

She's Body

By Fanglu Lin

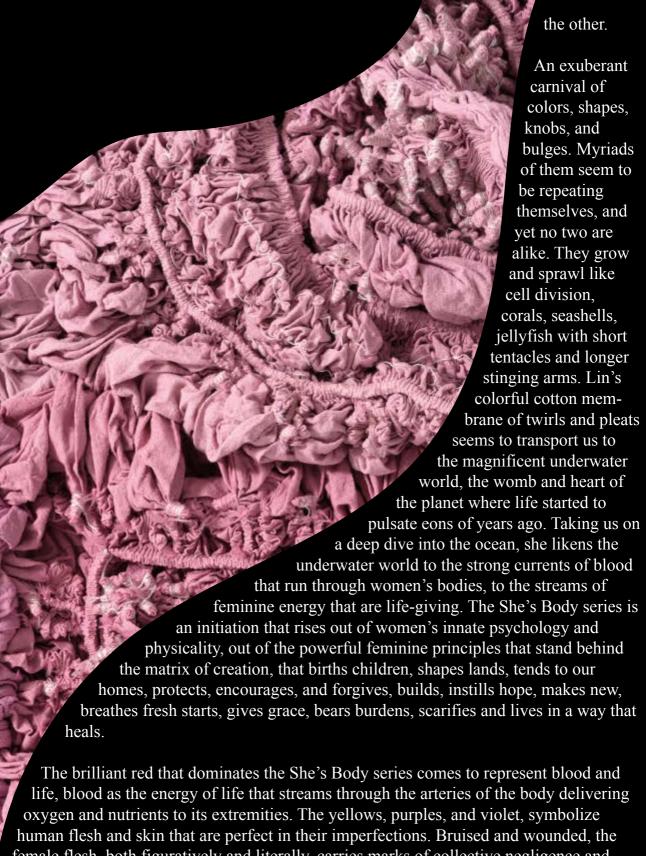
by Liya Prilipko September 2023

Embracing and re-examining techniques that have been traditionally linked with women's craft, a young Chinese female fiber artist and designer, Fanglu Lin takes story-telling associated with the realm of thread and cloths to the level of the sculptural, and often, the monumental. Her pure and forceful works made of pliable media speak volumes about the need to illuminate and honor the lives of untold generations of women as creators and protectors, life givers and nurturers, whose stories of struggles and sacrifices, hard work and devotion, hopes, and desires are often overlooked, silenced, or simply forgotten.

Lin's profound explorations of Bai's ethnic minority group's culture, lifestyle, and zā huā techniques (in Bai dialect 扎花 [zā huā] is colloquial for tie-dying) culminated in the creation of the She series. It pays tribute to and celebrates women whose hard work and devotion to the life of making carried on the ancient craft traditions, including the ones of Bai tie-dying, to the present day. She is meters of cotton fabric laboriously stretched, tucked, folded, pleated, knotted, and stitched. With the simplest of auxiliary tools, the plain fabric is transformed into the undulating landscapes of knots and pleats.

The new creations presented for the exhibition from the She's Body series, unlike her earlier works made of undyed fabric, are submerged in color - crimson red, brilliant yellow, violet, or purple. Some works feature currents of greens, yellows, and purples flowing effortlessly one into





female flesh, both figuratively and literally, carries marks of collective negligence and abuse through centuries of human civilization, yet it is strong enough to heal and recover over and over again. "Within these flesh-toned undulations, akin to life's very pulse, courses an unwavering stream of feminine vitality—an energy that animates the very

essence of existence", reflects the artist.

Women as no others, from their very flesh and blood and from the constant cycles of filling and emptying the red vessel in their abdomens, understand physically, emotionally, and spiritually that the brightest stars fade, zeniths expire, and what is left is reborn in unexpected ways, only to reduce back to nothing, and yet be reconceived again in full glory. These cycles that run in and through women run through Her Majesty Mother Nature as well. By directing the spotlight back on the feminine vitality and resilience and by claiming the respect it deserves, through her work Lin heals a much bigger self-inflicted wound of humanity, the one of losing touch with the seasons and cycles of nature, the wound of losing relationships with lands, oceans, and all other non-human creatures that inhabit the planet together with us. Finally, in its deepest sense, Lin's work heals the wound of losing touch with ourselves living in our bodies, fully present in time.

Coming across Lin's She's Body series is an incredibly visceral experience. The intense physicality of her work is indisputable. The energy she imbues them with is almost palpable. Peculiar forms of nature-informed abstractions respond to our presence. The texture of the surfaces and stimulating colors almost demand skin-to-skin contact. It is as if the artist entices you to experience the work through the fibers of your body, and through this connection she hopes to lead you back to yourself, the world within, and, inevitably, to a more sincere world around you.



