



Photo by Marc Piscotty. Courtesy of the Denver Art Museum.

Shinique Smith

United States

Shinique Smith crosses the line between street art and high art with her mixed-media pieces. She focuses on the consumption of human beings and how many cultures overuse and are wasteful. Using discarded objects, Smith has brought to light the urban habit of overconsumption.

Artist Profile:

Smith was born in 1971 and grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. She experimented with graffiti art at a young age, identifying with the youth culture of the time. After high school, she attended the Maryland Institute College of Art and studied Japanese calligraphy, which would influence her later work. Smith received her MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2003. She now lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

Past projects include an installation at the National Portrait Gallery titled *No Thief to Blame* that mixed found objects, an old Tupac Shakur t-shirt and swoops and letters rooted in both graffiti and calligraphy. She has also participated in exhibitions at the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York, P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center, New York, and the Studio Museum in Harlem. Smith is represented by the Yvon Lambert Gallery in New York.

Patrons:

Arlene and Barry Hirschfeld; Sarah Lonsdale and Jim Taylor

Installation Location:

For *Embrace!* Smith will create an installation in the tall area outside the entrance of the second-level Anschutz Gallery from garments, wire, spray paint and other found objects collected from museum volunteers and docents.

Previous Work:



L to R: *Favorite of the Gods*, 2008, Shinique Smith. Ink, acrylic, fabric, urban debris, feathers and collage on canvas over wood, 2 panels, 96 x 120 x 3 in. overall. © Shinique Smith. Courtesy of the artist and Yvon Lambert Paris, New York. Photo: Stephen Brayne. And, *she has a bowl of lilacs in her room*, 2008. Courtesy of the artist and Yvon Lambert Paris, New York. Photo: Kathryn Hillier.