

W THE
OVEN TALE PRESS



"The act of knitting has always brought me great comfort, and as stress mounted up in the wake of the pandemic, I began to knit every night.

The more I knit, I began to see the knitted pieces as part of a larger canvas, and viewed them as safety nets that provided a loose, but comforting veil over at least some portions of an increasingly precarious world. To the yarn, I added fabric and cord filler, a thick woven form of rope. Collectively, these materials—all of which are also used in sewing and are stereotypically affiliated with women—seemed to express both comfort and hope.

"To begin each piece, I draw a line with the cord on a flat board. The wave or spiral of the cord moves to an inner beat as shapes and structures are created. Essential to each piece is the tension created by the binding and connecting of the disparate shapes, patterns, and textures using knitted pieces. Opposing elements come together and work as one. I know only the materials I will be using and I have a general idea of the colors, but I remain in the dark as to how it will culminate in composition and placement of materials. Working intuitively allows me the freedom to work without a preconceived vision of what the ending will be. This approach allows me to be in sync with a natural flow and rhythm, while leaving me open to surprises, constant inspiration, and endless possibilities.

"The experiences of this past couple of years has reinforced the realization that life is not predictable. Consequently, this realization has allowed me to put more trust in my intuition, and to rely on the inner resources which have made me who I am."



Union
my knitting, upholstery cord,
recycled fabric, acrylic paint
on wood panel
30" x 24"



Unforeseen Paths
my knitting, upholstery cord,
recycled fabric, acrylic paint
on wood panel
30" x 24"



Dancing Through the Dark
my knitting, upholstery cord,
recycled fabric, acrylic paint
on wood panel
60" x 48"



High Expectations
my knitting, upholstery cord,
recycled fabric, acrylic paint
on wood panel
60" x 48"



Freedomland
my knitting, upholstery cord,
recycled fabric, acrylic paint
on wood panel
30" x 24"



Unstoppable
my knitting, upholstery cord,
recycled fabric, acrylic paint
on wood panel
30" x 24"

Mastrangelo was born and raised in New York City and Washington, D.C. She studied at the Kansas City Art Institute and the New York Studio School, and received her MFA from Boston University under the tutelage of Philip Guston. Based in New York since graduate school, she has shown nationally and internationally, and is a recipient of a Mercedes Matter Award, a Rockwell Grant, and two grants from the Pollock Krasner Foundation. She has been a visiting artist at the American Academy in Rome; a guest at Civitella Raneri; and a resident at Yaddo, The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, The Ragdale Foundation, The Triangle Workshop (as a student of Anthony Caro), and the Tyrone Guthrie Center. For twenty-seven years she taught and chaired the Art Department at the Buckley School in New York City, and now works as a full-time multidisciplinary artist at the Can Factory in Gowanus, Brooklyn.