Ingrid Lahl
Feeling Flight
Butterflies are a kind of intermediary between heaven and earth, and even, they begin their lives as homey, gravity-bound, crawling creatures and metamorphose into beautiful, light, flying beings that instill joy and wonder.

Feeling Flight re-interprets the aerodynamics of insect flight in a way that engages the visual and kinesthetic senses. My artwork is derived from current scientific studies that are tools for understanding the mechanics of flight.

Paradigm Pods
Envisioned to create a sense of respect and awe an insect might feel for the most mundane plant life. "Paradigm Pods" plays with scale to illustrate how powerful, beautiful and vibrant the seeming minuscule of nature can be.

A theme of nostalgic influence or inherited histories informs my work. Nature and its role in our social fabric continue to shift paradigms. Where mankind was once at the mercy of nature, the roles have been reversed. "Nature," in its tensile states, will only thrive through conscientious actions on our part. To that end, I am interested in the nostalgia of nature; how can we return to the paradigm view of nature as the dominant entity?

Eden River
A house is a symbol of shelter and protection; it is a safe living place for those in it. The earth is the perfect house for trees. Our own house is making it increasingly difficult, crowded and uncomfortable for the natural world. As an artist concerned with societal and environmental issues I’ve chosen to focus on this house metaphor. I’ve offered up the “greenhouse effect.” These mini green houses represent the environmental pressures imposed upon plants by anthropogenic global warming. Some of the trees planted within them are native to our current Northwest climate and some prefer warmer weather. Throughout the duration of this exhibit you will be able to track the progress of these plants as some trees thrive in their new houses and others struggle. I believe art can be an important platform for discussion of such deep issues and with this project I hope to inspire conversation of what it will take to shelter and protect natural habitats and what it will mean if we don’t.

Barbara DePiro
roots & vines: plastic
A mysterious unexpected form, distant imagery, familiar in an intimate way.

Tanglewood
A tangle of forest vines, exposed and twisted roots, fibrous tendrils clinging to the surface, enveloping the decaying wood, humbly feeding off the forgotten.

Natures cycle of decay and growth, regeneration, renewal, life.

Annette Neff
Watching birds soar through the heavens; the air, the rain, the wind and high up into the clouds evokes feelings of freedom, of unlimited possibilities. The return to their nests, pocks, down to earth, symbolizes comfort, security and warmth. These nests and pods remind us of our own dwellings, of family, of feeling protected.

Sylvia Tur
Rungs
Rungs is an almost literal way of creating a connection between heaven and earth, a way of reaching out and trying to bring the two of them closer. The vehicle, rungs, ladders, composed of transformed organic material, clay, which came from the earth, are reaching out to the sky, to heaven, in their most dressed up, most pure form of porcelain. The left over rungs indicate either a preparation for the connection or a connection that has already been made, and perhaps still exists.

Ken Turner
Bundu Obelisk, I want my life back
Can an obelisk have only three sides? The prehistoric monumental form of power and memorial ends in a pyramid. I propose to put a large obelisk with a bird’s eye view to the eye of providence. Almost all of us march to the same drum beat. It was used to make this work. The drum is put out an irresistible rhythm with a bird’s eye. The reason is so strong that we will kill others, destroy habitat, and eventually ourselves to follow it. Newman saw his piece as hopeful. My hope is that we will use this latest tragedy to wake up and throw the drum out.

John Henry Wooton IV
Rock Tree
The tangle compression of the gases of the galaxy bombarded by comets and asteroids provided the base for organic life to flourish on Earth, and brought mineral and ore for mankind to mine. Nature has burnt the birch tree with its stone fruit, a tree whose resources are not so easily consumed or plundered.

Julie Lindell
Orchard
Heaven: "The concept of a magical kingdom where earthly limitations no longer exist; where anything is possible."

Perhaps Heaven is a place where trees cut down and used as shipping pallets can bloom again.

In my work, broken branches, discarded objects and salvaged shipping pallets come alive and form themselves into giant shapes. These clusters of sentient material have something to tell us about our perception and about our place in the world. They are phenomena. They hint of new vistas of life and of ancient magical concepts that all things have spirit, memory and mind.