

## **CATHERINE CHRISTIANO**

### **ARTIST'S STATEMENT – WORKS ON NEWSPAPER**

Prior to becoming a studio artist, I worked in the field of finance for which reading *The Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times* was essential. Newspapers were always scattered about the house, so when I turned to artmaking, I instinctively incorporated them into my work.

My early graphite still-life drawings paired carefully rendered front pages with objects. Then I explored mounting cropped pages of newspaper to panel and painting a still-life on top in oil. In some of these, the newspaper provides a uniformly printed background. In others, the still-life subject plays off the printed content. The flat monochromatic plane of the newspaper contrasts with the implied space created by the form and shadows of the painted still-life.

Newspaper text and graphics are visually compelling to me. I find they add decorative and interactive elements when integrated into an artwork. Because newspapers serve as cultural artifacts, reflecting society's preoccupations at a given point in time, they add layers of meaning.