



SPECIAL  
EXHIBITION

*In and Out  
of the Fold*

9/14/2020  
SUSANHENSEL

[www.susanhenselprojects.com](http://www.susanhenselprojects.com)

*Enjoy.*

*For your convenience, titles are hyperlinked to more information in the on-line edition.*

# *In and Out of the Fold*

*Susan Hensel's textile work is a dizzying journey of shifting colors and arresting, yet abstract, form. In and Out of the Fold presents biomorphic shapes and geometric patterns with sumptuous texture, representing Hensel's long history with transformative, sculptural work.*

*The series revels in overwhelming color, serving to create moments of intense sensation. In a world of increasing speed and economic literal mindedness, Hensel slows down time through visual intensity, pausing these dominant concerns. But the pieces do not merely prefer the transcendent to the physical, rather they unite the two modes into a shared space.*

*The pieces here seem to unfold in a self-same manner, like fractal structures in nature. It's as if they arrive out of themselves, appealing to some inner sense of being that the viewer brings with them. That self-becoming speaks like a message not in words but in Hensel's shapes and colors. It is form describing form itself. This is not the language of philosophers and accountants but of tree limbs sprouting and embryos growing. The wordless is expressed through the common language of biological forms.*

*By using the intrinsic shapes of nature, the viewer recognizes something of themselves and every other living thing inside the beauty of the object. It is through that beauty that unity can be seen expanding beyond boundaries of ego and linguistic category.*

*Hensel's work does not try to elaborate on the mysteries of existence. Instead, she moves into the mystery, exalting it above all else as an aesthetic experience found in the folds and color of every piece. In these strange shapes and occluded moments woven in textile, Hensel upholds the aesthetic power of the ineffable.*

*This subtlety of meaning and sophistication of form are achieved through a variety of means. Hensel works in multiple disciplines and materials, primarily focusing on digital machine embroidery. Her process is a hybrid of traditional "craft" and modern production technology, a productive tension that runs through her career.*

*Hensel's work has appeared in hundreds of exhibitions, including dozens of solo shows, across a fifty-year span. She is the recent recipient of grants and residencies from the Jerome Foundation, Minnesota State Arts Board, and Ragdale Foundation.*

