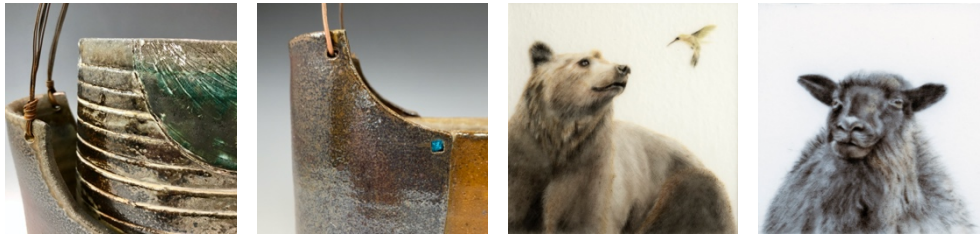


## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bethlehem, NH

### The Gallery at WREN Explores the Dynamics of Relationships with Latest Exhibition, *Gathering* October 30 – November 30, 2020



Left: Sarah Burns, Right: Gretchen Woodman

The Gallery at WREN opens **Gathering**, a new exhibition featuring the work of potter Sarah Burns and artist Gretchen Woodman. **Gathering** explores the dynamic relationships we have between both objects and other living beings. The combination of the 3-dimensional works of Burns and Woodman's animal-inspired drawings and paintings allows viewers to explore and reflect on how we integrate and utilize the bonds that relationships create.

"I find the idea of the clay basket as a metaphor for gathering my personal thoughts and feelings... I love to see my audience come up with their own creative interpretations as they find function within these baskets," explains Sarah Burns of her works for this show.

Gretchen Woodman created a collection of small animal portraits such as bear, sheep, and deer to be displayed during this exhibition. She believes that "by fostering a caring attitude towards all living beings, we connect more closely to our earth and each other."

Sarah Burns has lived and worked in the Lakes Region of New Hampshire for the last 20 years. She was first introduced to clay in college and then went on to work in several clay studios. Sarah began teaching and sharing her love of clay in several community-based schools, institutions, and her own studio. Sarah became a juried member of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen in 2003, where she has exhibited and collaborated with other artists. She has exhibited locally and nationally throughout her career. Her love of architectural forms, both in nature and human-made, has influenced the design of her functional ceramics, helping her

push the conversation of living with sculptural and functional vessels. She is currently working with stoneware and local clays and chooses wood and soda fired kilns to finish her forms.

Gretchen Woodman creates drawings, paintings, and mixed media work to explore the enigma of the human-animal relationship. She spent her childhood wandering the woods behind her home in New Hampshire, collecting feathers, twigs, nuts, and glimpses of animals. At home, her collections became the subject of sketches and drawings. Her favorite medium to date is graphite and pastel powder on various surfaces. The application of powders creates subtle value and color shifts that effectively express the mystery and softness of her animal subjects. Gretchen also experiments with fabric and movement as an exploration of animals in space. Her travels to other states and countries have given her opportunities to experience exotic animals and environments while building her personal archive of photographic references for future work.

**Gathering** will be on display at The Gallery at WREN on 2013 Main Street in Bethlehem, NH from October 30 – November 30. The Gallery at WREN is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 11am – 5pm, and closed on Wednesdays and Sundays. The Gallery at WREN shares a space with the Local Works Marketplace at WREN, a retail store that sells the work of over 75 local artists. To learn more about The Gallery at WREN and the Local Works Marketplace, visit [www.wrenworks.org](http://www.wrenworks.org).