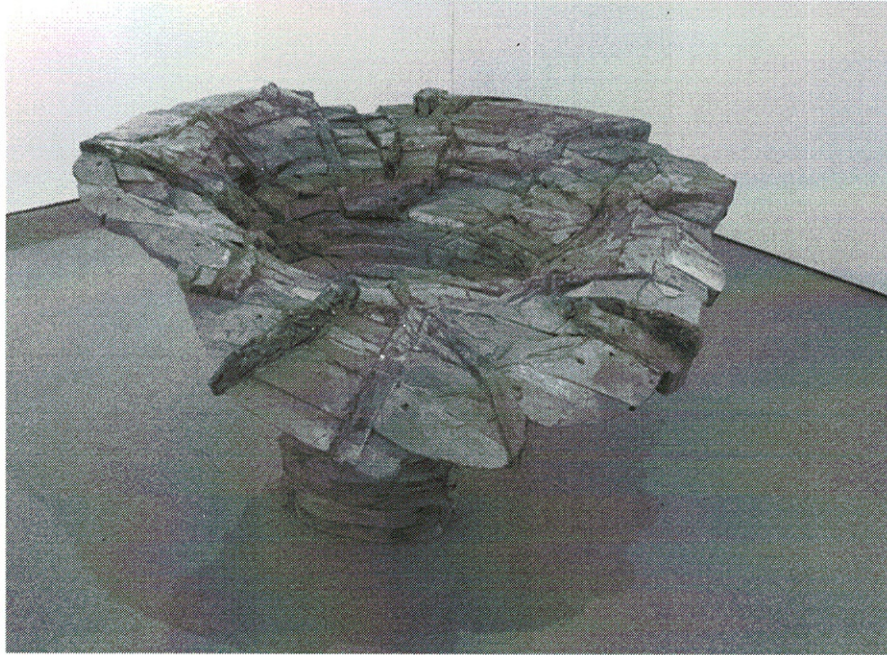


The Power of Cedar



Ursula von Rydingsvard's "Exploding Bowl"
 "URSULA VON RYDINGSVARD" exhibit is at the Barbara Krakow Gallery.

BARBARA

URSULA VON RYDINGSVARD
 New Works With Paper From
 Dieu Donne and a Recent Sculpture

At: Barbara Krakow Gallery,
 10 Newbury St.,
 through June 15th.
 617-262-4490,
barbarakrakowgallery.com

By Cate McQuaid
 GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Ursula von Rydingsvard's small show at Barbara Krakow Gallery delivers the sculptor's aggressively hand-hewn style in one sculpture and several works on paper. The sculpture, "Exploding Bowl," lives up to its name. It approaches 3 feet high and 5 feet across, and it's made from stacked cedar beams that the artist cuts, gouges, splinters, and scribbles over.

It has a vortex-like structure, a suggestion of violence and power with a deep, narrow bottom, and its rims ripple voluptuously. If Paul Bunyan made a flower out of lumber, it would look like this.

Textures and lines, the evidence of making, are all over von Rydingsvard's untitled paper pieces as well. One piece made with thread, pigment, and linen on hand-made paper starts with the crinkles and undulations of the paper itself, accentuated with breaths of gray. Quiet at the top and angry at the bottom, the piece's lower quadrant is a fierce, bubbling passage dotted with hairy circles and tangled with a fringe of black thread. It's fierce, yet fragile - a tension this artist specializes in.

KRAKOW GALLERY