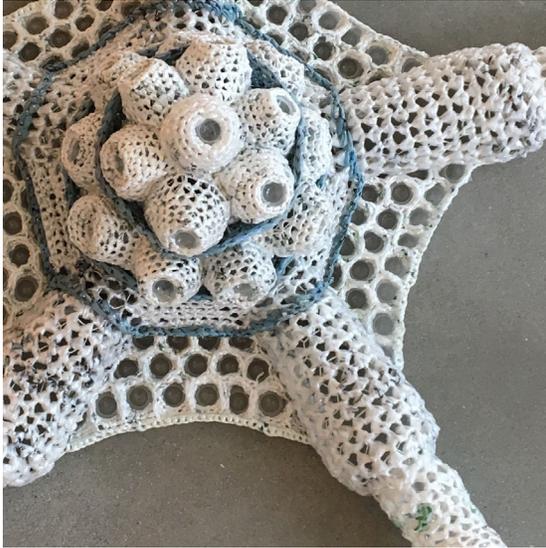


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Michelle Lougee: *ONCE*

February 24 – March 28, 2021

SoWa First Friday Reception

March 5, 5 – 8pm

Gallery Hours

Wednesday – Sunday, 11am – 5pm

People across the globe produce over 300 million tons of plastic a year. Half of this plastic is used only once and then heads for the world's oceans.

Single use plastic is transformed into meticulously crafted otherworldly sculpture in Michelle Lougee's installation *ONCE*, on view at Boston Sculptors Gallery February 24 to

March 28. Artist talks will be recorded and posted at bostonsculptors.com.

Bringing attention to discarded plastic remnants of human presence in nature, particularly life sustaining floating microcosms being choked out by plastic waste, *ONCE* features single use plastic formed into sculptural representations of marine phytoplankton. Inspired by the similarities in the shapes of some of the discarded plastics and marine organisms, the exhibition centers on a group of intricate, densely woven hanging sculptures, imagining an otherworldly sea of complicated yet familiar forms.

Lougee's discriminate collecting, sorting and transforming of accumulated plastic elements results in an obsessive, magical, Frankensteined dystopia. Her work is at once macro and micro. It beckons one to consider the scale of plastic pollution while forcing contemplation of usually unseen microscopic creatures essential to the food chain.

Lougee recently completed a year-long Public Art Residency with the town of Arlington, MA culminating in 37 sculptures installed along the Minuteman Bikeway on view until Fall 2021. She has an upcoming exhibition at Southern Vermont Art Center's Wilson Museum. In addition, she teaches at Lesley University College of Art and Design. Lougee resides with her family in Cambridge, MA and maintains a studio at Vernon Street Studios in Somerville, MA.

Michelle Lougee: *ONCE* runs concurrently with Laura Evans: *Hold In/Pour Forth*. All events are free and open to the public with COVID -19 precautions in place.

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