

THE GAME OF LIFE

Leah Hardy

Bodhisattva's Dream

Pierced, etched and fabricated brass and copper; patina, gouache, mylar, micro LED lights

Statement

Bodhisattva's Dream was inspired by a metaphorical “game of life”, one in which involves acknowledging the various stages of growth, transformation and insight attained throughout life. Structurally the book echoes a “tunnel book” or “peepshow book” which was based on theatrical stage sets dating from the 18th century. The architectural context sets a stage for and invites the viewer to intimately connect with the narrative. The illustrated layers lead the eye back into a surreal and fantastic garden filled with lush flora and luna moths which play host to a new human life.

Biography

Leah completed a BFA at the University of Kansas, in 1987, including a year abroad at Howard Gardens Art School in Cardiff, Wales, UK (1986-87). She earned her MFA from the University of Indiana, Bloomington, in 1990.

Exhibited nationally and internationally, Hardy's intimately scaled mixed media sculptural works have won numerous awards and have been included in books and periodicals. Currently a Professor of Art at the University of Wyoming, Hardy heads the Metalsmithing Program. She has conducted research in North India on traditional metalsmithing techniques and will return to Australia in 2017 to head a collaborative project with metalsmiths beginning with a week-long camel trek in South Australia. Hardy lives in Laramie, Wyoming, with her artist husband, Mark Ritchie, and son, Ky, along with two horses, one dog, three cats, and six fish.

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