*Jonathon M Clark, independent critic*

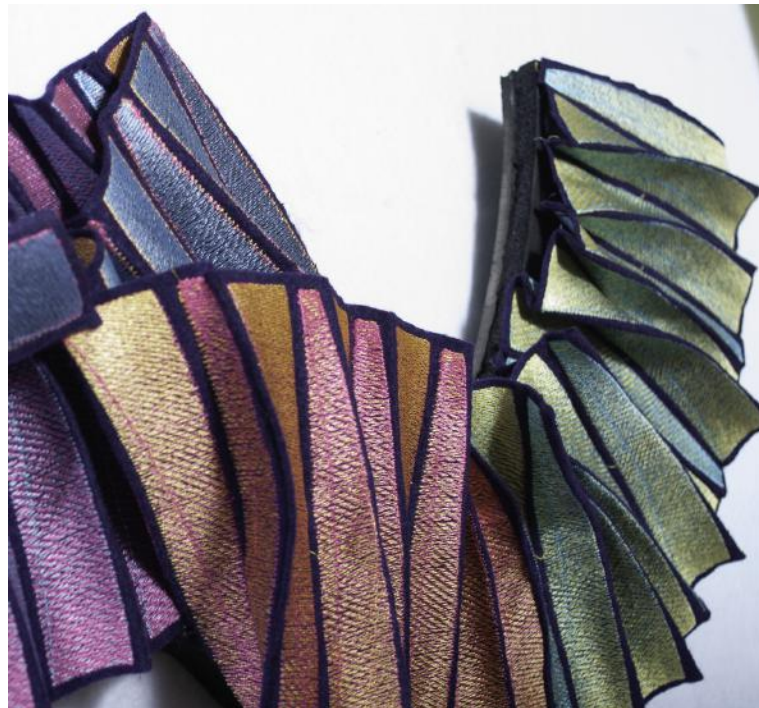


## *Chromatic Wave 2*

*Sculpture*

*Size: 17 W x 11 H x 1 in*

*Mediums: Fabric, digital textiles*



### **Chromatic Wave 1**

*Sculpture*

*Size: 25 W x 12 H x 1 in*

*Mediums: Fabric, digital textiles*



