



Sharon Louden Brings Bling to Asheville

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by Crystal Woods Moore

It has been my great honor to have been selected to apprentice with Sharon Louden, installation artist from New York. The opportunity to watch her process as the installation *Community at the Asheville Art Museum* was perhaps the most beneficial experience I have had in training for the art world. She is both passionate and methodical in her work with a specific vision in mind. With guidance the team of apprentices assisted Sharon to bring her vision to life. The installation has taken on a life of its own. At first glance it has the appearance of a sea of diamonds full of movement and reflection.

Sharon not only utilized our assistance, but took the time to field questions we had as well. She wanted us to come away from the experience with as much knowledge as she could pass along in a two week time period. That was perhaps the most pleasant surprise of my two week apprenticeship. I feel that I have been given a rare and special gift that will enable my career as an artist to become a success.

I would like to thank the Asheville Art Museum for allowing Sharon Louden to come to Asheville and work her magic affording me the opportunity of a lifetime. My most heartfelt thanks go to Sharon and Vinson Valega for sharing of themselves and their time. Let the magic continue.