

Catharsis

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BFA 2D/Drawing

Guilt complexes are a human phenomenon. In an effort to expel my guilt complex, I obsessively embroider apologies onto small squares of dyed fabric, carefully selecting matching embroidery floss in order to muffle the voice. The colors range in shades of pink, furthering the quiet, apologetic nature of the pieces. Each apology is painstakingly stitched for a specific reason and person as a means of atonement. The time and effort spent crafting each apology validates the sincerity behind the statement, allowing me to purge the guilt from my conscience.

The process of creating this body of work was accompanied by an unforeseen level of complexity. Small fragments of fabric, thread and needles can be worked on anywhere. The act of embroidery invited conversation as various people approached me to observe my activity. The process generated conversation as well as an opportunity for me to talk about my concept with people who had no context for my work. Whether or not these were strangers, each individual could identify with feelings of guilt as well as a desire to purge oneself of that guilt. I composed apologetic statements, dyed fabric, matched colors, and stitched it all together in order to assuage my guilt.