

## *Gods Eyes Opening*

by Alicia and Kate

Opening July 3, 2010 from 6-9pm

July 3 - August 10

nano gallery

May 26, 2010

For Immediate Release

The gods eye was born out of summer camp; and then again, at a Women's Creative Collective for change (WCC) meeting in Los Angeles. A young woman made one (or some) at summer camp, and it was now visible inside of a "care package". It was a gallon size Ziploc bag which contained items like soap, washcloth, toothbrush, bottle of water, granola bar, and the like. She had prepared the care package and brought it to the WCC holiday gift exchange so that someone else could give the care package to someone else. Amongst all of these items of practical import laid a god's eye.

In that moment, I remembered seeing God's eyes as Christmas ornaments. I recalled their shape. Specifically, I recalled the lines the yarn made as it wove around the sticks, and tried to remember how it all stayed so nicely together. I recalled the brand of yarn that is commonly used, Red Heart. So began my desire to make gods eyes...

In the winter of 2009, Kate and I learned to crochet together. And, since we both knew how to knit, there was already an exchange of yarn between us. In January, we crocheted a scarf together for our friend Peggy Pabustan- as a performance with her- in my living room. Around the same time, we were also planning a trip to the desert. There, we would each don the scarf we had made for our boyfriends, Nick and Chris, in a series of photographs. It would be cold in January at the desert, so bringing our scarves seemed like a reasonable thing to do. However, we decided to wear nothing else for the photographs.

I honestly can't really remember how the gods eyes began and the trajectory that caused their production. It evolved from so many hints in the moment, sparking an old familiar flame. For me the Gods eyes are historical- a personal history- shared with my mother and my childhood, Girl Scouts and Indian Princesses, nature and wanting to make something beautiful and ultimately share the beauty and knowledge with others.

The basic structure of a gods eye is that of a diamond, even and balanced on both sides. The more you make the more you realize how many variations can be woven into their structure. They seem to be designed to incorporate innumerable opportunities for play within the arrangement of sticks and yarn. Alicia likes to call them studies. Each one becomes a study for the next. Each is meticulously assembled to form a composition, much like a painting with different rules and materials.

So many pieces of life, natural and man-made, are woven in these eyes. For example: Lilac, Live Oak, Cyprus, Pear tree, Juniper, Bamboo and Redbud, Alpaca, sheep's wool, lamb's wool, acrylic, cotton, hemp, feather, seashell, plastic, ribbon, friendship bracelet, glass, seed, and crystal. The materials and colors are endless within a bound structure.

The ritual of making gods eyes over and over, wrapping the yarn around and around, again and again, no two sticks alike, no pieces of yarn alike, releases the freedom inherent in the structure. The color, variation, comparisons, and opportunities reveal personalities of the materials and the makers. And with that, innumerable gods begin to open their eyes...

See more projects by Alicia Borg and Kate Kendall at <http://www.AandK.us>

Nano Gallery is a gallery within a gallery, showcasing small artworks of all media (roughly 6" x 6" x 6" and smaller). Curator Jonny Coleman has asked a combination of artists both based locally and internationally to consider the limitations of size of their artwork and exhibition. CONTACT: Jonny Coleman ([director@gallerynano.com](mailto:director@gallerynano.com), 213.369.1125)

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