

# 'Playful' exhibit at Space gallery

## Brazilian artist's works collected by Linda Pace

By **Elda Silva**  
STAFF WRITER

Linda Pace acquired "Secondary Stories," an installation by Brazilian artist Rivane Neuenschwander, in 2006.

The Linda Pace Foundation didn't have anywhere to show the room-sized piece, however, until it opened Space, a gallery in the late artist and art patron's former studio in Chrispark.

Now on view, the kinetic installation consists of a back-lit dropped ceiling made of sheets of corrugated plastic. Large, circular pieces of confetti can be seen through the translucent material, sliding across the surface or swirling in flurries, propelled by oscillating fans. Occasionally a piece will escape through one of four holes in the ceiling and waft to the floor where it may — or may not — be shuffled around by people moving through the gallery.

"'Secondary Stories' is fundamentally an existential rumination on what could be the difference between accident, change or contingency," said the artist via email. "How do we play a role in the constellation of things, how do we deal with chance and control and so on?"

Pace saw the installation when it debuted at Tanya Bonakdar Gallery in New York and bought it at that time, said Kelly O'Connor, collections and exhibitions officer for the foundation.

"I feel this installation really shows Linda's



Photos courtesy the Linda Pace Foundation

Detail from "Secondary Stories," which is on display at SPACE gallery.



Ants gather confetti from Carnival in "Quarta-Feira de Cinza/Epilogue," a film by Neuenschwander and Cao Guimaraes.

commitment to contemporary art," she said. "Essentially, acquiring this piece you are just given a certificate of authenticity. You have to build the piece and get all the materials and everything."

In addition to "Secondary Stories," the exhibit features a video installation and photographs by Neuenschwander also purchased by Pace.

"Some people go in and buy an exhibition in an art fair," O'Connor said. "Linda followed Rivane throughout her career and collected these works at different times."

Neuenschwander, who graduated from the Federal University of Minas

Geraias in Brazil in 1993 and earned a master's degree at the Royal College of Art in London in 1998, is known for ephemeral works that explore language, nature, social interactions and the passing of time. O'Connor describes her work as "playful and experimental."

The confetti in "Secondary Stories" is a reference to Carnival, the annual Brazilian street festival that begins the Friday before the start of Lent. To Neuenschwander, the material "implies impulsive, random and unpredictable gestures." In "Quarta-Feira de Cinzas/Epilogue" ("Ash Wednesday/Epilogue"), a film she made in collab-

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**Video:** Kelly O'Connor of the Linda Pace Foundation talks about "Secondary Stories."

oration with Cao Guimaraes, ants busily collect the colorful bits of paper left behind by revelers at the end of the celebration.

"It seems that they want to clean or reorganize the party leftovers, loading the paper circles to their nest," Neuenschwander said. "Or who knows, maybe they have been just gathering, under the earth, fragments of what will be the beginning of their revelry?"

The video installation is one of three that will play throughout the exhibition. The photographic series "Accidental Alphabet" and "Belongs Does Not Belong" round out the exhibition. The former is images of letters found in the urban landscape, and the latter is images of three beetles with soap bubbles.

"I'm really just so happy with the exhibition because I feel like it's going to appeal to all ages," O'Connor said. "I think scholars can appreciate it, but also children have been super intrigued. I think that Rivane is interested in that innocent response, visceral response."

"Secondary Stories" continues through July 29, 2017 at Space, 111 Camp St., 210-227-8400, [lindapace-foundation.org](http://lindapace-foundation.org).

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Brazilian artist Rivane Neuenschwander in her studio.



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