



Communicare: Wire Words/Neighborhood Poems

As a Somerville artist, it has been wonderful to get to know the work of our city's poets. I am grateful to poet Lloyd Schwartz for allowing me to work with lines from his poem ***Proverbs from Purgatory*** as part of my Communicare: Wire Words/ Neighborhood Poems Project. Drawing a poem's words in wire brings a poem or a piece of it into real space with you. The lines become a long delicate shiny drawing, the wire words overlay architecture, or natural elements, or atmosphere beyond them. As a viewer moves, their sightline changes, and so does the background context of the poem. Having a poem in a public space allows for it to be re-read and re-experienced in different weather conditions and different times of day. The space between readers and poem can become a shared space, a communal space.

The lines of altered aphorisms in Lloyd Schwartz's poem ***Proverbs from Purgatory*** sound conversational, I can easily imagine hearing one of them spoken by a friend or neighbor. To me, the poem speaks to the shorthand ways we communicate and miscommunicate with one another and to how we re- fashion what we know to tell a new story about ourselves. The Latin root of communication is *communicare* "to share, divide out; communicate, impart, inform, join, unite, participate in" and "to make common". To me, the word *communicare* looks like the combination of community and care. I hope for these lines of poetry to be part of conversations in our community.

Danielle Krcmar

To read *Proverbs in Purgatory*
full, scan the QR Code >>>>>