***Chromatic Flutter***

*Sculpture Size: 31 W x 42 H x 3 in*

*Subjects: Abstract*

*Mediums: Fabric, digital textiles*

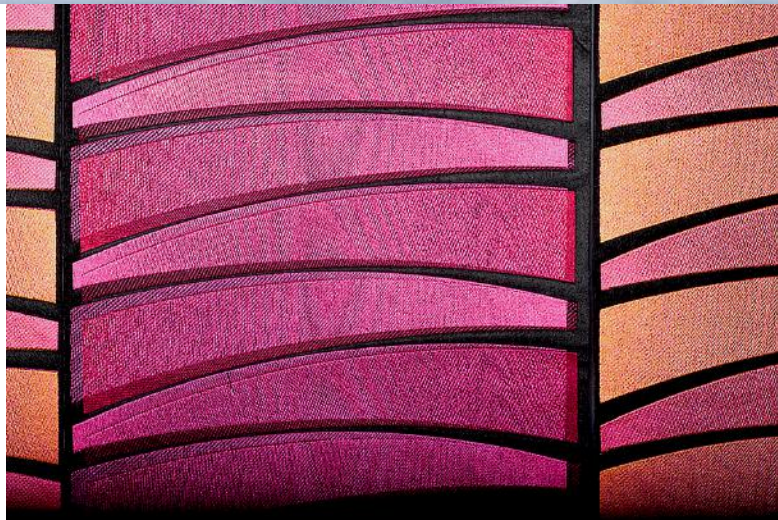


***Chromatic Exertion***

***Sculpture***

***Size: 28 W x 20 H x 1 in***

***Mediums: Fabric, Digital, Textile***



***Folds Unfurled***

***Sculpture***

