

# FLASHPOINT

A CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION PROJECT

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## The Gallery at Flashpoint Presents



### Ami Martin Wilber: *gestation*

June 11 – July 18, 2009

Opening reception: Thursday, June 11, 6-8pm

**Washington, DC** – Ami Martin Wilber creates a visual and visceral landscape in her new site-specific installation, *gestation*, opening June 11, 2009 at the Gallery at Flashpoint. *gestation* incorporates 100 ovoid alabaster forms, roughly 5 x 3 inches each, created over the course of 273 days, the human gestation period. The artist will install the diminutive works directly on the floor of the gallery, asking the viewer to crouch, move and bend in order to see the work closely.

The luminous alabaster forms were each carved and sanded by hand. The arduous and time-intensive aspect of the work underscores Wilber's interest in repetitive process. Wilber is as interested in process and endurance as she is in creating the resultant art-object. Like Wilber's previous work, there is an underlying tension between intuitive order and organic imperfection, sentimentality and logic. While the work reflects an obsessive, even mechanical, sense of process and precision, slight irregularities in shape and size emerge from the imperfections in natural materials.

*gestation* marks Wilber's second solo exhibition at the Gallery at Flashpoint. In 2004, Wilber's *Contained Existence*, also featured 100 sculptures, but focused on man-made materials such as steel, poured rubber and glass beakers.

#### **ABOUT THE ARTIST**

Wilber has received an Artist Fellowship and additional grants from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, as well as grants from the National Endowment for the Arts. In addition to exhibiting in

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Washington, Wilber has also exhibited in Boston, Chicago, Pittsburgh, New Haven, and Italy. She earned a Master of Fine Arts in sculpture from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

### **ABOUT THE GALLERY AT FLASHPOINT PROGRAM**

The Gallery at Flashpoint is dedicated to nurturing artists, expanding their visibility and encouraging dialogue between artists and arts patrons. As a nonprofit gallery, Flashpoint provides a special opportunity for artists and curators to present new media, site-specific installations, performance pieces and other experimental forms free from the constraints of commercial expectations. An advisory panel of noted artists and arts professionals oversees the programming for the gallery and provides mentorship and support to exhibiting artists. The Gallery at Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is sponsored by Michael Abrams, the Abrams Family Foundation, the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities and Tim Hyde. Additional support is provided by the Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, The Community Foundation for the National Capital Region, the MARPAT Foundation, the Eugene & Agnes E. Meyer Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, Prince Charitable Trusts, the Summit Fund and many other sponsors. Hotel Helix is Flashpoint's 2008-2009 Hotel Partner. Barefoot Wine is Flashpoint's 2008-2009 Wine Partner.

### **ABOUT FLASHPOINT**

Flashpoint, a Cultural Development Corporation project, is a non-profit, multi-disciplinary arts space dedicated to nurturing emerging artists and cultural organizations in order to build their professional capacity. Flashpoint provides services and training for cultural organizations to help strengthen their management capacity and offers exhibit and performance spaces that enable arts groups to focus on their artistic goals and expand their visibility. Flashpoint includes a contemporary art gallery, the 75-seat Mead Theatre Lab, the Coors Dance Studio and shared office space for arts organizations.

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**Opening Reception:** Thursday, June 11: 6-8pm

**Exhibition:** June 11 – July 18, 2009

**Gallery Hours:** Tuesday – Saturday, 12-6 pm or by appointment

**For more information:** Call 202.315.1310 or visit [flashpointdc.org](http://flashpointdc.org)

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