



## **Artist Statement**

### **Sarah Bendix**

Through my work in fiber I explore narrative, the surreal, and the otherworldly. Since I was quite young, I've been fascinated with Elsewhere, other earthly places or fantastic worlds full of spirits and myth. My work tells stories of the beings, bodies, and places that weigh on my mind.

The medium of fiber allows me to create physical and accessible relics from these Elsewhere places by combining a wide variety of materials and techniques ranging from the traditional to the unusual. The intentional, slow acts of weaving and stitching let my mind delve deeper to discover new facets of the object at hand. The grid of a threaded loom can play host to anything from cotton yarn to cow bones. Yarn can be dyed with chemicals, plants, blood, or wine. A stitched and sewn object can be formed into anything at all. By referring to a rich variety of historical and cultural traditions such as Japanese stitch and dye methods, I can tell a personal narrative that is informed by those who come from everywhere and those who came before.

I honor the impulses that make us human; the need to create, the urge to protect as well as the internal struggles that come with change and choosing. I merge the worlds of sacred and secular thought, invoking new gods and deities that embrace human beauty and folly.

|                   | <u>Title</u>   | <u>Media</u> | <u>Original Format</u>  |
|-------------------|--|--------------|---|
| <b>Figure 1:</b>  | Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail) | Fiber        | Silk, wool, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, pressed flowers, pigment; 66" x 18" x 18"         |
| <b>Figure 2:</b>  | Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail) | Fiber        | Silk, wool, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, pressed flowers, pigment; 66" x 18" x 18"         |
| <b>Figure 3:</b>  | Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail) | Fiber        | Silk, wool, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, pressed flowers, pigment; 66" x 18" x 18"         |
| <b>Figure 4:</b>  | Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail) | Fiber        | Silk, wool, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, pressed flowers, pigment; 66" x 18" x 18"         |
| <b>Figure 5:</b>  | Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head          | Fiber        | Silk, wool, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, pressed flowers, pigment; 66" x 18" x 18"         |
| <b>Figure 6:</b>  | Our Work Never Ends (Detail)                                   | Fiber        | Cotton, wool, indigo, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, found objects, pigment; 49" x 12" x 12" |
| <b>Figure 7:</b>  | Our Work Never Ends (Detail)                                   | Fiber        | Cotton, wool, indigo, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, found objects, pigment; 49" x 12" x 12" |
| <b>Figure 8:</b>  | Our Work Never Ends  | Fiber        | Cotton, wool, indigo, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, found objects, pigment; 49" x 12" x 12" |
| <b>Figure 9:</b>  | Our Work Never Ends  | Fiber        | Cotton, wool, indigo, dye, pigment, embroidery floss, found objects, pigment; 49" x 12" x 12" |
| <b>Figure 10:</b> | The Quiet In Which I Thrive                                    | Fiber        | Hand woven cotton, embroidery floss, dye; 7.75" x 7.75"                                       |

|                   |  |       |   |
|-------------------|--|-------|---|
| <b>Figure 11:</b> | The Quiet In Which I Thrive (Detail)       | Fiber | Hand woven cotton, embroidery floss, dye; 7.75" x 7.75"                         |
| <b>Figure 12:</b> | The Darkness In Which God Resides          | Fiber | Hand woven cotton, beads, embroidery floss, dye; 7.75" x 7.75"                  |
| <b>Figure 13:</b> | The Darkness In Which God Resides (Detail) | Fiber | Hand woven cotton, beads, embroidery floss, dye; 7.75" x 7.75"                  |
| <b>Figure 14:</b> | Vena Cava                                  | Fiber | Cotton, wool, linen, and synthetic yarns, brass, chicken blood, wine; 79" x 20" |
| <b>Figure 15:</b> | Vena Cava (Detail)                         | Fiber | Cotton, wool, linen, and synthetic yarns, brass, chicken blood, wine; 79" x 20" |
| <b>Figure 16:</b> | Vena Cava (Detail)                         | Fiber | Cotton, wool, linen, and synthetic yarns, brass, chicken blood, wine; 79" x 20" |
| <b>Figure 17:</b> | Vena Cava (Detail)                         | Fiber | Cotton, wool, linen, and synthetic yarns, brass, chicken blood, wine; 79" x 20" |
| <b>Figure 18:</b> | For When You Go                            | Fiber | Hand dyed linen embroidery floss, cotton, wood, hair; 5.75" x 80"               |
| <b>Figure 19:</b> | For When You Go                            | Fiber | Hand dyed linen embroidery floss, cotton, wood, hair; 5.75" x 80"               |
| <b>Figure 20:</b> | For When You Go (Detail)                   | Fiber | Hand dyed linen embroidery floss, cotton, wood, hair; 5.75" x 80"               |
| <b>Figure 21:</b> | For When You Go (Detail)                   | Fiber | Hand dyed linen embroidery floss, cotton, wood, hair; 5.75" x 80"               |
| <b>Figure 22:</b> | For When You Go (Detail)                   | Fiber | Hand dyed linen embroidery floss, cotton, wood, hair; 5.75" x 80"               |



