

# THE GAME OF LIFE

Ina Kaur



## *Viridescens*

Sculptural artist book; handmade paper, hemp, cotton red thread, intaglio print size variable

## *Cochineal*

Sculptural artist book; handmade paper, white cotton thread, intaglio print size variable

## *Sanguine*

Sculptural artist book; handmade paper, white cotton thread, intaglio print size variable

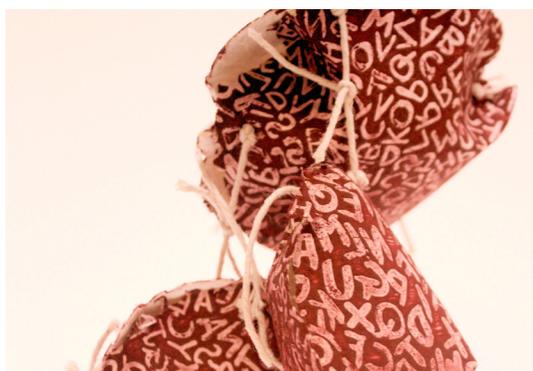
### **Statement**

The artist books for *The Game of Life* exhibit, are from my on going series, *Hybrid Medium*. The works symbolically expresses the ideas of hybridity that attempts to blur the boundaries between mediums and materials to celebrate and engage in a discourse about interdisciplinary approaches.

Abstracting and simplifying rudimentary forms allows me to transition between tangible and intangible concepts, such as a circle, which on its own can represent a small, seemingly insignificant pebble. Oppositely, adding that single circle into a group of shapes can incite notions of community and fellowship. These trivial and profound visual associations have the potential for both private and shared interpretations and mirror the various points of contact I have personally experienced in exploring my own hybrid identity. The physical processes of drawing, engraving and printmaking mimic my personal exploration of my own cross-cultural history. The mixed media works bring together the ideas of our complex, yet basic need to coexist. It explores and represents continuum of cross-cultural negotiation and foster the ideas of collaboration and a sense of community.

*Viridescens*: The Viridescens means greenish or becoming green, I enjoyed this transitional phase of green (light and/or dark) and not knowing which direction it is heading. The book form is of a disc or a wheel, which could either be heading forward or backwards. And the marks on the disc/pages of the book are linear and rudimentary.

*Cochineal*: Cochineal is a scale insect in the suborder Sternorrhyncha, from which the natural (*continued*)



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dye carmine is derived. After completing this book form I actually reacted to it as if it literal looked like a creature (maybe a shrimp) I gave it a working title as “shrimp”; and when I came across the word “Cochineal” it felt fitting with my initial reaction and also its connection with color red was appropriate.

*Sanguine*: Sanguine as an adjective means optimistic or positive, especially in an apparently bad or difficult situation. This specially was exciting as the three connected yet independent pieces of this book form was doing exactly the same for me. As in any relationship or family, we are unconditionally bounded together even if it is a difficult situation while maintaining our personal identity. Seemingly, sanguine also stands for blood red.

## **Biography**

As a studio art practitioner and educator Ina is interested in inter-media and multi-media studio art practice. She is a native of New Delhi, India, graduated with her Masters of Fine Arts Degree with honors from Purdue University, Indiana USA and received her Bachelors Degrees with Roll of Honor from Punjab University in Chandigarh, India. She is an active artist and her studio research has been showcased in numerous national and international exhibitions in the US, India and abroad. Kaur has been a recipient of numerous Grants, Residencies & Excellence Awards. Currently she is an Associate Professor of Art at The University of Tampa in Florida. Her studio expertise are extensively in print and digital media, drawing, photography, papermaking, painting, sculptural book art forms, as well as installation art. Some areas of my interest are, study of art, craft, and sustainability; Intermedia and interdispilary art practices; critical theory and practice within the context of modern global contempaory art; curatirial projects, collaboration, and publication.

Kaur’s research investigates how identities are defined and influenced by history, society and the culture of our immediate surrounding. In this global cultural environment where identities and boundaries converge, one seeks to identify oneself. Kaur explores a continuum of cross-cultural negotiation. Localism, globalism and hybridity have formed a new perspective for Kaur in conceptualizing and visualizing her work and identity. She lives and works between India and USA.

[www.inakaur.com](http://www.inakaur.com)