

JUDE TALLICHET

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ABMB EVENTS

At right, Jude Tallichet in front of the Airstream trailer by Design Within Reach. Below: *Bear Rug Charm*, *Heart Charm* and *Jerry Can*: *Water (animating elements) Charm*, all 2008.



GALLERY ON THE GO

This sculptor is streamlining her art and taking it on the road.

BY EVELYN MCDONNELL



Jude Tallichet: *Career Retrospective as Charms for a Charm Bracelet* is a greatest hits in miniature. For the last decade, Tallichet has been recasting familiar objects in new materials: her grandfather's bearskin rug in aluminum, a drum kit as a chandelier. Now she's recasting those recastings, as silver, bronze and gold charms. Her works are, literally, an investigation of materialism—could there be a more relevant subject in 2008?

"A lot of work I've done deals with how a change in material changes the way meaning is attached to the object," the Louisville-born, Brooklyn-based sculptor says.

The venue for the show, presented by Sara Meltzer Gallery, is also unique: an Airstream trailer that will move throughout Miami during Art Basel Miami Beach. "I like the whole populist aspect of it," Tallichet says. "It's fun to be on the streets and be part of this whole thing in Miami."

The charms are affordable—from \$100 to \$1,000—and wearable. "They're talismans, amulets, small pocket art," she explains.

"All my work investigates the question of what is monumental."

The artist admits to being heavily influenced by Duchamp and Warhol, "but more modest and subtle and funny." There's also a feminist edge to her work: the drum kit chandelier, which hung in Meltzer's booth during Art Basel Miami Beach 2004, was pink, for instance. Tallichet used to play in the WAC drum corps and the band Ultra Vulva in the '90s, and the Riot Grrrl feminist movement remains a touchstone for her.

Before she recast objects, Tallichet created small versions of iconic buildings that incorporated sound cues and music (there will even be a charm of one of her more noted creations: twin Empire State Buildings). Working in precious metals has been a different kind of challenge. "I got to learn a whole new thing. I've never done work in small silicon models or cast in silver. I love process."

For the schedule of Tallichet's Airstream and other information, visit sarameltzergallery.com/charms.

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