



orlando museum of art
FLORIDA PRIZE
in contemporary art

Denise Treizman

The raw materials of Denise Treizman's work come from the waste stream of contemporary society. She accumulates these materials in a variety of ways to upcycle them into vibrantly colored sculptures that hang on the wall, sit on the floor, or fill rooms with immersive installations. Her practice evolved during her MFA studies at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Initially an abstract painter, she was captivated by the extraordinary things she found discarded on New York's streets. Shifting her focus from painting to sculpture, she started to make art that incorporated and responded to those objects and materials. She continued her career in New York for nine years followed by two in Haifa, Israel, before arriving in Miami, where she currently lives and works.

Another formative experience occurred while she was at ACRE, an artists' residency in Steuben, WI. There she was introduced to weaving by a fellow resident artist. Concerned that she did not have the patience to learn the practice or work in a way that did not yield immediate results, she was at first reluctant to take it up. After some reflection, she decided to try weaving with nontraditional materials. Starting with duct tape and bubble wrap, she was excited by the outcome. Teaching herself the techniques and working intuitively, she now has several looms in her studio, each with weavings in progress. These often become points of departure for new works, but they are not made with their eventual ends in mind. Rather, she treats them just as she does other materials, as visual elements that must contribute to her vision for the work.

Treizman notes that she does not make her sculptures with found objects but instead from objects and materials she accumulates. She banks things that have a resonance and relevance to the nature of her work, not knowing when or how they might ultimately be used. A list of some of the objects in her recent sculptures may suggest rather arbitrary choices, including pool noodles, tennis shoes, exercise balls, hula hoops, pompons, and a dumbbell. A look at the work, though, belies that idea. These things are accents, punctuations, dissonant notes within a larger cohesive aesthetic dominated by a swirl of optically seductive materials. Shiny plastics, synthetic fabrics, colored duct tapes, iridescent papers, neon spray paints, and sparkling LED lights provide the overall visual language that pulls her works together. With a playful and sophisticated eye, Treizman assembles sculptures that are explosively energetic, teetering on chaos but resolving into beautifully expressive statements.

Hansen Mulford

La materia prima de la obra de Denise Treizman procede de los residuos de la sociedad contemporánea. Acumula estos materiales de diversas maneras para convertirlos en esculturas de colores vibrantes que cuelgan de la pared, se posan en el suelo o llenan espacios con instalaciones inmersivas. Su práctica se desarrolló durante sus estudios de maestría en la School of Visual Arts de Nueva York. Inicialmente pintora abstracta, se sintió cautivada por las cosas extraordinarias que encontraba desechadas en las calles de Nueva York. Tras cambiar su enfoque de la pintura a la escultura, empezó a hacer arte que incorporaba y respondía a esos objetos y materiales. Continuó su carrera en Nueva York durante nueve años, seguidos de dos en Haifa, Israel, antes de llegar a Miami, donde vive y trabaja actualmente.

Otra experiencia formativa tuvo lugar durante su estancia en ACRE, una residencia de artistas en Steuben, Wisconsin. Allí, un artista residente la introdujo al arte de tejer. Preocupada por no tener la paciencia necesaria para aprender esta práctica o trabajar de una manera que no diera resultados inmediatos, al principio se mostró renuente a emprenderla. Tras reflexionar un poco, decidió probar el tejido con materiales no tradicionales. Empezó con cinta adhesiva y plástico de burbujas, y el resultado le entusiasmó. Aprendiendo por sí misma las técnicas y trabajando intuitivamente, ahora tiene varios telares en su estudio, cada uno con tejidos en proceso. A menudo se convierten en puntos de partida para nuevas obras, pero no se hacen pensando en su final. En cambio, los trata igual que a otros materiales, como elementos visuales que deben contribuir a su visión de la obra.

Treizman señala que no hace sus esculturas con objetos encontrados, sino a partir de objetos y materiales que acumula. Recoge cosas que tienen una resonancia y relevancia con respecto a la naturaleza de su obra, sin saber cuándo o cómo se utilizarán en un momento determinado. Una lista de algunos de los objetos de sus esculturas recientes puede sugerir elecciones arbitrarias: flotadores de piscina, zapatos tenis, pelotas de gimnasia, aros de hula-hula, pompones y una pesa. Sin embargo, una mirada a la obra desmiente esa idea. Estas cosas son acentos, puntuaciones, notas disonantes dentro de una estética más amplia y cohesiva dominada por un remolino de materiales ópticamente seductores. Plásticos brillantes, textiles sintéticos, cintas adhesivas de colores, papeles iridiscentes, pinturas de neón en aerosol y luces LED centelleantes conforman el lenguaje visual que unifica sus obras. Con una mirada juguetona y sofisticada, Treizman ensambla esculturas explosivamente energéticas, que se tambalean al borde del caos pero que se resuelven en hermosas declaraciones expresivas.

RIGHT:
Denise Treizman, Installation view from
the Florida Prize in Contemporary Art
2023







LEFT TO RIGHT:

Denise Treizman, *Untitled (Blue Altar)*, 2022, handwoven textile, hula hoop, spray paint, vinyl, glitter, pompons, fitness ball and LED lights, 112 x 68 x 35 in.

Denise Treizman, *Untitled (Southern vibes)*, 2023, handwoven textile, hula hoops, fabric, iridescent paper, chicken wire, fitness ball, ropes, pompons, Mardi Gras collected beads, glitter fabric, plexiglass and LED lights, 99 x 73 x 28 in.

Denise Treizman, *Untitled (Like a Gift Shop)*, 2022, handwoven textile, duct tape, Styrofoam, spray paint, glitter, vinyl, pool noodle, plastic, LED rope lights, tennis shoe, 85 x 80 x 82 in.