

Hungry Purse

An installation by Allyson Mitchell
September 28, 2007 to March 16, 2008

TORONTO – August, 2007. *Hungry Purse: the vagina dentata in late capitalism (2006-07)* is a labour intensive, room-sized installation that plays with colour and design, consumption and sexuality. Its fundamental concept, *vagina dentata*, represents some of our most profound individual and collective fears. From floor to ceiling this installation will at once comfort and cocoon, with large pink pillows and soft carpeting, while at the same time create feelings of unease as visitors confront fears of claustrophobia, mortality and voracious appetites.

In this installation, Mitchell uses found textiles and handicrafts to erect an “other” space from which the *vagina dentata* can be considered, accepted and literally “moved through.” The sexuality and gender politics that underscores much of Mitchell’s work will also be seen and explored in this walk-in installation, *Hungry Purse: the vagina dentata in late capitalism (2006-07)*.

About the Artist:

Allyson Mitchell is a maximalist artist working predominantly in sculpture, installation and film. Since 1997, Mitchell has been melding feminism and pop culture to play with contemporary ideas about sexuality, autobiography, and the body, largely through the use of reclaimed textile and abandoned craft. Her work has exhibited in galleries and festivals across Canada, the US, Europe and East Asia. She has also performed extensively with Pretty Porky and Pissed Off, a fat performance troupe, as well as publishing both writing and music. She recently completed her PhD in Women's Studies at York University, where she also teaches cultural studies.

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For additional information, interviews or images:

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Museum Hours

Open 7 days a week 11 am – 5 pm
Wednesdays 11 am – 8 pm



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