

Artist Statement

Jennie Maydew

All color in my work is derived from non-edible plants that I have harvested by hand. I am drawn to the slow and intimate process of searching, collecting, storing, and preparing as a contrast to the hurried, detached aspects of my life as a modern human.

To form structure in my life, I tend to think in grids, lists, and numbers. The chemistry of natural dyes is a bridge between the rational, predictable structure of science and the intuitive, expressive nature of art. My work in natural dyes is a representation of how things can exist as both methodical and intuitive, random and intentional.

Fixing agents called mordants help plant dyes adhere permanently to fiber. Without a mordant, natural dyes fade drastically with time, use, and exposure to light. Art is the mordant for my memories; staining cloth with plants mimics imprinting memories in my own mind.

My art is an attempt to make the ephemeral last, to protect what is fragile and precious in life. In a climate where plants become dormant annually, dyeing with their leaves and petals transforms a fleeting moment into something eternal.

	<u>Title</u>	<u>Media</u>	<u>Original Format</u>
Figure 1:	Sixty-Fives Times Softness Was Read as Frailty 43" x 136" Individual cubes 2.25" x 2.25" x 2.25"	Fiber	Cotton, linen, polyester, plant materials
Figure 2:	Sixty-Fives Times Softness Was Read as Frailty and Structure Was Seen as Strength, detail	Fiber	Cotton, linen, polyester, plant materials
Figure 3:	Sixty-Fives Times Softness Was Read as Frailty and Structure Was Seen as Strength, detail	Fiber	Cotton, linen, polyester, plant materials
Figure 4:	Letting Go of Holding On	Fiber	Cotton, polyester, plant materials, found objects, 33" x 18.5"
Figure 5:	Letting Go of Holding On, detail	Fiber	Cotton, polyester, plant materials, found objects
Figure 6:	Letting Go of Holding On, detail	Fiber	Cotton, polyester, plant materials, found objects
Figure 7:	Soft Earth Memory Vessel closed	Fiber	Cotton, linen, plant materials, paper, 4.5"x16" open / 4.5"x4"
Figure 8:	Soft Earth Memory Vessel, detail	Fiber	Cotton, linen, plant materials, paper
Figure 9:	Soft Earth Memory Vessel, detail	Fiber	Cotton, linen, plant materials, paper
Figure 10:	Vestige of A Fleeting Season: Retreat, detail	Fiber	Linen, plant materials
Figure 11:	Vestige of A Fleeting Season: Retreat	Fiber	Linen, plant materials, 15.5" x 15.5"
Figure 12:	Vestige of A Fleeting Season: Return	Fiber	Linen, plant materials, 16" x 15.25"
Figure 13:	Eco-Print Scarf Series	Fiber	Linen, cotton, plant materials, various sizes
Figure 14:	Eco-Print Scarf Series, Fall Scarf, detail	Fiber	Linen, cotton, plant materials
Figure 15:	Eco-Print Scarf Series, Summer Scarf, detail	Fiber	Linen, cotton, plant materials



Figure 1: Sixty-Fives Times Softness Was Read as Frailty and Structure Was Seen as Strength.



Figure 2: Sixty-Fives Times Softness Was Read as Frailty and Structure Was Seen as Strength, detail.



Figure 3: Sixty-Fives Times Softness Was Read as Frailty and Structure Was Seen as Strength, detail.



Figure 4: Letting Go of Holding On.



Figure 5: Letting Go of Holding On, detail.



Figure 6: Letting Go of Holding On, detail.



Figure 7: Soft Earth Memory Vessel.

