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Her Mikveh: Kedushat Yetzilah (Holiness of Creation)

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Barbie's Mikveh:
Thank God for Making Me a Woman

Dr. Dena Elisabeth Eber

Tuesday, April 17

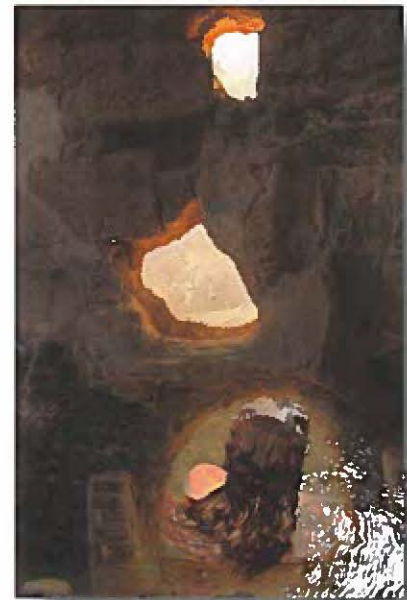
2:30 p.m.

207 BTSU

Her Mikveh:

Kedushat Yetzirah (Holiness of Creation)

Dr. Dena Elisabeth Eber will present *Her Mikveh: Kedushat Yetzirah (Holiness of Creation)*, a series of artwork that addresses the ancient religious practice of the *Mikveh* (Jewish ritual bath) using a feminist and *halachically* (Jewish law) grounded frame of reference. The work respects the roots of the tradition, yet expands the margins that are not fixed so that the ritual reflects *Kavannah*, or meaning and intention and takes on modern significance. Although both men and women use *mikvaot*, there is a specific *Mitzvah* (commandment of Jewish law) for women that is connected to their menstrual cycles and their sexuality. Dr. Eber will explain this practice and then reframe its use through her narrative imagery, thus encouraging women not named in the *Mitzvah*, such as those who are single, lesbian or postmenopausal, to celebrate their health, wholeness and femininity.



Ruth's Mikveh: Strength and Hope

About the presenter:

Dr. Dena Elisabeth Eber is a Professor of Digital Arts in the School of art at BGSU where she has taught for 15 years. She exhibits her works and presents her ideas nationally and internationally working in three different but related areas: art making, art writing and art curation. Her art making investigates themes that bridge across many cultures such as family, sexuality, femininity, fertility, religious identity and feminism, all in the pursuit of artistic form that both tells a story and builds community. Her writing and curation investigate viewer reception of digital artworks and gives voice to others' innovations within the field.