MEREDITH DEAN
“TRAILS”

My work is concerned with the constant nature of change, choice, and a fascination with the macro/micro and ever-shifting atmosphere of our physical world. I use the process of relief printing as a metaphor for this idea. The prints are created from several layers of puzzle-cut relief plates. Each layer of plates contains a different aspect of mapping information about a specific place, on a given date and time of some personal importance.

These layers of image utilize various mapping systems:
- Topographical: the geological history and development of the earth.
- Road and trail maps: our human footprint.
- Sky maps: the ever-changing constant of the universe.
- Magnetic flow patterns and earthquake fault lines: the powerful forces that control our existence.
- Wind maps: the powerful atmospheric influences on our lives.
- Cartographic projections: our need to quantify and describe the world we live in.

In the process of printing, the plates are overlaid and interchanged using unique combinations of these systems for each print. Thus, though the prints are created with the same basic matrices, the visual information changes through the responsive process of combining and recombining the layers of image to create related, yet unique, prints.

Some of these prints are further manipulated, transposing layers and creating a different kind of space and time. These transposed images are then cast in resin and treated as artifacts of the layered history of a day on earth.