

Still-Life: Now Now Now

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I chase the feeling of growth, connection, and transformation. Through objects and installations, my work offers an opportunity for viewers to give themselves over to a soft and strange experience, to become one with our environment, to experience a space away from our world. With wet-felting, I create naturalistic structures reminiscent of insect cocoons, rhizomatic fungi, and other signifiers of growth. These non-hierarchical structures allow the viewer to consider the web of connections in their own environment, like a tree's network of roots.

The palette consists of shades of white, from neutral tones to some more cream colored. White-on-white encourages viewers to focus on my forms wholly, rather than directly thinking of only real-world counterparts to the symbols I am referencing. These objects are democratized, working on an even playing field with each other. The works communicate as many parts within a system, building on the ideas of an intertwined, connected network, like the underground fungi web, encouraging us to ponder togetherness and self.

The materially soft forms are hive-like, clotted, coily, and bulbous. I repeat and accumulate elements - dozens of climbing cords, patches of soft honeycomb growths - at a human-scale or larger. Within this, I create sites for organic patterns to perform two roles: contemplation and generation. When these repeating elements dominate a field of vision, they encourage a trance-like state and create a meditative space. These patterns are also generative, asking the viewer to visually wander and reflect on similar signifiers, like looking at clouds and finding something that seems almost familiar. This investigation encourages an awareness of micro and macro, where we are, and our connections to it all.

That sense of introspection is what I am yearning to create space for. In both the viewing and the making experiences, this work makes space for a ruminative experience. The wet felting fabrication process used requires the maker to engage in repetitive physical tasks as they felt a form. This act of making is full of ritual and stillness that almost by osmosis becomes infused into this work. There is comfort in the neutrality and softness of wool. Within this veiled and layered space, we are called to pause, to reflect on our own transitional phases; it provides space to be still.