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*"less like a box than a balloon",
plastic bags and wood,
9"×15"×5", 2013*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 1, 2013

Michelle Lougee: *Cell by Cell*

November 13, 2013 - December 15, 2013

Artist Reception: Saturday November 16, 3 – 5 pm

First Friday Reception: December 6, 5 – 8 pm

SOWA Holiday Stroll:

December 11, 4 – 8 pm, Artist talks at 7 pm

Gallery Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 12 pm – 6 pm

Boston, MA: In *Cell by Cell*, Michelle Lougee works in her favored materials: clay and crocheted plastic bags. The work explores the intersection of art and science, and the interconnectedness and pattern in nature. Lougee's work confronts and questions environmental impact through material and subject.

Lougee's *Cells* began as a kind of 'clay journal' connecting sources of inspiration. "After visiting a cancer research lab and looking at HeLa cells under the microscope" the artist states, "I began to work with cell imagery. As one piece led to another the inspiration for 'cells' range from blood cells, phytoplankton, fossils, vegetation and many other biological references."

Other pieces in the exhibit have grown out of this journaling practice. A large piece reminiscent of honeycomb inhabits one wall, each cell glowing warmly. Nearby, crocheted cocoon-nests hang from tree limbs. Nature abounds in this show, but it is nature with a twist. Each very natural looking piece is made from recycled plastic bags.

Michelle Lougee is an environmental artist, sculptor and ceramicist. In spring 2014, her work will be exhibited in *Ovid's Girls Overlaps & Undercurrents-Boston/Berlin*. Her artwork has also been shown in exhibits at many New England museums, including Chesterwood, Peabody Essex Museum, Fitchburg Art Museum, Danforth Museum and the Art Complex Museum. She holds a M.F.A. and a B.F.A. from Boston University and lives in Cambridge.

Michelle Lougee's work will be shown concurrently with **Nora Valdez: *Endless Journey***

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