

**MONIKA GRZYMALA TO CREATE LARGE-SCALE WORK AT
THE MORGAN THIS SUMMER AS THE MUSEUM CONTINUES
ITS ANNUAL SCULPTURE SERIES**

Monika Grzymala, Volumen
July 19–November 3, 2013



Detail from *The River*, a collaborative installation with Euraba Aboriginal Artists at the 18th Biennale of Sydney, 2012
© Monika Grzymala

New York, NY, May 29, 2013—Monika Grzymala, the Berlin-based artist celebrated for her site-specific works that are grounded in drawing but expand into three dimensions, will create a large-scale installation at the Morgan Library & Museum this summer. Titled *Volumen*, the work will be composed of thousands of sheets of handmade paper, some of them printed with images of autograph manuscripts from the Morgan’s collection, connected with bookbinding yarn and suspended from the ceiling of the museum’s Gilbert Court. The work will be on view from July 19 to November 3, and continues the Morgan’s annual series of installations of contemporary sculpture.

According to the artist, *Volumen* is a visual celebration of paper as a vehicle employed by artists, writers, and composers for creative expression. The title alludes not only to the large size of the work but also—

through the word *lumen*—to the flux of light that will change the work’s appearance throughout the day in the glass-enclosed, 50-foot-high Court. The installation is the fourth in the Morgan’s summer sculpture series which began in 2010. Previous artists have included Mark di Suvero, Xu Bing, and Ellsworth Kelly.

Working from the basket of a lift, Grzymala will attach the strings of sheets of paper to a nearly invisible net of monofilament line hanging from the ceiling. The work will include five thousand irregular white sheets of paper handmade by the artist with mulberry fiber in her Berlin studio, three thousand of which will be blank, and two thousand of which will reproduce autograph manuscripts in a variety of languages. Once finished with the week-long process, the artist will pull the strings of paper diagonally towards the south side of the Court, where the entrance to Pierpont Morgan’s iconic 1906 library is located. The pages that reproduce manuscripts in the Morgan’s collection will be concentrated near the library, gradually blending with the blank sheets of paper, creating a sculptural volume totaling one thousand cubic meters or 36,615 cubic feet.

“The Morgan’s series of summertime installations of contemporary sculpture has become a highlight of the season,” said William M. Griswold, director of the museum. “Begun four years ago, it has added an exciting element to the visitor experience in Gilbert Court. The Morgan is delighted to have Monika Grzymala continue the series, particularly since her paper installations are noted for their creative response to architecture and space.”



The River II, an installation at FRAC Lorraine, Metz, France, 2013
© Monika Grzymala

MONIKA GRZYMALA

Berlin-based Monika Grzymala (German, b. 1970 in Poland) describes herself as an artist who draws in three dimensions, and defines drawing itself as a thought guided by the hand. The artist works with ephemeral materials—including tape, handmade paper, and objects found locally—to create site-specific, temporary, and ephemeral “architectural interventions” based on the vocabulary of line.



The artist making Washi paper for *Monika Grzymala, Volumen*
© Monika Grzymala

Monika Grzymala has participated in many international group exhibitions, including *On Line: Drawing Through the Twentieth Century* at the Museum of Modern Art, New York in 2010. Her solo exhibitions and site-specific projects have taken place throughout Europe, Japan, Australia, Canada, and the United States.

Between 2008 and 2010 Grzymala created two large-scale installations with handmade Washi paper titled *Up*

There Up Here for a private residence in Manhattan. She will soon begin work on another site-specific commission, a sculpture garden for the rooftop of the Woodner Company building in New York City.

The River, Grzymala's project for the 18th Biennale of Sydney in 2012, and *The River II*, currently part of a group exhibition *49 Nord 6 Est* at the FRAC Lorraine in Metz, France, bear resemblance to her upcoming installation at the Morgan. *The River* was created primarily from cotton rag paper made by Euraba Aboriginal Artists and Papermakers in Boggabilla, a community of women at the border of NSW and Queensland / Australia.

PUBLIC PROGRAM

Artist Talk
Monika Grzymala
Friday, July 19, 7 pm

Monika Grzymala will discuss her installation and creative process with Isabelle Dervaux, Acquavella Curator of Modern and Contemporary Drawings.

Free; Advance reservation suggested.
tickets@themorgan.org; 212-685-0008 x560

ORGANIZATION AND SPONSORSHIP

Monika Grzymala, *Volumen* is curated by Isabelle Dervaux, Acquavella Curator of Modern and Contemporary Drawings at the Morgan Library & Museum.

This exhibition is made possible by Dian Woodner, and by a generous donation from Susanna and Livio Borghese, in honor of Parker Gilbert and in appreciation of his many contributions to the Morgan Library & Museum.



The programs of The Morgan Library & Museum are made possible with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

The Morgan Library & Museum

The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today, more than a century after its founding in 1906, the Morgan serves as a museum, independent research library, musical venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. In October 2010, the Morgan completed the first-ever restoration of its original McKim building, Pierpont Morgan's private library, and the core of the institution. In tandem with the 2006 expansion project by architect Renzo Piano, the Morgan now provides visitors unprecedented access to its world-renowned collections of drawings, literary and historical manuscripts, musical scores, medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, printed books, and ancient Near Eastern seals and tablets.

General Information

The Morgan Library & Museum

225 Madison Avenue, at 36th Street, New York, NY 10016-3405

212.685.0008

www.themorgan.org

Just a short walk from Grand Central and Penn Station

Hours

Tuesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; extended Friday hours, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Mondays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. The Morgan closes at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Admission

\$15 for adults; \$10 for students, seniors (65 and over), and children (under 16); free to Members and children 12 and under accompanied by an adult. Admission is free on Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is not required to visit the Morgan Shop.