

Linda Hoffman
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Artist Statement:

An old orchard becomes Orchard Way with twenty duplexes — a farm turns into Rolling Meadows, a new sub-division. The New England landscape is changing. Forests are easier to protect, but to conserve farmland, you need farmers. I put a notice in the local paper asking for contributions of old tools to make an artwork about the disappearance of farmland. People were generous.

I made my first series of wall assemblages with the gifts of old tools – **The Agricultural Tool Series**, fourteen sculptures and poems. A year later, I created another series, **Fragments of the Heart**. Then I moved to a small farm in Harvard, Massachusetts with an abandoned orchard. Here I found old tools everywhere and in 2004, **A Circus Comes to Fruitlands** opened at Fruitlands Museum, 24 sculptures each a circus act: the juggler, a dancing bear, the tightrope walker, Sweet Hay the Clown, all made with old agricultural tools.

Four Seasons is a more recent project, an homage to farm in Concord, MA. The 'second hand' objects in these panels were gifts from the six-generation farmer.

Biography:

Linda Hoffman is an artist, writer, and orchardist. Author of **The Artist and the Orchard: a Memoir**, recent outdoor public installations include a **Healing Harp** at the Virginia Thurston Healing Garden in Harvard, MA, **Forest Tales Path** in Stow, MA, **Refuge** in Watertown, MA, **Just Sitting** at the Fuller Museum, in Brockton, and **Tree Harp** in Littleton, NH. She curates an annual outdoor sculpture exhibit at Old Frog Pond Farm which was recently featured on Chronicle 5. Influenced by two years living in Kyoto inspired her appreciation of the traditional Japanese aesthetic of the old, threadbare, and worn.

Exhibitions:

- 2023 *The Sum of its Parts, Studio Without Walls, Riverway Park, Outdoor Installation in Brookline, MA*
- 2023 *Refuge, Riverwalk, Watertown, MA (for two years)*
- 2023 *Newbury Court 2023 Fall Juried Exhibit, Concord, MA*
- 2023 *Fungal Prayers, Destination:Nature, Harvard Conservation Trust, Harvard, MA*
- 2022 *Biennial Passages, Juried Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit, Jamestown Arts Center, Jamestown, RI*