***Size: 65 W x 45 H x 2 in***

***Mediums: Fabric, digital textile***



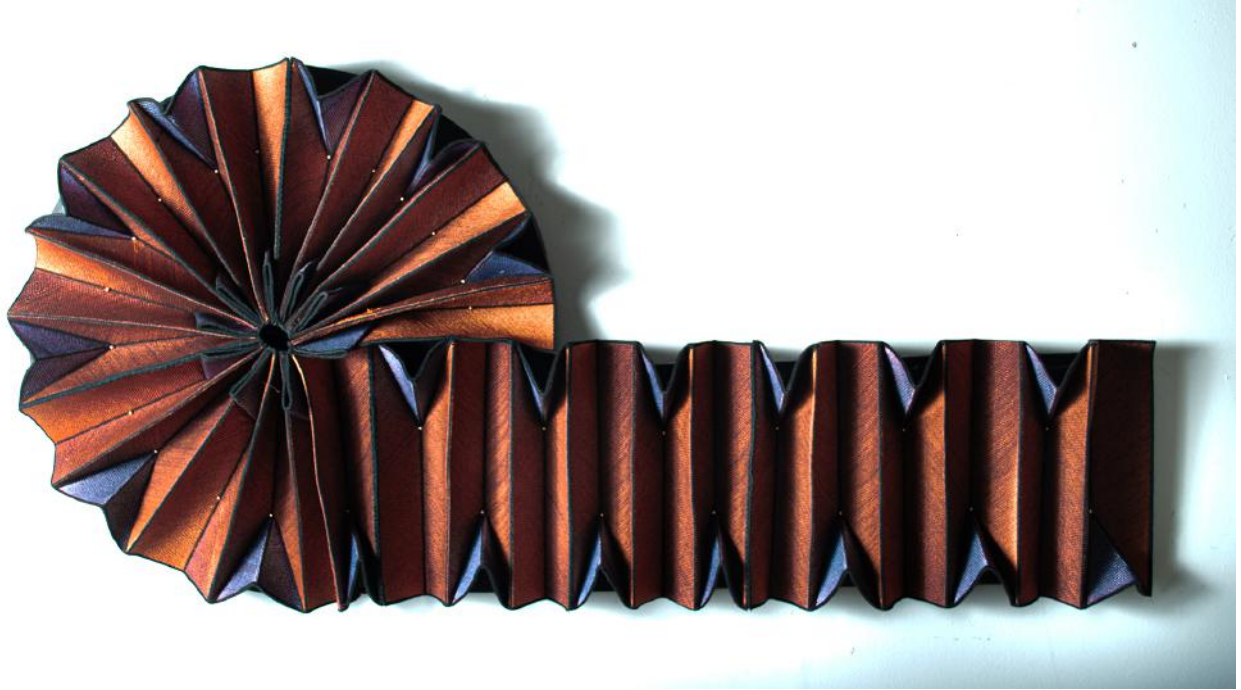


### ***Chromatic Curve***

*Sculpture*

*Size: 28 W x 20 H x 1 in*

*Mediums: Fabric, Digital,  
Textile*

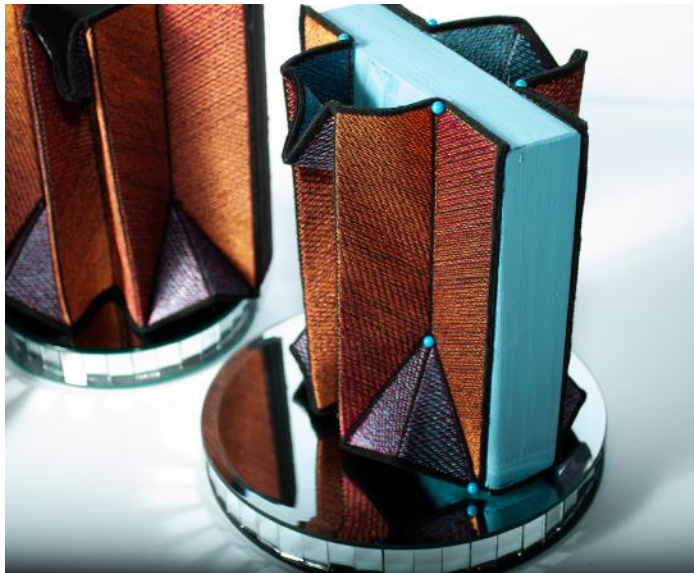
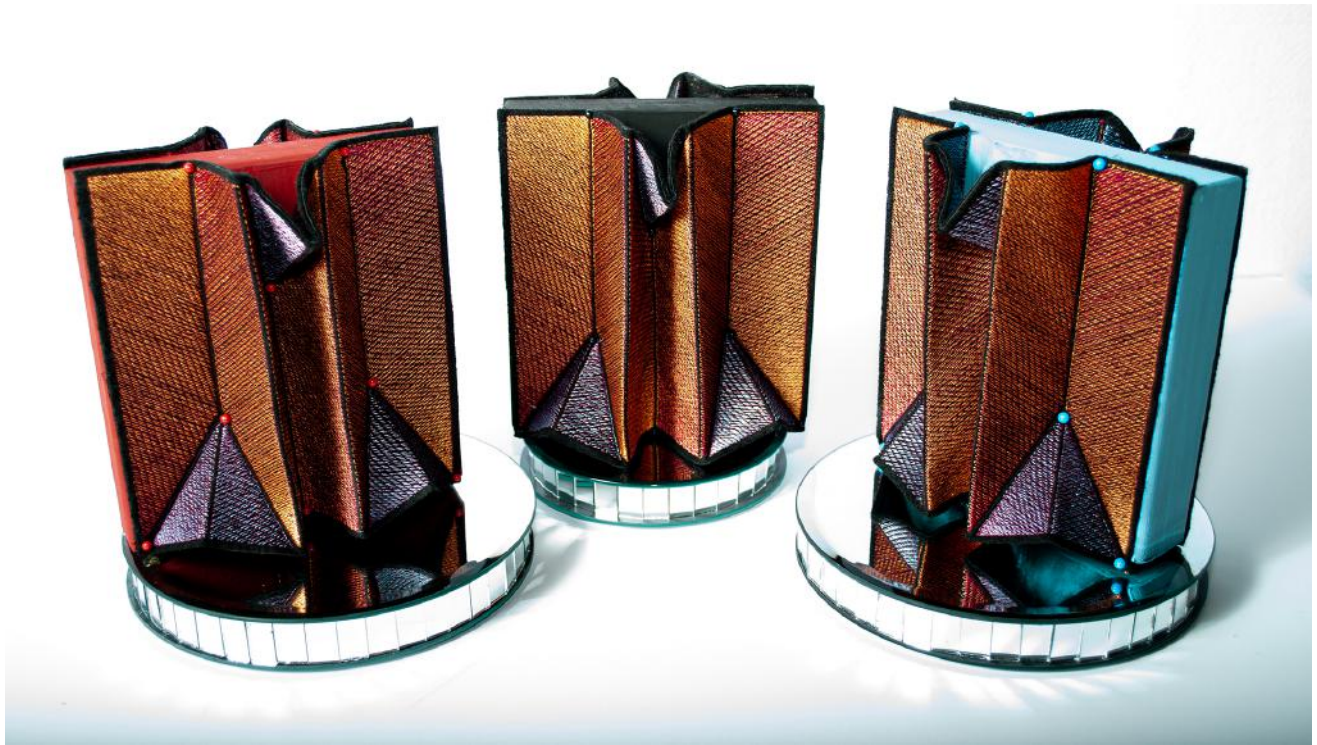


