

For Immediate Release  
December 1, 2020

Contact: **Lauren Tucci- Gallery Director**  
E: [lauren@gildedpeargallery.com](mailto:lauren@gildedpeargallery.com)  
P: 319-366-0205 (Mon- Fri: 10am-5pm)

---



1.

1. Mary Zeran *Good Stuff*. Acrylic, duralar on paper. 12" x 12"



2.

2. Mary Zeran *Decisions are Difficult..* Acrylic, duralar on paper. 26" x 40"

### ***Mission Happiness***

Exhibit Dates: December 11, 2020-January 23, 2021

Virtual Reception with Mary Zeran: December 11, starting at 5:30pm CST. RSVP for the link to participate.

### **Gilded Pear Gallery**

808 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403  
(319)-366-0205

## **MISSION HAPPINESS**

### **Description:**

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.— Gilded Pear Gallery is pleased to present *Mission Happiness*, a solo exhibition of new and archive artworks by Cedar Rapids artist, Mary Zeran.

Mary Zeran received her B.F.A and M.F.A from University of Iowa. She was born in Iowa City in 1964 and now lives and works in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. She is the recipient of several awards and honors and her works are in numerous public and private collections as well as many notable corporate collections. Her collage works have been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in galleries and museums throughout the United States and abroad. Museum collections include The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY, and Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids IA. She has been reviewed in The Art Examiner, Seattle Post Intelligencer, Artweek, and Kolaj Magazine.

About the show:

“Ten years ago, I ran...not walked, out of a full-time job to become a professional artist. Impulsive? Yes. But it had to be done. Call it fleeing for my life. Call it a mission of the soul. I just knew if I didn't run at that time, I'd be stuck for the rest of my life,” says Zeran. *Mission Happiness* brings together new artworks created during the pandemic as well as works from her



archives. “Living through a pandemic, I’ve discovered, is absolutely terrifying. I made the prints in this show during the first “lockdown” earlier this year. It seemed like the only way I could exercise my fear was to work quickly.... This performative exercise to keep my mind focused on artmaking, instead of the uncertainty COVID-19 imposed, became a beautiful distraction, and reenergized the way I create. Being able to pair early works that were created at the beginning of my professional journey with the newly introduced prints feels like the perfect way to commemorate my ten-year celebration as a career artist.”

Gilded Pear Gallery is located at 808 Third Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, IA 52403. For hours and more information visit <http://www.gildedpeargallery.com>—or- call: 319-366-0205

**Gallery operations during the COVID-19 pandemic:**

Private viewing appointments can be made by contacting the gallery via email or phone. Appointment hours during this time are Monday-Friday 10:00am-5:00pm, Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm, and CLOSED on Sunday. **The gallery requires that all persons arriving for their scheduled appointments be masked.** A limited parking lot is available with 1 handicap space. On street parking is available on 3<sup>rd</sup> avenue and 8<sup>th</sup> street- non-metered. The MedQuarter features protected bike lanes and bicycle “parking” can be found on the opposite side of the building by the Pocket Park on 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. **There is no admission fee for private viewings or virtual reception.**