

## Exhibition Highlight

## NEWS



*Nest Egg* (detail), 2013, Altered commemorative plates, gold leaf

As you make your plans for this weekend's [Gallery Night and Day](#), be sure to visit the Haggerty for one last look at *Nest Egg* by [Pfister Artist in Residence](#) Niki Johnson.

*I see this piece as an embodiment of the human desire to nest and place our experiences within the context of a natural world. As humans, we instill our legacies by passing on material items, traditions and stories. Ownership of objects, like lives, pass on. Heirloom objects such as plates connect communities of people together through ritual, tradition and touch.*

*The imagery in the second ring of plates features silhouettes of birds nesting, mating, grouping and migrating. I chose to alter those plates as a way to tease out the romantic overlay of life cycle behaviors that wild life commemoratives such as these encourage within a domestic setting.*

*The plates that comprise this piece were found in local thrift shops, a place that a majority of commemorative objects go to when the resonance of their message wanes, or they lose their original owners. This piece unites several incomplete sets of both practical and ornamental plates into one piece, making whole that which was once orphaned.*

The work is on view as part of the exhibition *Aesthetic Afterlife* curated by Claudia Mooney of The Chipstone Foundation. *Aesthetic Afterlife*, *The Print Room*, and *Scrutiny After The Glimpse* remain open through August 3.



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**Our mailing address is:**

Marquette University  
Haggerty Museum of Art  
P. O. Box 1881  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881

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