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For Immediate Release

Anne Percoco, *Field Studies*

June 22 – July 16, 2011

Opening Reception: Thursday, June 23

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

BROOKLYN, NY June 2011 – A.I.R. Gallery is pleased to announce *Field Studies*, an exhibition of new work by 2010-2011 A.I.R. Fellowship Artist Anne Percoco. The opening reception will be held on Thursday, June 23, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.



In her first solo exhibition in New York, Percoco aggregates found representations of nature to create composite landscapes and faux natural formations. She also presents plans for a related public project.

In *Field Studies*, a central fabric sculpture mimics a heap of autumn leaves. The leaves have been gathered from printed fabrics of diverse textures, colors, and graphic styles, celebrating the use of nature as a decorative motif. This over-sized beanbag chair functions both as a nest in which one can immerse oneself in fake foliage and as seating for gallery visitors.

In addition, Percoco cut hundreds of images of trees from New York area phone books ads and assembled them into landscape collages. These forested vistas can be seen as subliminal natural landscapes of New York. That the phone books are themselves made from trees unites image with substance, or representation with presentation. Although the graphic style of the trees runs the gamut from color photographs to black and white cartoons, the collages are unified by a consistent horizon and a sense of depth. Percoco uses a shifting perspective to describe the changing viewpoint we experience while moving through a landscape.

Finally, a digital slideshow showcases Percoco's plans for actual movement through a New York landscape. In a public workshop at the Gowanus Studio Space this summer, participants will construct a collaborative waterborne shrine dedicated to the heavily polluted Gowanus Canal. This gesture inverts the idea of a pilgrimage: the shrine itself will travel, not just the pilgrims. This project builds upon her past work in which shrines function as focal points in a landscape and as magnets for attention and environmental remediation.

Anne Percoco earned her B.A. from Drew University in 2005 and her M.F.A. from Rutgers University in 2008. In 2009 she completed an Asian Cultural Council fellowship for work in India. There, she realized one solo show, at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath College of Art in Bangalore, plus three public projects. In 2010 she was artist-in-residence with Residency Unlimited. She has shown at venues including the DUMBO Arts Festival and BRIC Rotunda Gallery, both in Brooklyn; the Arlington Arts Center in Arlington, VA; Exit Art and EFA Project Space in Manhattan; and the U.S. Botanical Garden in Washington D.C. She lives and works in Jersey City. For more information, please visit www.annepercoco.com.

A.I.R. Gallery is located at 111 Front Street, #228 in the DUMBO neighborhood of Brooklyn. Wheel chair accessibility is on 55 Washington Street. Gallery hours: Wednesday to Sunday, 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. For directions, please visit www.airgallery.org. For more information, please contact Gallery Director Kat Griefen at 212-255-6651 or kgriefen@airgallery.org.

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