

# Star

of Manayunk,  
Roxborough,  
and East Falls

The Newspaper That's All About You

T8, Vol. 1, No. 8

September 25, 2008

## Topical images

By Eric Herr

For the Star

A secluded patch of woodland located on the Manayunk-Roxborough border, the Schuylkill Center is always an inspiring, idyllic place to visit.

Japanese artist Keiko Miyamori's contribution, *Human Bird House*, extends the notion of unity with nature through a display in which she cleverly uses the

front side of the old barn, in combination with about 25 small birdhouses hanging nearby.

"I have created a large-scale tree-rubbing collage on the front side of the barn using Washi paper, a Japanese paper made with tree fibers," Miyamori explains. "I wanted to impress upon the viewer's mind the simplicity of the primitive human surroundings in which the *Human Bird House* is situated and reveal how it contrasts with 'busy-looking' modern society."

She applies the same tree-rubbing technique used on the barn to the birdhouses.

"The exaggerated size of *Human Bird*

*House*, in contrast to the small birdhouses situated next to it, allows the viewer to experience humor as well as partake in the abstract moment," Keiko offers.

Interestingly, Miyamori has just returned from northern Iraq, where she conducted three workshops in three cities in the Kurdistan region.