**Figure 1: Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail).**



**Figure 2: Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail).**

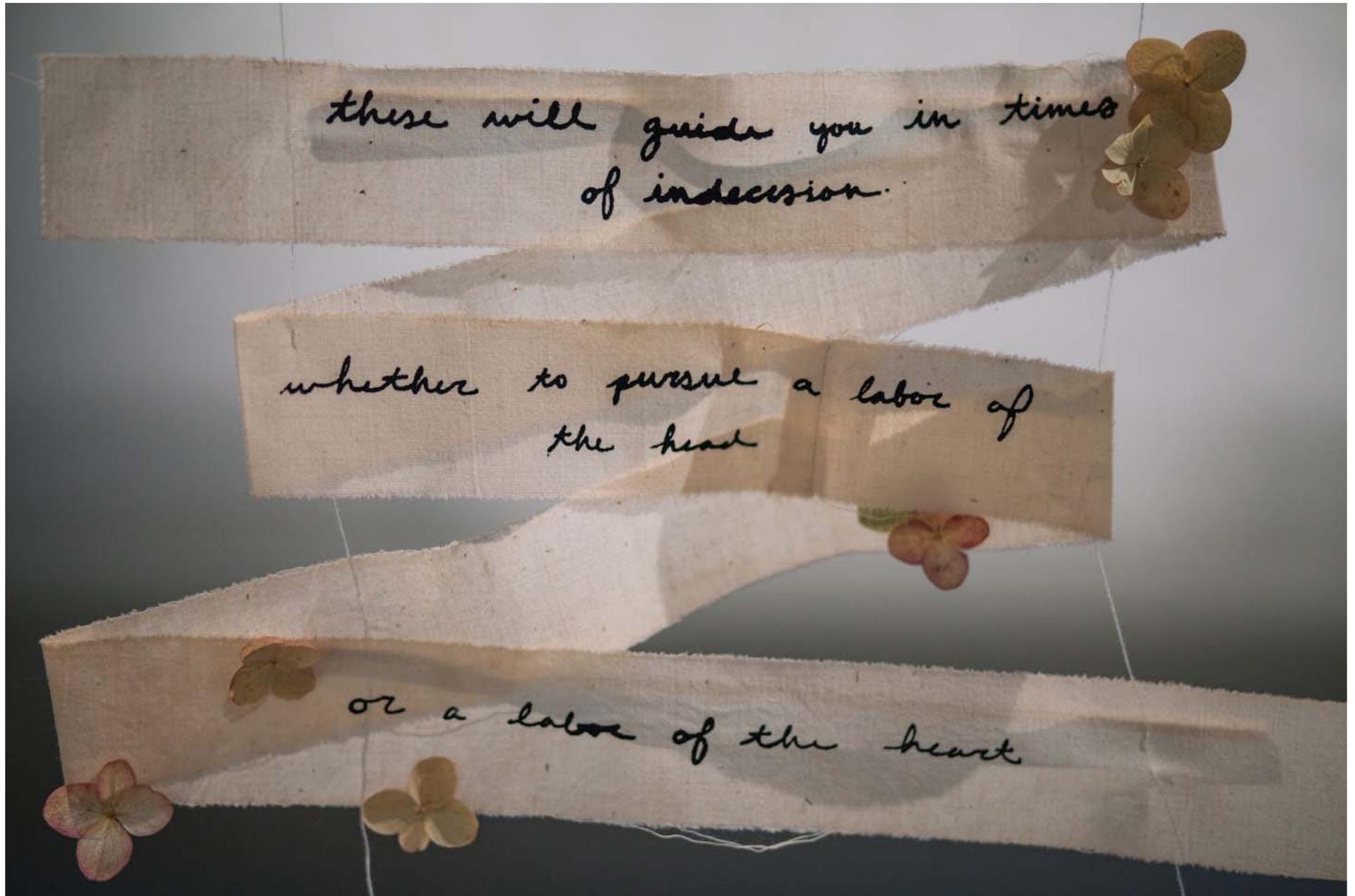


Figure 3: Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail).



Figure 4: Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head (Detail).



Figure 5: Holding On with Your Heart, Letting Go with Your Head.



Figure 6: Our Work Never Ends (Detail).



Figure 7: Our Work Never Ends (Detail).



