

Ellen Ramsey

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The works I have sent for Weaving Re-imagined come from two different series, but both works reference traditional textile forms while simultaneously breaking from these forms in very contemporary ways.

Obi 1 is from a series of work based on the image of the lotus pond in decay. This body of work references the experience of time, transformation, and loss. Woven sideways to allow for spans of exposed black cotton warp threads to be an important element of the overall design, the strip weavings are intended to reflect the piecemeal and disjointed recall of our most distant memories.

Artifact is from a suite of small tapestries inspired by Peruvian featherwork. The simple repetition of polka dots becomes the subject for the woven interpretation. Imperfect lines made using soumak and flying shuttle techniques mimic thegestures of quickly drawn circles. Although the Peruvians devised a method to tie individual feathers to long strings that were incorporated in the weft, my feathers are sewn onto the surface. Some feathers behaved better than others. The result is a rather quirky version of the form.

Here is label copy for my two pieces:

Ellen Ramsey *Obi 1*, 2018 Woven tapestry.Wool, silk, and cotton fiber 42 x 36 inches

Ellen Ramsey Artifact, 2014 Woven and embellished tapestry. Wool, linen, and Guinea Fowl feathers 12×12 inches (framed)