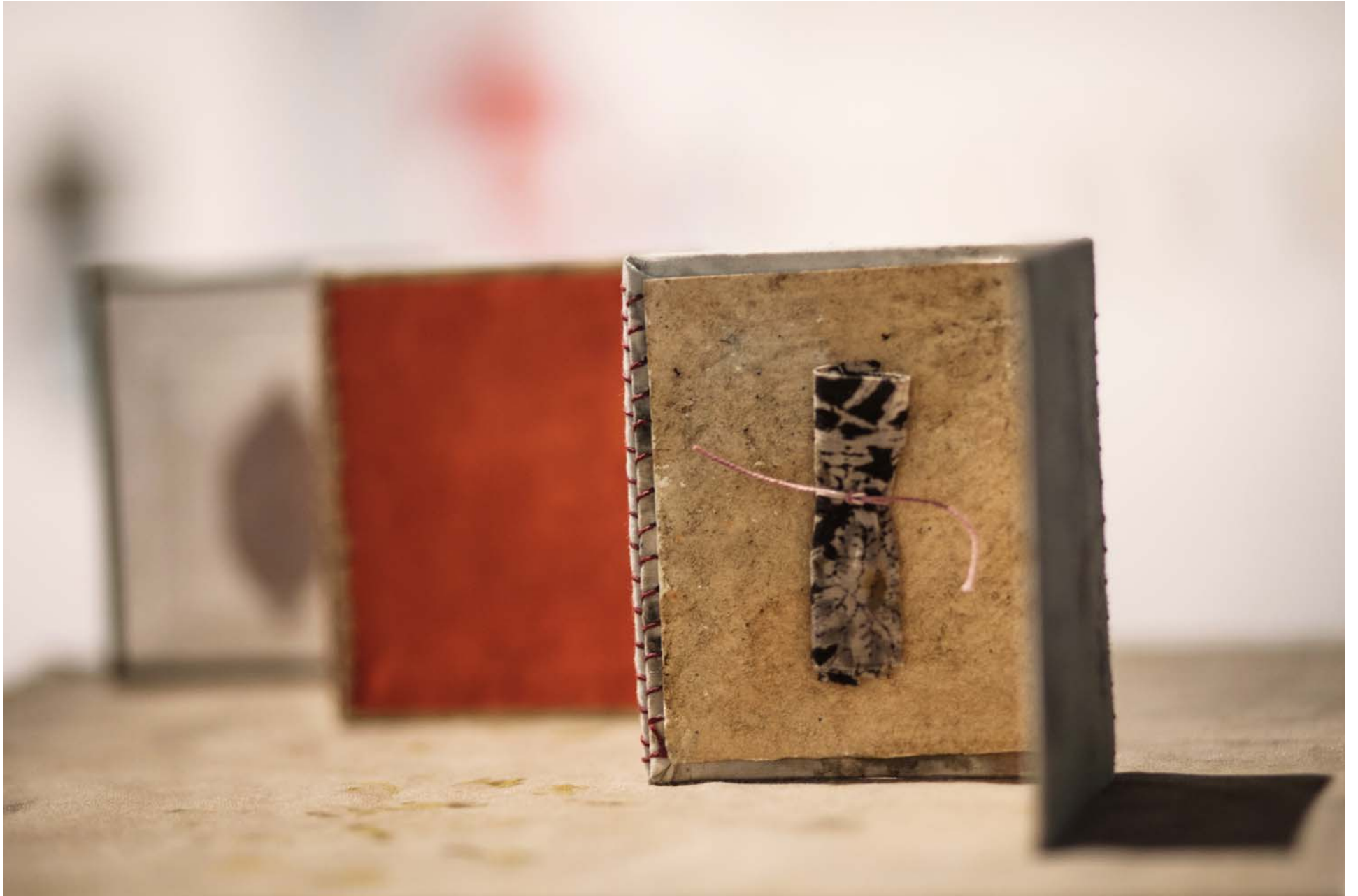


Figure 8: Soft Earth Memory Vessel, detail.



Figure 9: Soft Earth Memory Vessel, detail.



Figure 10: Vestige of A Fleeting Season: Retreat, detail.



Figure 11: Vestige of A Fleeting Season: Retreat.