### *Escape Capsule*

*Sculpture*

*Size: 24 W x 52 H x 5 in*

*Mediums: Fabric, Digital, Textile*

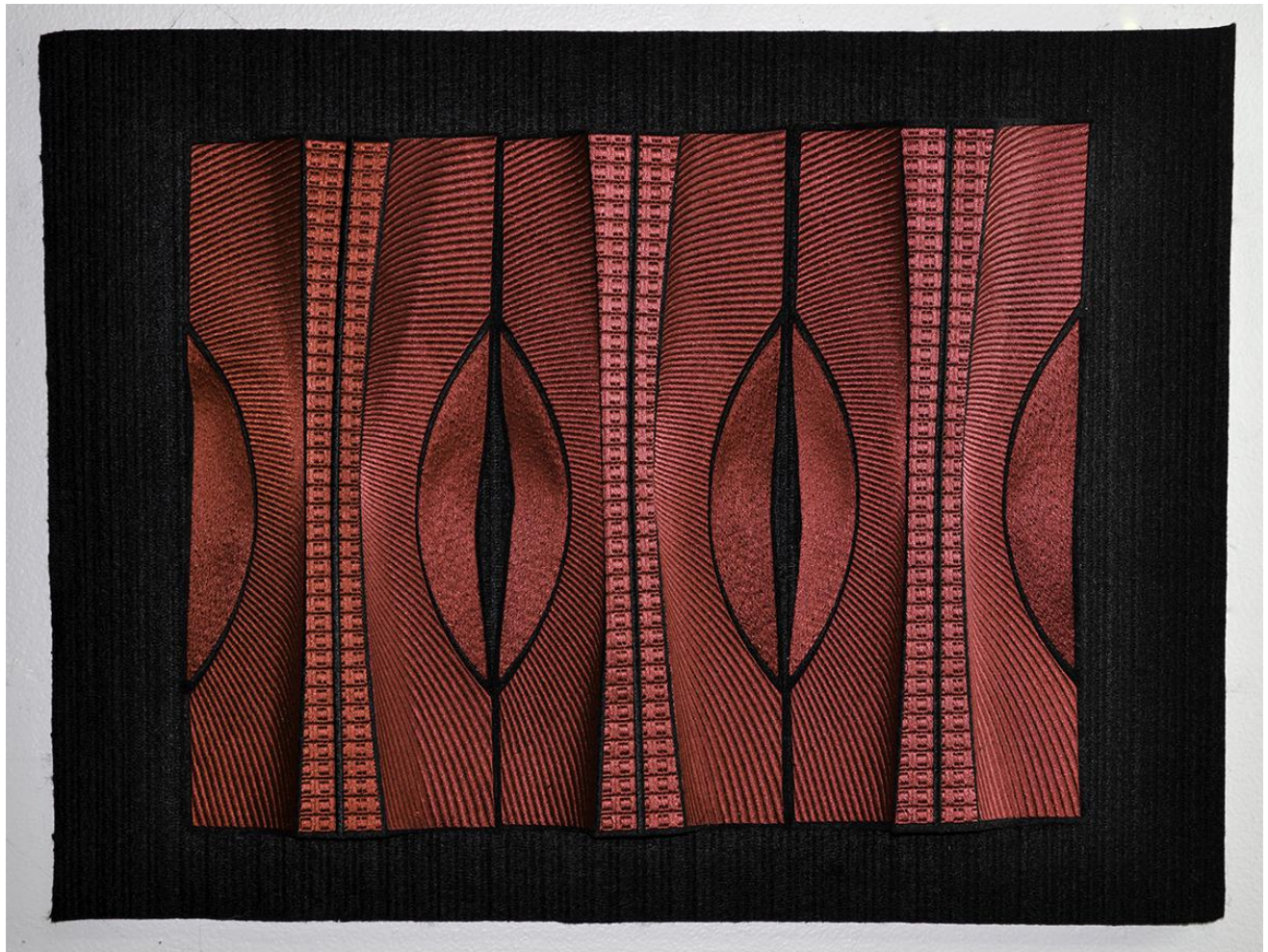


### ***Reflective Conundrum***

*a rearrangeable tabletop sculpture*