年轻的中国女性纤维艺术家和设计师林芳璐采用传统中与女性手工艺相关的技艺,并对其加以重新审视,将与针线、布料领域相关的故事提升到了雕塑的层面,而且通常是"纪念碑式"的雕塑。她用柔韧的媒介创作纯粹、有力的作品,充分表明我们有必要去讲述并尊重无数代女性的生命——她们是创造者和保护者,是生命的给予者和养育者,然而,她们的奋斗与牺牲、辛勤工作与无私奉献、希望与渴望却总是遭到忽视、噤声,或干脆被遗忘。

林芳璐深入探索了白族少数民族的文化、生活方式,及扎花技艺("扎染"的白族说法),最终创作了"她"系列。该系列致敬并颂扬了那些辛勤劳作的女性,她们献身于"制作的一生",将包括白族扎染技艺在内的古老手工艺传统传承至今。"她"系列的制作劳神费力,通过将数米的棉布材料使劲拉伸、盘掖、折叠、打结、缝合制成。只需用到最简单的辅助工具,平淡无奇的织物就转变成为由凸起和褶皱构成的高低起伏景观。

与早期使用未染色织物创作的作品不同,艺术家在此次展览上展出的系列新作,"她的身体",浸没在色彩当中——深红色、亮黄色、紫罗兰色或紫色。在一些作品中,流动般的绿色、黄色和紫色自然而然地交织融合在一起。

色彩、形状、球结和凸块的纵情狂欢。它们数不胜数,似乎在不断复制,但又无一重复。它们生长、蔓延,如同细胞分裂、珊瑚、贝壳、长着短触手和长刺臂的水母。林芳璐创作的棉布薄膜色彩斑斓,布满了螺旋和褶皱,仿佛将我们带到壮观美丽的水底世界——地球的子宫和心脏,生命在数万年前就已然开始在这里跃动。她的作品将我们带向海洋深处。她将水下世界比作流淌在女性身体中强劲有力的血流,赋予生命的女性能量之流。"她的身体"系列意味着一种原初,自女性与生俱来的心理和生理特性中升腾而出,自强大的女性信念中升腾而出——这些信念支撑创造的母体,孕育孩童,塑造大地,照料我们的家园,保护、鼓励、宽恕、建构、灌输希望,创造新事物,激发新的开始,

施予恩惠, 承担重负, 忍受伤痕, 并以一种疗愈的方式生活。

"她的身体"系列以鲜艳的红色为主色调,代表着血液和生命。血液是生命的能量,通过身体中的动脉向四肢输送氧气和养分。黄色、紫色和紫罗兰色象征着人类的肉体和皮肤,在缺陷中彰显出完美。女性的身体伤痕累累——不管是比喻的层面还是字面的意义——承载着人类文明数百年来集体性的忽视和欺凌所留下的痕迹。但女性的身体足够坚强,能够一次又一次地愈合并复原。艺术家认为:"就如同生命跳动的脉搏,在这些如肉体一般的起伏褶皱中,也流淌着一股坚韧的女性生命力——一种赋予存在的本质以活力的能量。"

和所有人不同的是,透过她们的血肉之躯,透过她们腹部红色容器充盈—清空的往复循环,女性在身体、情感和精神上了然于心:最亮的星星会失色,在最高的顶端会跌落,留给我们的就是以意想不到的方式重生,然后再化为乌有,但仍将焕然一新,光彩四射。这些贯穿女性身体的循环也贯穿我们的大地母亲。通过聚焦于女性的生命力和韧性,并唤起我们对其应有之尊重,林芳璐的创作疗愈了人性自身造成的创伤——与四季以及大自然的周期失去联系造成的创伤,与土地、海洋,以及和我们人类共同栖居在地球上的所有其他非人类生物失去联系造成的创伤。最后,在最深层的意义上,林芳璐的作品疗愈了我们与生活在我们的身体之中,全然存在于时间之中的自己失去联系造成的创伤。

观看林芳璐的"她的身体"系列是一种源自身体本能的难以言喻的体验。她作品中充斥着显而易见且强烈的身体性。她在作品中注入的能量几乎是可触可感的。源自自然的奇特抽象形态回应着我们的存在。作品表面的纹理和活力四射的色彩要求我们近距离的观察,几乎是要肌肤相切的程度。艺术家仿佛是在引诱观众,通过身体的皮肉筋骨去体验她的作品。通过建立这种联系,艺术家希望能够将我们带回自身——回到我们内在的世界,以及最终——回到我们正在身处的这个真诚的世界。







Lin Fanglu is an accomplished artist and designer with a strong background in fine arts. She completed her Master's and Bachelor's degrees at the Central Academy of Fine Arts (CAFA) in Beijing, China in 2016 and 2012, respectively. Throughout her education, she had the opportunity to work under renowned professors and participate in exchange programs at prestigious institutions such as Karlsruhe University of Art and Design in Germany and Tokyo University of the Arts in Japan.

