# MICRO-ARTMAKING LESSON

Inspired by **Denise Treizman:** In Between Living

## COLLABORATIVE MIXED-MEDIA WEAVING

This activity is inspired by Denise Triezman's mixed-media weavings and her intuitive artmaking process. Take a moment to explore the <u>exhibition</u> before starting the activity.

- How many different materials can you find in Treizman's weavings? How has she used these materials in exciting or surprising ways?
- What do you associate with these materials? How do you think they might have been used before they were incorporated into her artwork?
- Search for repeated elements in Treizman's artwork—such as colors, shapes, textures, and lines. What do they make you feel or think about? Discuss your observations with a partner.

Denise Treizman, Untitled (Neon pink is my fave), 2022. Handwoven textile, aluminum tape, emergency blankets, and LED light. Courtesy of the artist.



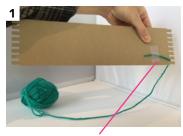
**Step 1:** Start a weaving using a <u>cardboard loom</u> and a variety of materials—such as yarn, pipe cleaners, fabric, bubble wrap, and tissue paper. \***See page 2 for guided instructions.** 

- Try working intuitively, without a plan, to allow for spontaneity and surprise.
- **Step 2:** Swap weavings with a partner and add details to each other's designs.
  - Explore ways to expand beyond the borders of the loom. Find inspiration in Treizman's weavings that flow onto the floor or extend upwards or outwards.
  - Experiment with diagonal or spiral lines. Try switching between yarn, fabric, pipe cleaners, tape, and other materials.
  - Add beads and buttons by threading through the holes or adhering them with glue. Consider incorporating salvaged
    materials such as shoe laces, envelope scraps, or plastic straws in your design.
- **Step 3:** Continue switching with your partner and adding details to each other's creations.
  - Communicate with your partner to decide when your designs are complete.
- Step 4: Reflect on your artwork with your partner. Discuss what you were thinking about while making your artworks.
  - Did you have an idea in mind for design elements—such as composition, color, or texture—or did you try to avoid thinking ahead?
  - How did the artwork and your processes change as you passed the works back and forth?
- Step 5: Photograph your work and share it with us on Instagram by tagging us at #universitygalleriesisu.

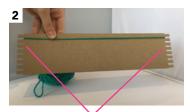
#### **SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS RELEASE**

Through a practice of searching, making, and repurposing, Miami-based Chilean-Israeli artist <u>Denise Treizman</u> critically examines hyper-consumerism while also carefully participating in it. She combines commercial goods such as LED lights, pool noodles, and sparkly tape with hand-made ceramic sculptures and salvaged materials, including street signs, woven rugs, and egg cartons. Having lived in many densely populated cities over the years—London, San Francisco, New York City, Haifa, and now Miami—Treizman's practice has benefited from throwaway culture. She states, "Working both on the street and in the studio, I examine how worthless fragments can be transformed into unexpected art experiences." The exhibition title, *In Between Living*, relates to Treizman's history of salvaging discarded materials from the street—a repeated practice as she moved from one place to the next. The production and waste of excess goods, "invented necessities" as she likes to call them, has been at the foundation of her work since 2010, when she spent her first summer in New York City. By combining found and purchased items in her work, Treizman prompts viewers to reflect on the mass-produced society in which we live.





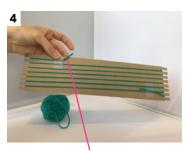
To create your warp—stationary threads—wrap yarn through one notch in the loom and adhere the tail with tape.



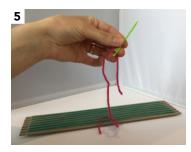
Wrap yarn across the loom and through the opposite notch.



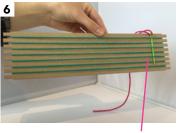
Continue this process until you have reached the last notch. All warp threads should be parallel with one another—side-by-side and not crossing.



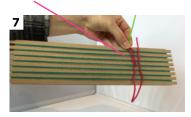
Cut the end of the yarn with scissors and tape it to the back of the loom (the same side as you taped the first end).

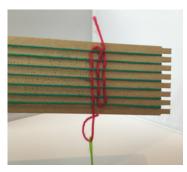


Select a color of yarn and thread it through a plastic needle.

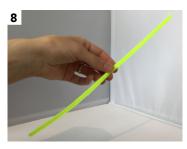


Weave the needle over and under every-other warp thread and pull through to create a weft thread.



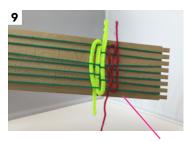


Continue passing the yarn back and forth through the warp threads until you reach the end of your thread or want to switch colors or materials.

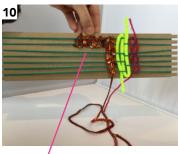


Explore weaving with alternative materials such as pipe cleaners, sequin strands, and fabric strips.





When weaving, try to keep the sides slightly loose. If you pull too tightly, the sides will begin to bow inward.



To create different patterns in your design, try weaving through only two or three warp threads instead of all of them. Fill in the additional space with different colors and materials.

As you become more comfortable with the process, explore weaving diagonally or in a spiral.

## SOCIAL MEDIA







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## **GALLERY HOURS**

Monday-Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Friday: 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday: 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.