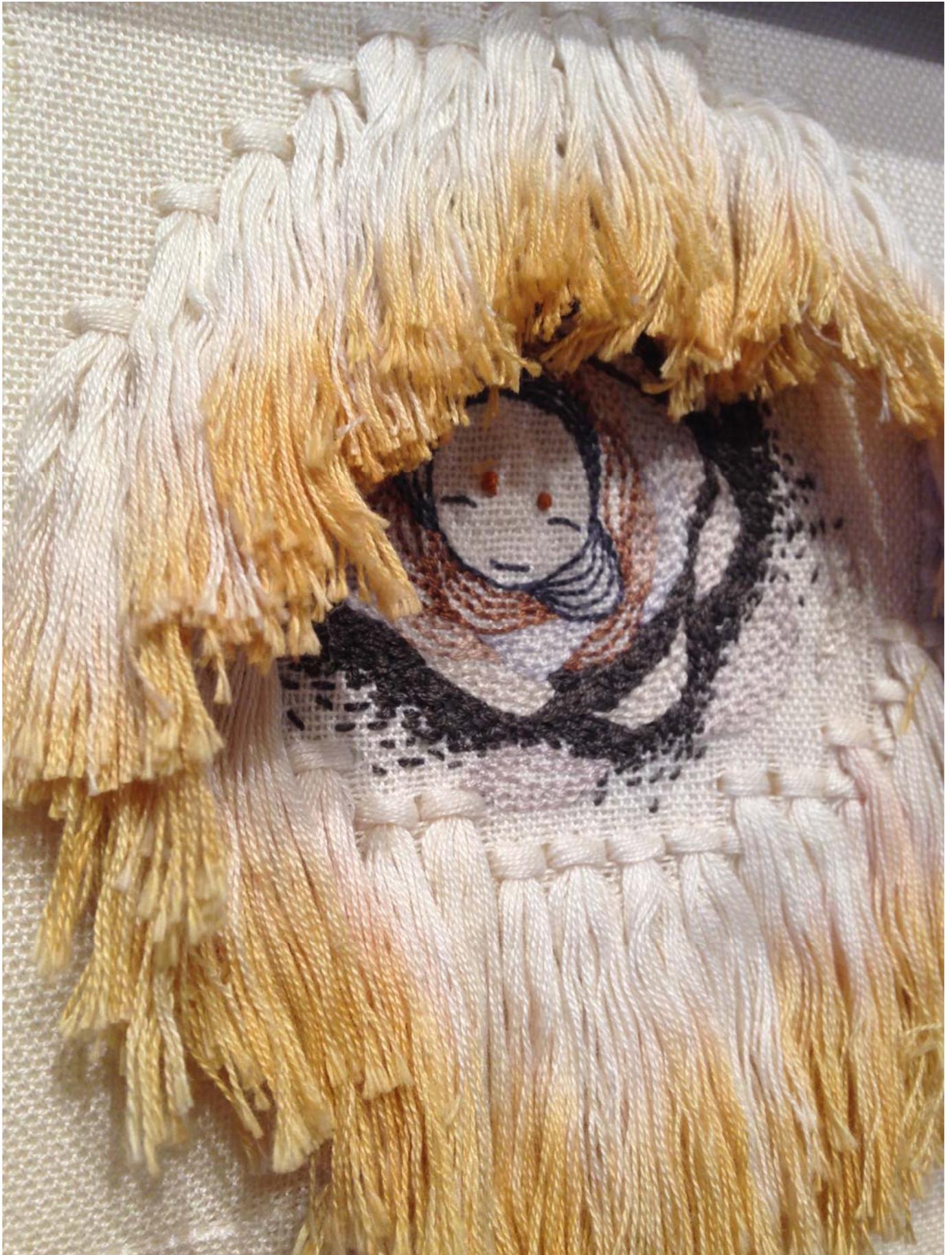
**Figure 8: Our Work Never Ends.**



**Figure 9: Our Work Never Ends.**



Figure 10: The Quiet In Which I Thrive.



**Figure 11: The Quiet In Which I Thrive (Detail).**



Figure 12: The Darkness In Which God Resides.



