

Christine Sauerteig-Pilaar

Artist Statement

My work speaks to the many layers in a life from a female perspective. This body of work seeks to evoke the bearing witness to external conflicts beyond our control. When there are no words to fall from our lips that can mend the pain you can only empathize with as you take part in supporting another soul at a tipping point. I have tried to capture those moments when the emotion is visceral in your body, when you can only stand by and meet their eyes as they journey through chaos. The work reflects on the complexity of the human experience with fragility, decay, power, rage, anguish, convergence and the ephemeral slipping through the materials like the thread I use to layer fabric and paper together.

To mimic life, the works are large. The works are not bound by straight edges. The works are not constrained to the wall and sometimes spill onto the floor. The works push back on the idea of women being small and afraid to take up space. By hanging away from the wall, they invite interaction, responding to the movements of passersby, symbolizing the impact of human behavior on individuals. My work embraces deterioration as a natural process, mirroring life's transience. I urge viewers to contemplate their own experiences, because ultimately, the intangible struggles disappear leaving only the choice of how to remember the experience.