



EVOLUTION OF MY WORK 1976 - 2019

I work through the experience of a process: by making my own materials, by feeling my way to understanding.

My early work was mostly with textiles. I thought of weaving as a more experiential version of drawing. Thread could convey both color & perspective, like a fluid and tactile line. I liked the process of putting each thread in the loom, to create a cohesive structure in the real world.

Eventually I began to build shapes with more structural integrity and architecture. Using corrugated cardboard, paper, and tape, I built a frame that could be covered with elastic and painted. My work began taking shape, standing on its own. Pieces became shapes, columns, characters. In order for these characters to be more articulate, I needed a "vocabulary" of materials, that I could use to express a range of ideas and emotions. I began to create my own artistic materials, finding my way by pounding, sanding, cutting, stapling, and shaping. The material would accumulate layers as I worked it, gaining color, shape, and texture based on what it had been through. My materials show the way that experience becomes part of expression.

Once they had this independence, my pieces could be moved out into the environment, into the context of nature. They acquired movement, affected by wind or evoking the feeling of water. The physical location and history of my subjects began to take on more importance. I would visit and respond directly to unique locations. I wanted to give voice to people and places from the past.

Eventually, I wanted to face the challenge of communicating this experiential work and visual vocabulary through language. I began to incorporate textual descriptions, quotes, and poetry into my work, to articulate its significance and give it more of a voice.