

ARLENE SHECHET
Out of the Blue

May 8 – June 19, 2004

Opening Reception: June 19, 5 - 7 pm

Shoshana Wayne Gallery is pleased to announce its second solo exhibition by Arlene Shechet entitled "Out of the Blue." Her work will occupy the entire gallery with over eighty works, including sculptures of cast crystal and works on paper.

Shechet's installation in the main gallery makes a powerful intervention into its large open space, using form and material to support the space with understated delicacy. Tough strands of rope, cast in the finest pale blue crystal, are used to "stitch" together the walls. Shechet illuminates the central void of the gallery and its emptiness, that in both Buddhist and Lacanian terms, can be understood as in itself being an object, or fullness. An oblique commentary on the subtext of our lives, these nearly liquid, light seeking arteries embrace and describe fragility and the eloquence of undoing and not knowing.

The adjacent gallery will hold blue and white paper works and unattached glass stackings. The freestanding glass pieces, initially inspired by the floor plans and structure of Buddhist *stupas* (temples), relate in both process and form to the central installation. The balancing of assembled parts creates, surrounds and acknowledges a precarious whole.

Arlene Shechet lives and works in New York. She recently had a solo exhibition at the Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle. In 2003 she exhibited a commissioned installation, called *Turning the Wheel*, as part of the Buddhism Project at Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, NY. In the coming months she will be included in exhibitions at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia and the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT. Her work is included in the public collections of the Brooklyn Museum, the Rhode Island School of Design, and the Edward Albee Foundation. Arlene Shechet is a 2004 Fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation. (

For more information, please contact Melissa Pellico at (310) 453-7535.