Her artistic journey led her to explore the traditions and folkways of Chinese ethnic minorities, particularly the disappearing techniques of tie-dyeing from the Bai women community in Yunnan and Dong traditional hand-woven cloth-bright cloth in Guizhou. Lin Fanglu's numerous visits to these communities resulted in the creation of textiles artworks series, which have been exhibited at prominent venues including the Art Museum of the Central Academy of Fine Art and the Beijing Exhibition Center. Her exceptional talent and innovative work have been recognized through various awards. In 2021, she was awarded the Grand Prize at the LOEWE FOUNDATION Craft Prize, a prestigious international competition. In 2016, she received the titles of New Designer of the Year and Innovative Brand of the Year at the China Building Decoration Association Awards. Her artworks have been collected by esteemed institutions such as the Museum of Decorative Arts in Paris, France, and the National Gallery of Victoria in Melbourne, Australia.

Lin Fanglu's commitment to pushing the boundaries of art and design is evident in her participation in numerous solo and group exhibitions. Her solo exhibitions include "The Power of Binding and Weaving" at the Samgaksan Geumam Museum of Art in Seoul, Korea in 2023, and "Threads of Change" at Art+ Gallery in Shanghai, China in 2022. She has also showcased her work in notable group exhibitions around the world, including the Venice Design Biennial in Italy, the Xinjiang Biennale in China, and the Design and The Wondrous exhibition at the Centre Pompidou in Shanghai, China.

With her unique artistic vision and dedication to craftsmanship, Lin Fanglu continues to make a significant impact in the art and design world, captivating audiences with her innovative creations.

林芳璐是一位才华横溢的艺术家和设计师,拥有深厚的美术背景。 她分别于 2012 年和 2016 年在中国北京中央美术学院完成了本科和硕士 学位。在求学期间,她有幸在著名教授的指导下学习,并参加了德国卡尔斯鲁厄艺术与设计大学以及日本东京艺术大学的交流项目。

她的艺术探索使她深入研究中国少数民族的传统和民俗,特别是云南白族妇女社区的失传的扎染技术和贵州侗族传统手工编织的彩布。林芳璐多次拜访这些社区,创作了一系列纺织艺术作品,并在包括中央美术学院美术馆和北京展览馆在内的知名场所展出。

她的卓越才华和创新作品得到了各种奖项的肯定。2021 年,她在备受赞誉的国际比赛 LOEWE 基金会工艺奖中获得了大奖。2016 年,她荣获中国建筑装饰协会奖的年度新锐设计师和创新品牌称号。她的艺术作品被法国巴黎装饰艺术博物馆和澳大利亚墨尔本国家美术馆等著名机构收藏。

林芳璐致力于推动艺术和设计的界限,在许多个展和群展中展示了她的才华。她的个展包括2023年在韩国首尔三岳山金岩美术馆举办的《绑缚与编织的力量》以及2022年在中国上海艺术+画廊举办的《变革之线》。她还在世界各地的重要群展中展示了自己的作品,包括意大利威尼斯设计双年展、中国新疆双年展以及中国上海蓬皮杜中心的《设计与奇妙》展览。

凭借独特的艺术眼光和对工艺的执着, 林芳璐在艺术和设计界继续 产生重大影响, 用她的创新作品吸引观众。



Lin Fanglu artworks in exhibition

Lin Fanglu a Chinese fiber artist and designer is passionate about discovering the world of ancient textile crafts and recording the stories of women who weave the thread of history with their hands. Fabric sculptures and wall installations featured in ART IN SUHE HOUSE are inspired by the traditional tie-dyeing techniques she has learned from the artisan women of the Bai ethnic minority group that lives in Zhoucheng village of Yunnan province in China.



