

Dianna Frid – About the work

For several years I have been making books, objects and installations that join mixed media, sculpture, and works on paper. Broadly speaking my works are material inquiries into the ways in which phenomena are experienced in spite of or because of the ways in which these phenomena are scientifically or textually described. Clouds, time, death, space and ontology are examples of the subjects that I explore.

I use manual approaches and processes to generate systems and structures for making an image or sculpture. I start by working with materials that have specific properties: thread, plaster, fabric, and so on. I reconfigure and combine these materials as a way to work through a process and arrive at a resolution for which there was no prior blueprint. I often employ sewing and thread as means to explore the expansive definitions of drawing and mark making.

I make work at varying scales. For instance, my sewn artist's books reference the intimate scale and structure in which an act of solitary reading unfolds. At the same time, I see the opportunity to work on a large scale as a way to investigate and make visible the specifics of an architectural location. Architectural structures are already potential generators for charged spatial, material and phenomenological relationships. Some of my works intervene in such sites so as to disclose their dormant potentials. In the same way, I see materials as catalysts that, when combined and activated, alert us to their physical presence and properties, to their phenomenological reality.

November 2011