



April 24, 2006

Brooklyn Artists Embark On *Slow Revolution*

Artists in Brooklyn have been hard at work, trying to create more leisure time. NY1's Stephanie Simon filed the following report.

New Yorkers sure do move at a fast pace. What would happen if we slowed things down? What would everything look like? Feel like? Well the artists at the Rotunda gallery are trying to hold back the hands of time, slowing things down just a bit.

Artist Jill Auckenthaler re-imagined her palm pilot schedule as a watercolor.

"I blew up a lot of parts of my schedule and layered them on top of each other so you can sort of see the different routines and the ways that our lives get sort of chopped up into little bits," says Auckenthaler.

This exhibit's called *Slow Revolution*.

"These artists are doing work that's about slowing down and about kind of revolutionary spirit – going against the grain, the accelerated pace, the New York minute – they're trying to do the reverse, unwinding, relaxing," says curator Patrick Grenier.

"When hula hoop came to Japan for first time, Japanese police warned that the toy was too sexual and too dangerous to play in public space. So when I grow up, years after, there was no hula hoop," says artist Miho Suzuki.

To make up for lost time, Suzuki spent 6 months hula hooping just about anywhere she could find.

While at the exhibit, I called artist Nancy Hwang. Her piece involves a bright red phone which dials her cell phone number. So, she's using modern technology to make a good old fashioned human connection.

Nancy and I chatted about some of her other recent callers. Then I thought about adding the experience to a different interactive piece, by artist Bryony Romer called *What Happened Here*.

"I get interested in everyday places that you don't necessarily think about, like this gallery centuries ago was a farm where farmers grew strawberries which were prized in the region," says Romer.

Passers by can add their memories to the list of things that happened here. For example... oh, never mind, we're out of time.

***Slow Revolution* Now through May 13, 2006 INFO: www.rotundagallery.org.**

-- Stephanie Simon