Figure 13: The Darkness In Which God Resides (Detail).



**Figure 14: Vena Cava.**



Figure 15: Vena Cava (Detail).



Figure 16: Vena Cava (Detail).



Figure 17: Vena Cava (Detail).

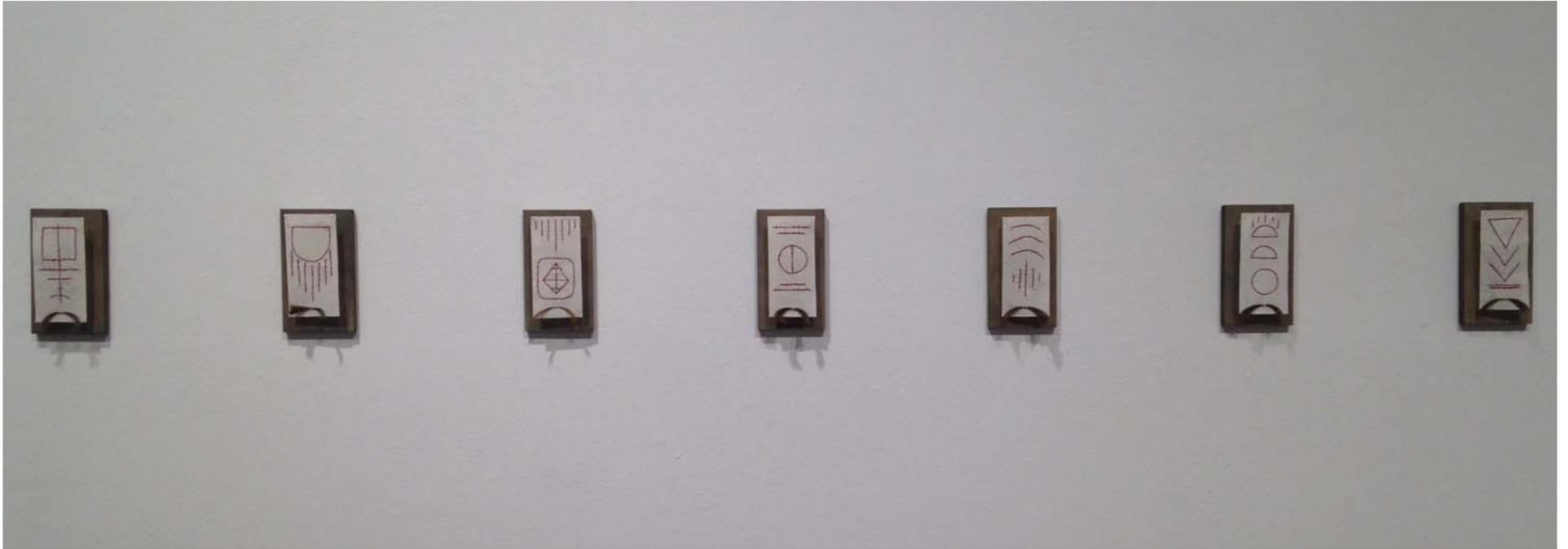


Figure 18: For When You Go.

