UTOPIA/DYSTOPIA

Jenny Dowd Alpine, WY



"This altered book represents a dystopian world of redacted and heavily censored information. Growth is still possible."

Flowers Still Grow

Altered book, correction tape, silk, thread, wire, porcelain. 9.5" h x 11" w x 7" d

Statement

One book is an infinite, hand-held universe. It has the ability to introduce unknown places and ideas with questions, experiences, and thoughts. Just one book is capable of leading a reader on a lifetime of learning and searching.

This book represents a dystopian world of redacted and heavily censored information. While this could be a diagram for the ideal, utopian meadow, it still contains an element of dread. Set like a stage with delicate clouds hanging from thread over rhythmic hills, the subject of the book remains unknown and creates a suspiciously dull scene.

White flowers reflect what little nutrients are available to be gleaned from sanitized, stripped soil, but they are growing. Hope and the ability to evolve will always be found where something grows.

Biography

Jenny grew up in Kansas where she developed a strong interest in collected objects and their relationships to each other. Epic car trips, constant reading and creative, inventive parents encouraged her to explore the world through art.

After studying ceramics at Kansas State University, Jenny earned an MFA in ceramics with a minor in fibers at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She has taught and exhibited her art around the country; in 2014 Jenny was the Ceramics Artist in Residence at the Interlochen Center for the Arts.

Currently Jenny teaches ceramics and drawing at the Art Association of Jackson Hole. She lives in Alpine, Wyoming with her husband, Sam, where they co-own the small art and pottery business, Dowd House Studios.

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