

matt gould

triple header -

these three pieces were first exhibited in 2011 at the Alberta Craft Council in Edmonton, Alberta and were part of a juried exhibition entitled “In the Red” which explored the theme of government cuts to arts funding.

artist’s statement

When I receive a ‘We regret to inform you...’ letter, my response is complex and textured and nuances, it’s...okay, who am I kidding?! Every time I read to poisonous words I: a) fall into a funk b) get really really angry and, finally, c) say “Screw it!” and get back to work.

Don’t we as artists perpetually deal with deficit? Don’t we find ways to live with and create despite the inadequate resources, insufficient time and reduced circumstances?

My piece, *Triple Header*, is a creation of three free-standing figurative textile pieces that explore my personal response to sorrow, fury and joy in the context of ‘we regret to inform you...’

Am I blue? - Our Lady of Sorrows

Using both the lyrics of a pop song “How Can You Mend a Broken Heart?” by the Bee Gees and scientific terms for the parts of the heart like “superior vena cava” and “left ventricle” embroidered in what is essentially illegible text, this piece concentrates on the blubbery inconsolable and incomprehensible aspect of sadness.

technique:

Machine and hand embroidery, logwood dye, linen and cotton.

Seeing Red - The Fury

Inspired by the fearsome looking masks of Africa with their clear and sometimes rough and raw emotions. The coded message on the back is a four-letter word with each number representing the letter of the alphabet.

technique:

Machine and hand embroidery, madder dye, linen and cotton, hemp thread

Clockwork Orange - Did you hear the one about?

Manic joy follows sorrow as life carries on and work must be done. This cheerful fellow (none too bright, but happy at any rate) smiles with glee and joy in his light yellow world.

technique:

Machine and hand embroidery, chamomile dye, linen and cotton