

## An Invitation from the UNE Art Gallery



Detail, "Friendship in Hard Times"

### Healing Art for Hard Times

Internationally exhibited Maine artist, **Asherah Cinnamon**, will show and talk about her community building sculptural work at **The University Of New England Art Gallery** later this month. Her current work is installed in the Annual Sculpture Garden Show, on the Gallery grounds in Portland through September.

Cinnamon has incorporated into art her decades-long experience as a builder of coalitions, a community activist, and a psychotherapist. She has invited the public to participate in her installations since she took up her new career as an artist at the Maine College of Art in 2003.

During the build up to the 2008 Olympics, Cinnamon and co-designer Scott Fuller were recognized as two of only three USA artists invited to Beijing to receive the Five Rings Award for outdoor sculptural design. Since that time Cinnamon has designed and constructed several temporary outdoor installations in Portland. Her latest work, "Friendship in Hard Times", focuses on the key role of friendship in this challenging economic era:

-- *"My work is designed to remind us all that in the long term human beings do not function well in isolation. In the face of economic oppression our relationships are our treasures and together we can create a network of strength."* – Asherah Cinnamon

In recognition of environmental and economic concerns her current work utilizes recycled plastic bags to create a surprisingly intricate and beautiful textural skin over branch forms. While installation art is not new in contemporary art, Cinnamon's process of bringing people together in a range of locations and ages to complete a project and/or contribute to its concept is unusual.

**Where:** the University of New England, Portland Campus Gallery

716 Stevens Avenue, at the back of the campus

**When:** Wednesday August 25, 2010 From 5 to 6:30 PM Entry: No Charge For

*Information Contact:* Anne Zill, UNE Gallery Director, at (207) 797-7261 or  
the artist at (207) 712-4323 [www.asherahcinnamon.com](http://www.asherahcinnamon.com)