

HANDS ON WITH TALI WEINBERG

By Katie Foster, Curatorial Assistant

Tali Weinberg weaves at the intersection of art and science. In advance of her exhibition, *The Space Between Threads: Works by Tali Weinberg*, which opens March 3, we asked her to tell us about her unique artistic process combining data and textiles.

Tell us a little bit about your art.

I use textile processes like handweaving and coiling to transform data, petrochemical-derived materials (like medical tubing and fishing line), plant fibers and dyes into abstract landscapes that explore relationships to place in the context of climate crisis.

What happens in between an idea and a finished artwork?

My process isn't linear. The work emerges from intersecting experiences: posing questions, playing with color and material, scrolling through datasets, coding data, spending time in a place to absorb the landscape, conversations with others, journaling and research on issues connected to climate crisis. The work in my studio is one piece of this wider process and includes dyeing yarns with plant and insect dyes, weaving and coiling.

Is there a part of your process that's invisible in the finished artwork?

My personal experiences of a place and my in-depth research on issues connected to climate crisis aren't necessarily fully legible to others. But they are hinted at in the finished work, inform the decisions I make in the studio and are often reflected in titles and materials lists.

Does the meaning of an artwork ever change during the process of creating it?

I start with an initial idea or question, but the fuller meaning always emerges through process. All my decisions—conscious and unconscious—about materials, colors, patterns and scale contribute to meaning. It's not so much that intention changes, but rather that I learn how to articulate meaning from the process of working with my hands.



Photo: Melissa Lukebaugh