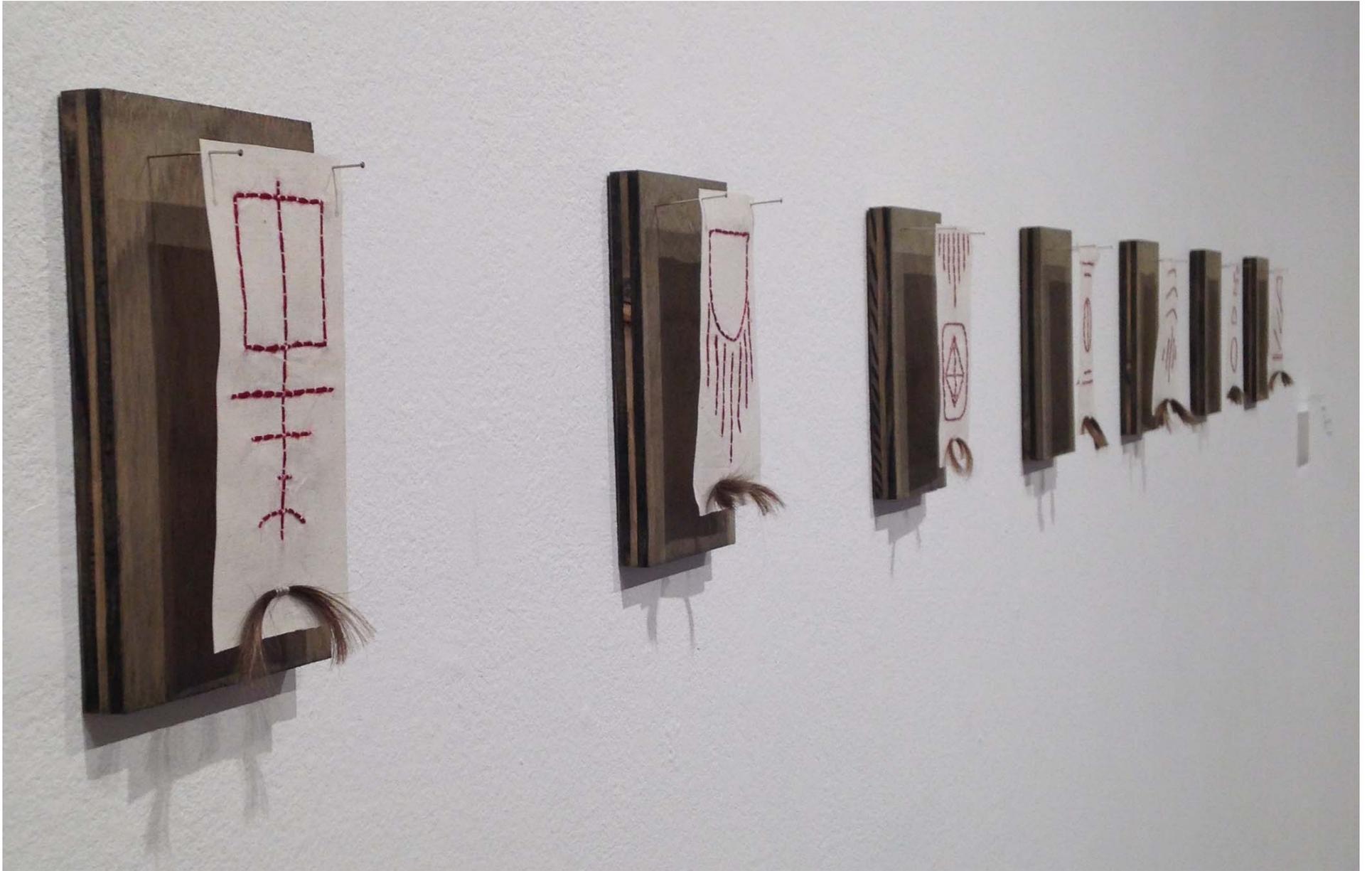


Figure 19: For When You Go.



Figure 20: For When You Go (Detail).



**Figure 21: For When You Go (Detail).**



Figure 22: For When You Go (Detail).