

LAPAIARTJEWELLERYGALLERY

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Amanda McCavour

McCavour holds a BFA from York University where she studied drawing and in May 2014 she completed her MFA in Fibers and Material Studies at Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia, PA. McCavour shows her work in galleries nationally and internationally with solo exhibitions in 2016 in Cornerbrook (NL), Roanoke (VA), Olympia (WA), Washington (PA), Smithville (TN) and Ruston (LA). She has recently completed residencies at Harbourfront Centre's Textile Studio in Toronto, at Maison des Metiers D'art de Quebec in Quebec City and the Klondike Institute of Art and Culture in Dawson City, Yukon. She has received numerous awards and scholarships from The Canada Council for the Arts, The Ontario Arts Council, The Toronto Arts Council, The Handweavers and Spinners Guild of America, Craft Ontario, The Ontario Society of Artists, The Surface Design Association and The Embroiderers Guild of America.

Artist Statement

In my work, I use a sewing machine to create thread drawings. By sewing into fabric that dissolves in water. I can build up stitched lines on a temporary surface. The crossing threads create strength so that when the fabric is dissolved, so that the thread drawing can hold together without a base. With only the thread remaining, these images appear as though they would be easily unraveled and seemingly on the verge of falling apart, despite the works raveled strength. I am interested in thread's assumed vulnerability, its ability to unravel, and its strength when it is sewn together.

Through an exploration of line and its 2-d and 3-d implications, stitch is used in my artwork to explore various concepts such as connections to home, the fibers of the body and more formal considerations of thread's accumulative presence. I explore embroidery's duality— its subtle quality versus its accumulative presence and its structural possibilities versus its fragility.