The works included in *Nina Payne Over & Over: Works in Waxed Linen* were made between 1988 and 1996, and provide a sampling of the gentle and dignified spirit that characterizes Payne's art. Photographs of *Spine*, and an essay inspired by this work by Nancy Sherman have been published in *The Massachusetts Review*, Summer, 1996. The following is the artist's statement as it appears in that issue:

The small oval forms in the *Spine* series are crocheted from waxed linen. In crochet, one loop is pulled through another loop to form a line of stitches that build in rows—in a manner similar to the act of writing from left to right—or in a circle of stitches that spiral out and around. A particular shape emerges as a result of increasing, decreasing, or repeating the number of stitches in any given round. Here, the finished forms are attached to a base of willow and the strings of their beginnings and their endings are left hanging, along with the strings that hold them in place. It is all a process of going around in circles, stitch by stitch, round by round, and that is the basis of the work I do.

Nina Payne is a resident of Amherst and has been a Professor of Creative Writing at Hampshire College since 1976. *All the Day Long*, a collection of her poems, was published in 1973 (New York: Atheneum Publishers) and *Four in All* is a forthcoming publication (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux). Her poems have appeared in a variety of literary journals over the past 20 years. She began working with waxed linen in 1969 and, since that time, fiber work has become her central artistic focus.

*Nina Payne Over & Over: Works in Waxed Linen* is on view at the University Gallery from September 7 through October 18. The Gallery, located on the lower level of the Fine Arts Center, is open Tuesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 2 to 5 p.m. The Gallery is also open during evening performances held in the Concert Hall of the Fine Arts Center. For more information, please call (413) 545-3670.