*Size: 8.5" h x 21" w x 10" d*

*Materials: Digital embroidery, fabric, mirror, wood, paint*

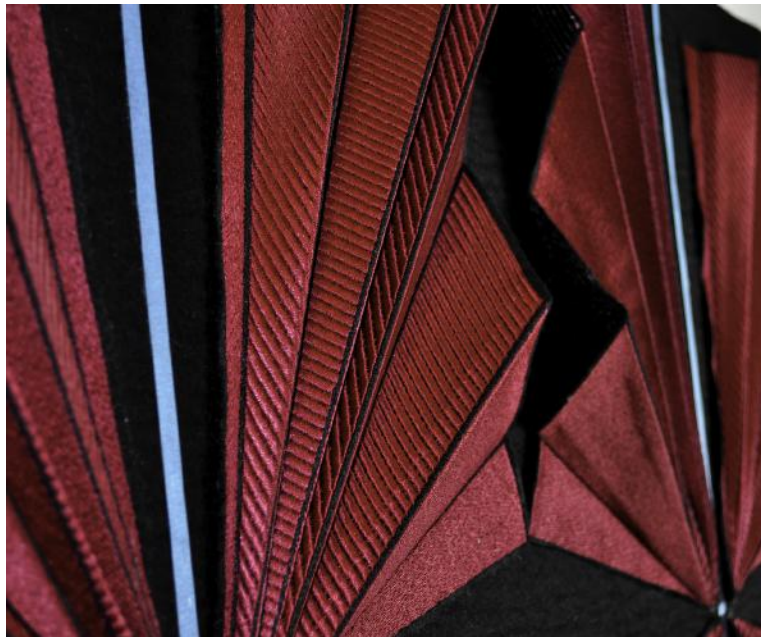
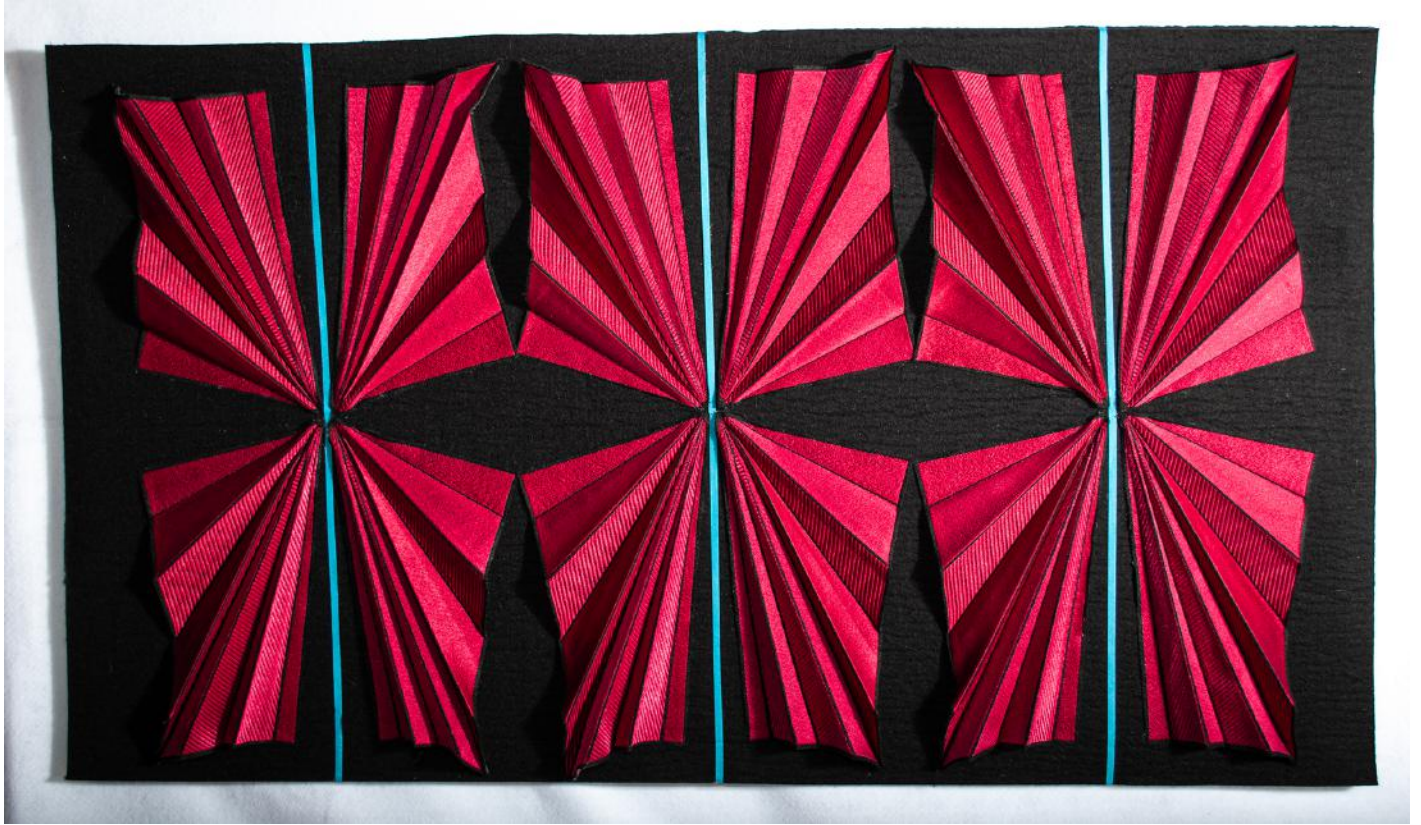


