

## **Anna Z ILL: Artist Statement**

### **Tree Sense**

The beautiful slab of wood I had brought to the studio last spring caught my eye as I put the finishing touches on my Blue Bamboo Woman. There was a sense of magic as I placed her on the plank. The following days as she rested in place, I dipped in to the assemblage of found treasures I'd collected on walks in the woods and beach. There were rehearsals with bamboo, curly willow twigs, branches, moss, lichen, stone and bark; things claimed their places. I felt the need for an additional "made" object— to indicate the presence of sky. And so I worked until the environment was complete.

"Tree Sense" speaks to my interest in the web of stories that tell of vegetal and animal species holding their sacred space in the landscape. My work engages in the questions of what makes us whole; what are the parts and pieces, seen and unseen, that we are made of? What organisms and processes do we all— vegetal and animal species— have in common?