She's perception 她的感知

Stainless steel spray coating, cotton cloth, thread
不锈钢喷镀、棉布、线

150 x 140 x 70 cm



She's fiery love. Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood $225 \times 165 \times 25$ cm 2023







To create complex designs in famous blue, red and white Bai fabrics, untold hours of handiwork go into the knotting stage. Once the cycles of dyeing are completed, the thread that holds the peculiar swirls and twirls on the fabric is cut. As the fabric flattens so does the memory of the backbreaking manual labor. Fanglu Lin makes the scrupulous needlework the defining feature of her art as a tribute to Bai women artisans and their relentless effort to preserve the ethnic handcrafting traditions of their people. With the simplest of auxiliary tools, she transforms plain fabric into undulating landscapes of knots and pleats. Rather than making flat works, the artist experiments with complicated geometrical patterns and traditional types of stitching she has learned in the village, pushing the pliable medium into three dimensions, producing tactile objects of art.



She's red body 她的红色身体 Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木 150 x 113 x 25 cm 2023



She's red body no.2 她的红色身体 2

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

152 x 112 cm



She's red moving no.1 她的红色流动 1

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木 53 x 53 cm 2023

She's red moving no.2 她的红色流动 2

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木 45 x 45 cm 2023





She's red moving no.3 她的红色流动 3

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

53 x 53 cm

2023



She's red moving no.4 她的红色流动 4

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

53 x 53 cm



She's whimsical No.1 异想天开的她 No.1

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

50 x 50 x 8 cm

The months of living and working side by side with the community of Bai women artisans, empathizing with their joys and sorrows, celebrating their achievements, and learning about their struggles, have made an indelible impression on Fanglu Lin. The first-hand experience truly shaped her artistic aspiration and expressive language. While preserving traditional craftsmanship and techniques will always be an integral part of Fanglu's work, celebrating and supporting the dwindling communities of women who have dedicated their lives to making history with their hands remains the driving force behind Fanglu Lin's artistic journey.

中国纤维艺术家和设计师林芳璐热衷于发现古老纺织工艺的世界,并记录那些用手编织历史线索的妇女的故事。在"ART IN SUHE HOUSE"中展示的织物雕塑和墙壁装置灵感来自于她从中国云南省州城村白族手工艺人那里学到的传统扎染技术。



She's red shadow no.1/2 她的影子 1, 2

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

25 x 25 x 120 cm

25 x 25 x 185 cm





She's red gradient 她的红色渐变

Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

75 x 30 x 15 cm x 7 pieces



She's yellow body. Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 92 x 72 x 10 cm 2023 为了在著名的白族蓝、红和白色织物上创建复杂图案,需要数小时的手工编织。一旦染色循环完成,保持织物上奇特涡旋和卷曲的线被切断。随着织物变平,劳动的艰难的发达。林芳璐将缜密的针法作为处于,以向白族妇女手工艺,以保护他们民族,以后的经济的势力。她用最简单的辅助工具,艺传统的努力。她用最简单的辅助工具,艺术家不是制作平面作品,而是尝试复杂的几个图案和她在村里学到的传统缝纫类型,将已塑性强的纺织材料推向三维,制作可触的艺术品。







She's purple body 她的紫色身体 Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木 92 x 72 x 10 cm

与白族妇女手工艺人社区生活和工作数 月,感同身受他们的喜怒哀乐,庆祝他们的 成就,了解他们的斗争,这段经历对林芳璐 产生了不可磨灭的印象。第一手经验真正塑 造了她的艺术愿望和表现语言。虽然保留传 统工艺和技术将始终是林芳璐作品不可或缺 的部分,但庆祝和支持那些用手创造历史的 妇女社区仍然是林芳璐的艺术之旅的驱动力 之一。



She's pink body 她的粉色身体 Plant-dyed Cotton, Cotton Thread, Wood 植物染色棉,棉线,木

92 x 72 x 10 cm



She's Scenery No.2 她的景色 二 Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 棉布、棉线、木 165 x 225 x 20 cm 2023



She's shadowno.1/2/3 她的影子 1,2,3 Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 布、棉线、木 53 x 53 cm



She's cake 她的蛋糕

Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 棉布、棉线、木 36 x 36cm x 2 pcs 2023



She's blooming no.9 她正在绽放 9

Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 棉布、棉线、木

53 x 53 cm/piece 4 pieces



She's a little wave No.1&2 她的小浪花 1、2 Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 棉布、棉线、木 36 x 36 cm x 2 pcs 2023



She's shadowno.1/2/3 她的影子 1,2,3 Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 棉布、棉线、木 A: 25 x 25 x 120 cm B: 25 x 25 x 160 cm C: 25 x 25 x 185 cm



She's cake no.2 她的蛋糕 2

Cotton cloth, Cotton thread, Wood 棉布、棉线、木

43 x 53 cm



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