



AQUARIUM GALLERY

Jaye Schlesinger

(Ann Arbor, MI)

Day by Day

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

During the pandemic, I often heard people say that they felt as though every day was the same as the previous one. What can we learn from doing the same thing every day? To answer the question I designed a grid-based piece of artwork, based on a set of repeated daily marks, that would result in a larger statement about the feelings associated with structure and repetition.

Each drawing is composed of one specific shape repeated 144 times in a grid pattern. I began each day in my studio by drawing one of each of the nine shapes, trying to exactly reproduce the first one at the top left of each page, . As the pages became more filled, overall patterns emerged. Small irregularities appeared, in the spaces between the shapes, in the lightness or darkness of the pencil, and in the degree of precision. Though I was striving for sameness, and working hard to diligently reproduce the original shape on each page, unpredictable deviations from what could have been a more mechanical consistency naturally happened. The result of practicing sameness was a heightened awareness of nuance and an appreciation of differentness.

ARTIST BIO:

Jaye Schlesinger is a visual artist living in Ann Arbor, Michigan, creating paintings and drawings which explore both the observable world and her response to current political and social issues. She has previously worked as a medical illustrator, drawing professor, graphic artist, museum exhibit designer, and furniture maker. She exhibits extensively in solo and group shows and has won numerous awards, including a Pollock/Krasner Foundation Grant and finalist for the Alexander Rutsch Award. Her work appears in many publications and she has been selected as artist-in-residence in programs throughout the United States.

For more information about the artist, visit her website – www.jayeschlesinger.com

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