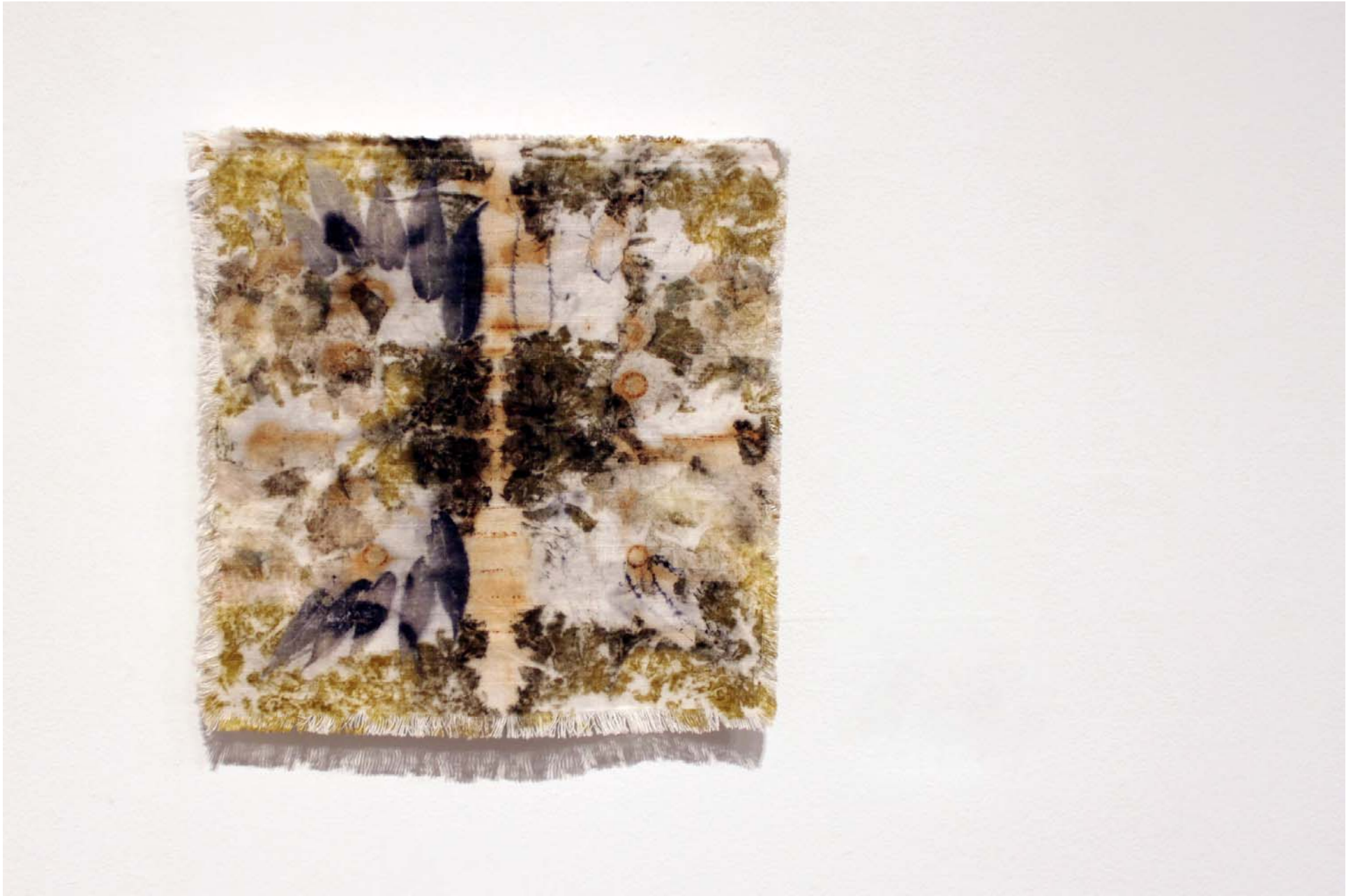


Figure 12: Vestige of A Fleeting Season: Return.



Figure 13: Eco-Print Scarf Series.



Figure 14: Eco-Print Scarf Series, Fall Scarf, detail.



Figure 15: Eco-Print Scarf Series, Summer Scarf, detail.