

486 Harrison Ave, Boston MA 02118 • 617.482.7781 www.bostonsculptors.com • bostonsculptors@gmail.com

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Carry, 2020, wood, waxed linen, ink, 67" x 24" x 14"

Julia Shepley: *Carry*March 30 – May 1, 2022

First Friday Reception April 1, 5 - 8:30pm

Artist's Reception Saturday, April 9, 3 - 5pm

Artist Meet & Greet April 16 & 24, 11 - 5pm

Gallery Hours Wednesday - Sunday, 11 - 5pm

Julia Shepley's exhibition *Carry* features a series of inventive open-framework wood sculptures which, in concert with their shadows, form an animated procession across the gallery walls. The exhibition also showcases new drawings and prints.

Long engaged with the effects of architecture and light on our collective unconscious, Shepley's work is informed by varying observational viewpoints, as well as the compressed, warped, or elongated shapes of shadows and reflections. Her sculpture and drawings embody a transformational process of constant movement and reassembly. *Carry*, a five-foot-long sculpture constructed of rhythmic hinged elements and cast shadows, conflates forms evocative of both ceremonial chair litters and medical stretchers.

The imagery in Shepley's drawings and prints is based on the artist's observations of architecture and stonework as reflected in pools of water and waterways. In these multi-layered works, Shepley often combines unexpected materials such as copper foil, wood veneer, and plastic vellum to extend her drawings beyond the picture plane into the gallery space.

There is a relevance to Shepley's imagery in this era of the pandemic, as people find themselves newly observant of their personal environments and the changes of light and space—stretching and retracting— as the days and seasons pass.

Julia Shepley has exhibited nationally and internationally, and her work is included in numerous public and private collections. Publications that have reviewed her work include: the Boston Globe, Sculpture Magazine, ArtScope, and Art New England. Shepley studied at Boston University and is a member of the Boston Printmakers and the Textile Study Group in New York City. She works at her studio at Brickbottom Artists Building in Somerville, MA.

Contact:

Almitra Stanley, Director

Almitra.stanley@gmail.com

Ph: 617.501.5600

BostonSculptors.com

Julia Shepley 617.628.7623 <u>irshepley@rcn.com</u> www.juliashepley.com

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