

LigoranoReese

IAMI

November 8, 2014 – January 3, 2015

Join us for an opening with the artists
on Saturday, November 8
from 4:00-6:00 pm



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2014

Woven fiber optic thread, plexiglass, metal, custom
electronics and custom software

28 x 15 inches

San Francisco, CA: Catharine Clark Gallery will present a media room exhibition of *IAMI* by the artistic duo LigoranoReese. Working at the forefront of digital art, Nora Ligorano and Marshall Reese, who have collaborated as a team since the early 1980s, use unusual materials to make multiples, videos, sculptures and installations. This exhibit features *IAMI*: an interactive, fiber-optic tapestry self-portrait. The work dynamically departs from the established traditions of tapestry and portraiture through the artists' innovative use of personal data and information technology.

IAMI is constructed of a series of fiber optic panels woven on a hand-loom and attached to a custom-made, computer controlled lighting system, which displays information from the internet through the tapestry's fiber optic threads. This newest work is two self-portraits of Ligorano and Reese, sourcing the artists' individual personal data to create *IAMI*'s imagery. Private data from the couple's Fitbits feed the *IAMI* software, creating algorithms that generate constantly changing patterns of color and light.

While this particular iteration of the project are two portraits of the artists, the work is designed to be a commissionable work. Three times per day, *IAMI* contacts the "sitter" of the portrait by SMS or email with eleven questions which the sitter inputs using a mobile device. These responses are displayed as changing color fields. The choice of coloration for the fiber optic threads, drawn from Thai/Khmer colors of the day and Robert Plutchik's Wheel of Emotions, gives

viewers a blended sense of the day, types of activities and scale of emotions experienced by the sitter. The portrait is never static, but constantly changing over time with the subject. LigoranoReese draw inspiration from across disciplines and eras: traditional portraiture paintings such as Albrecht Dürer's *Adam and Eve* (1507); Josef Albers's innovations in color theory combined with Anni Albers's advances in weaving; and technological innovations exemplified by *Joseph-Marie Jacquard* (1752-1854), a fine woven silk La Memoire portrait, executed in 1839 on the programmable Jacquard loom by Didier, Petit et Cie, in Lyon, France. This is the first gallery presentation of *IAMI* which debuted at Miami Project art fair with Catharine Clark Gallery in 2013. *IAMI* unites the concerns of sculpture and painting with the art of tapestry and is a stunning exploration of data visualization and the use of information as a palette.

LigoranoReese | *IAMI*

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Saturday, November 8 : Opening reception with the artists 4:00 - 6:00 pm Artist walk-thru at 3:00 pm

This event is free and open to the public. Media inquiries contact Allison Stockman: marketing@cclarkgallery.com

*Please note: this exhibit will be closed during gallery winter holidays: 11/27 – 12/1, 2014 and 12/23 – 1/1, 2015

LigoranoReese is the collaboration of artists Nora Ligorano and Marshall Reese. Nora Ligorano is a visual artist and graduated with a BFA in painting from Maryland Institute, College of Art. In 1982, she was a Fulbright Fellow in Design Arts in Spain. Marshall Reese is a poet and video artist. In 1978, he received an NEA Creative Writers Fellowship for his poetry. He studied classical languages, classical art, and architecture at Pomona College in California. Beginning in the early 1980s, LigoranoReese's work has been an ongoing investigation into the impact of technology on society as well as into the effects that media has on the rhetoric of politics and visual culture. Their body of work is multidisciplinary and includes limited edition multiples, videos, sculptures, and installations which incorporate a range of unusual materials and industrial processes. Having exhibited widely throughout their prolific career, LigoranoReese most recently displayed ice sculpture installations, *The Dawn of the Anthropocene* and *Morning In America*, at public locations in New York, North Carolina and Florida. In addition, their solo exhibitions include *50 Different Minds* (which debuted at the Zero1 Biennial in 2010) at the Portland Art Museum in Portland, Oregon and *If You Lived Here* at the Massachusetts College of Arts in Boston, Massachusetts in 2012. LigoranoReese's work can be found in prominent private collections, as well as the permanent collections of numerous institutions, including the SFMOMA, The New York Public Library, the Whitney Museum of American Art, 21C Museum, University of Wyoming, and The Getty Institute. LigoranoReese live and work in Brooklyn, New York and have been affiliated with Catharine Clark Gallery since 2010.