***Architectural Tryptich***

*Sculpture*

*Size: 22.5 W x 17 H x 1 in*

*Mediums: Fabric, Digital,  
Textile*



*Trinity*

*Wall Sculpture*  
*Size: 46 W x 26 H x 1 in*  
*Mediums: Fabric, Textile*



### Zig Zag

*3-d Wall piece, ready to hang*

*Size: 12" h x 32" w x 3" d*

*Mediums: Digital Embroidery,  
Fabric, thread, pins, mixed media*



**Chalice**

*sculpture: a play thing!*

*Size: @ 12"H*

*Materials: digital  
embroidery*



### Column 1

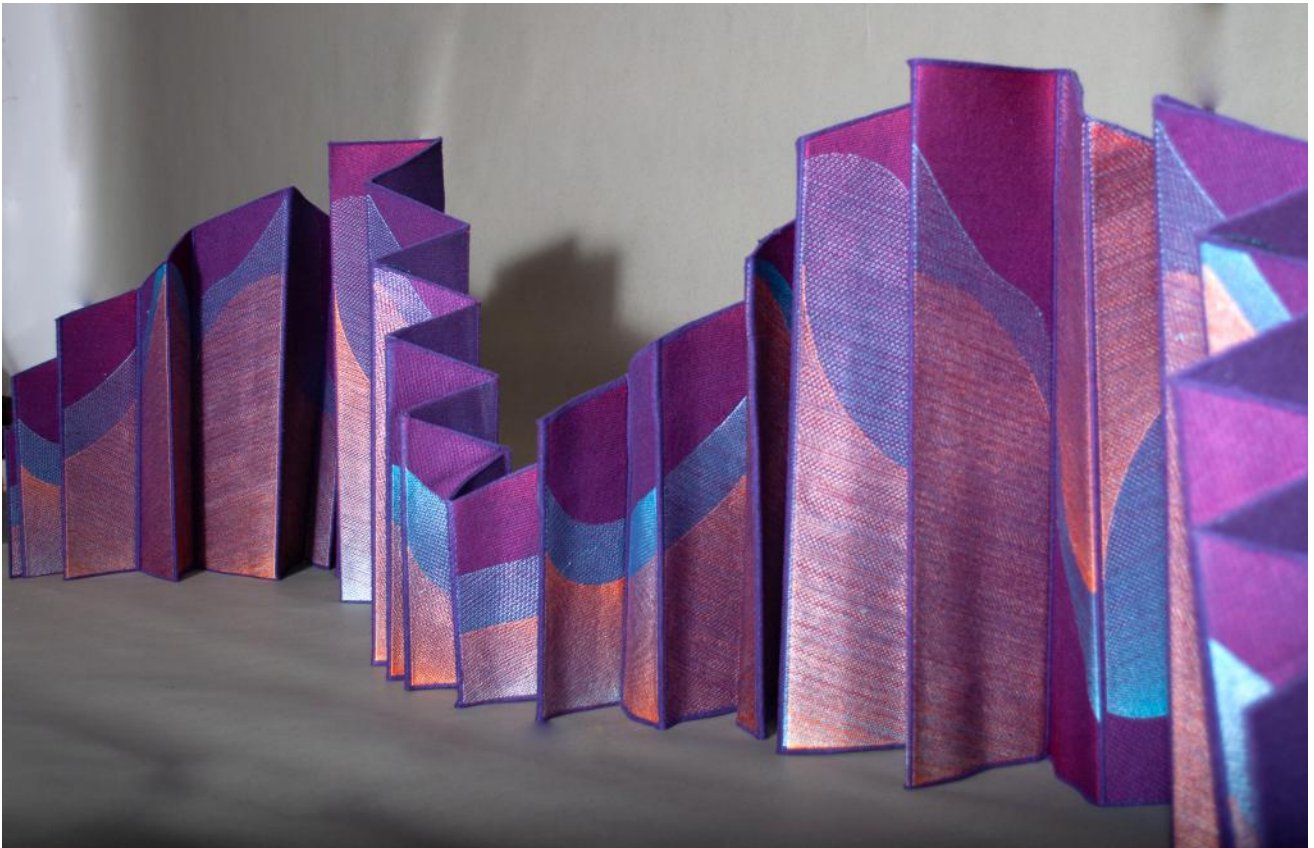
*Sculpture*

*Size: 5 W x 72 H x 5 D*

*Mediums: Fabric, Digital, Textile*





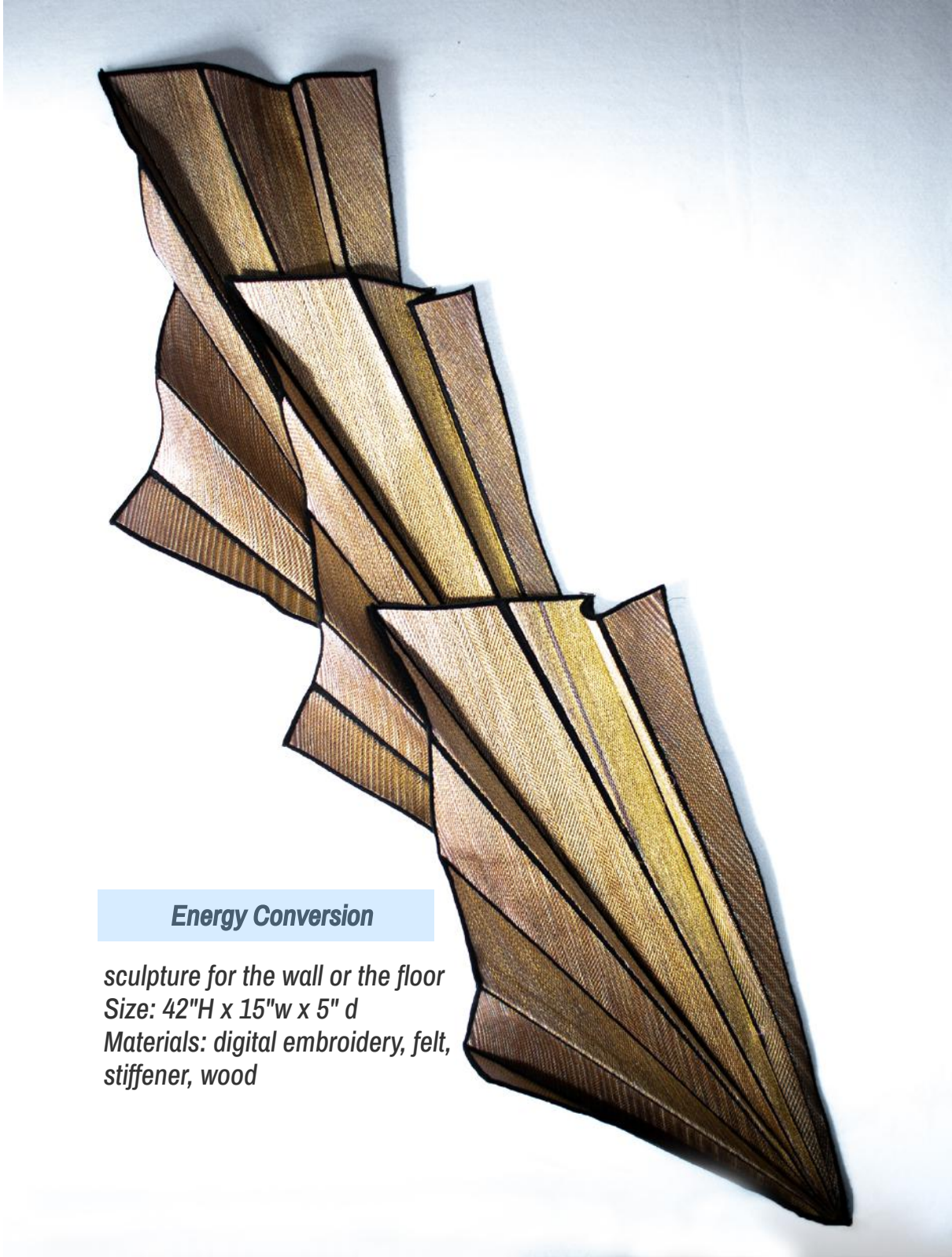


### ***Mountainous***

***sculpture: a play thing!***

***Size: 24H x 216W x 5D***

***Medium: Textile, Fiber***



***Energy Conversion***

*sculpture for the wall or the floor*  
*Size: 42"H x 15"W x 5" d*  
*Materials: digital embroidery, felt,*  
*stiffener, wood*



### *Fission*

*sculpture for the wall or the floor*

*Size: 36"H x 36"W x 5" d*

*Materials: digital embroidery, felt, stiffener,  
wood*

*Susan Hensel received her BFA from University of Michigan in 1972 with a double major in painting and sculpture and a concentration in ceramics.*

*With a history, to date, of well over 200 exhibitions, 32 of them solo, twenty garnering awards, Hensel's desire to communicate stories through art continues to be a powerful motivator.*

*Hensel's artwork is known and collected nationwide, represented in collecting libraries and museums as disparate as the Museum of Modern Art in New York and The Getty Research Institute with major holdings at Minnesota Center for Book Arts , University of Washington, Baylor University and University of Colorado at Boulder. Archives pertaining to her artists books will be available for study at the University of Washington Libraries in Seattle in 2017.*

*In recent years Hensel has been awarded multiple grants and residencies through the Jerome Foundation, Minnesota State Arts Board, and Ragdale Foundation.*

*Hensel's curatorial work began in 2000 in East Lansing, Michigan with the Art Apartment and deepened with ownership of the Susan Hensel Gallery. Hensel has curated over seventy exhibitions of emerging and mid-career artists from all over the United States and Canada.*





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