

Re-Played

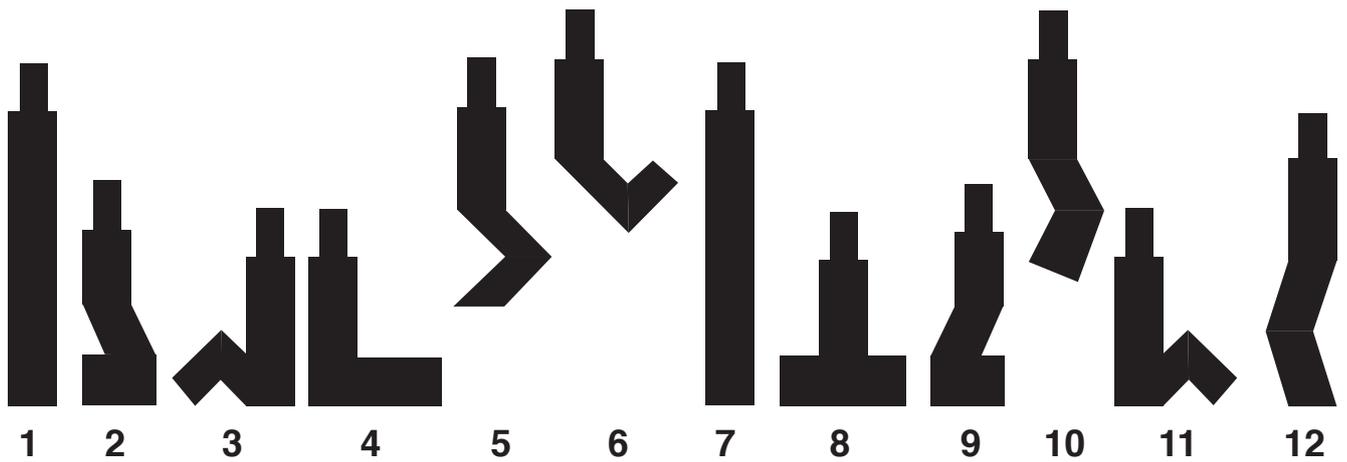
Annie Gobel

ARTIST STATEMENT

Objects of memory are objects that reveal traces of my childhood experiences through the association with toys. Visual and physical characteristics of the toys evoke both positive and negative memories of my childhood. The aim of my practice is to not only celebrate the joy of playing with toys but to also explore different strategies that alter and/or reconstruct its associated negative memories.

Deconstruction is the method I take as a metaphor to alter negative memories. I create physical changes to the toys by imitating only parts of its form and adopting various techniques to pave way for the new. Through the wrapping of metal and the deconstruction of the physical toys I have undergone a process of creation that produces new toys to and for me. The celebration of playing with toys takes place in the reconstruction process. By playing with the original function and state of the toy (by placing them next to one another or on top of each other like building blocks) I have an opportunity reconstruct my own memories through the manipulation of the old toys. I also play with the application of colours on to the metal components through the range of enameling techniques. This includes the mixing of colours, stamping over the enameled metal surfaces with the surface of the toy, drawing lines around the toy, using the actual deconstructed toy components as stencils, as well as drawing with the toy.

It is through the collaboration between my methods of creation, as an artist and my memories, as a child that have combined to contribute to my works to date. As a child I always felt the pleasure in wearing jewellery and now in my adult life, I feel the pleasure of creating artworks. These pleasures are the elements that urge me to reconstruct the memory associations of toys into wearable works of art. In addition, the wearable quality of my artwork allows a sense of mobility that enables the audience to keep filling stories as they wear it to various places.



1.

Yellow Turns Purple, 2014.

Enamel, mildsteel, thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

2.

Baby Blue Baby Pink, 2013

Enamel, mild steel, deconstructed plastic toys, sterling silver.

3.

Why Did I Eat So Many Hamburgers?, 2014.

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

4.

Stack It Up, 2013.

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

5.

Yellow Red, 2014.

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

6.

Seasnake, 2013.

Enamel, mild steel, rubber thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

7.

Studying Green 1, 2015

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, rubber thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

8.

Simba, 2013

Enamel, mild steel, deconstructed wooden block toys, sterling silver.

9.

Studying Green 2, 2015.

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, rubber thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

10.

Contrasting Lime and Pink, 2014.

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

11.

Blue Green, 2014

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, deconstructed plastic toys.

12.

How Red Works With Purple, 2014

Enamel, mild steel, nylon thread, rubber thread, deconstructed plastic toys.