

Sharon Loudon: *Barriers to Entry*

signs and symbols is pleased to present *Barriers to Entry*, a site-specific installation comprising raw aluminum, vinyl and works on paper by New York-based artist **Sharon Loudon**. Known for her practice that encompasses both minimalist paintings and immersive installations, Loudon has developed a distinct formal language that examines the infinite compositions and possibilities proposed by basic elements of line and color. Her installations further incorporate reflective materials which playfully expand and alter the viewer's perception of space. Continuing this line of inquiry, this third iteration of *Barriers to Entry* is not a static environment but one built through interaction, where reflections and vantage points create a multitude of unique experiences.

“Loudon emphasizes the interdependence of everyone involved in the creation process. As visitors glimpse themselves reflected in the material, they become part of the sculpture. The twisting aluminum sheets create an optical illusion that distorts image and direction. As the sheets bend and crisscross each other, they fragment the space and turn it upside down, encouraging shifts in perspective. Viewers help animate the installation through their own movements, since no two viewing angles are alike.”

— Avery Glassman, Curator, Breck Create, Breckenridge, CO

Like these installations, her works on paper, also entitled, *Barriers to Entry*, symbolize spaces made difficult to enter, especially to women and other under-represented individuals. Implying movement, the geometric, transparent, layered forms build walls with few spaces to enter. Just as places far reaching can be attractive, the bright, strong, forward colors may give an impression of joyfulness, and yet, they are impassable obstacles.