

BRITT SALT AND SHANNON SLEEMEN ME AND THE GIRLS DON'T WANT TO BE BOXED

June 6th - 28th, 2025

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lvl 1 /119 hopkins street footscray VIC 3011 fivewalls.com.au wed - sat 12 - 5pm Me and the Girls Don't Want to be Boxed takes its name from a song by Melbourne punk band Amyl and the Sniffers. To be "boxed" is to be concealed, categorised or controlled by a structure, be it social, psychological or formal. For this exhibition, Salt and Slee explore structuring devices through processes based in textile design and craft, particularly weaving. Woven textiles are simultaneously a formal construction of interconnecting vertical and horizontal threads and a pliable material, making them the perfect conduit for exploring how structures of control might co-exist with intuition and opportunity.

Like the textile artists that have come before them, Salt and Slee mediate genres. Slee deconstructs preloved women's clothing, reordering haptic memories embedded in those garments by the previous owner, and recontextualising them in the present. She beats these materials down into a woven structure, where hand-spun wool and leather bubble from the surface, straining for release. Salt's minimal artworks are an expression of obsessive-compulsive frameworks the artist imposes on herself, seeking ways to diverge from control by creating imagined architectures and scenarios in her making process where human slippage is inevitable. Salt and Slee's work might hang on a wall, like a painting, intersect space like a room divider, or drape along the floor like a rug. Art critic Briony Fer suggests that the ability of textiles to slide between such different orientations is a demonstration of their pliability and the many ways that art penetrates everyday life. Salt and Slee's new works show us the complexity of working within ordered structures, and the tension associated with breaking out of them. Like textile art itself, these artists revel in not being boxed.



^[1] Briony Fer. "Textile Thinking" in Woven Histories; Textiles and Modern Abstraction, ed. Lynne Cooke, (Washington, Chicago, National Gallery of Art; The University of Chicago Press, 2023), P184.





String of Geese #1
2025
wool, jute, cotton warp, copper, painted steel
110 x 50 x 21 cm
\$450





String of Geese #2
2025
wool, cotton selvedge remnant from Britt, jute,
cotton warp, copper, painted steel
106 x 50 x 21 cm
\$450





Left to Link #1
2025
hessian remnant, wool, jute, cotton warp,
timber, painted steel, leather
150 x 80 cm
\$900





Left to Link #2
2025
wool, corduroy remnant, jute, cotton
warp, timber, painted steel, leather
150 x 80 cm
\$900



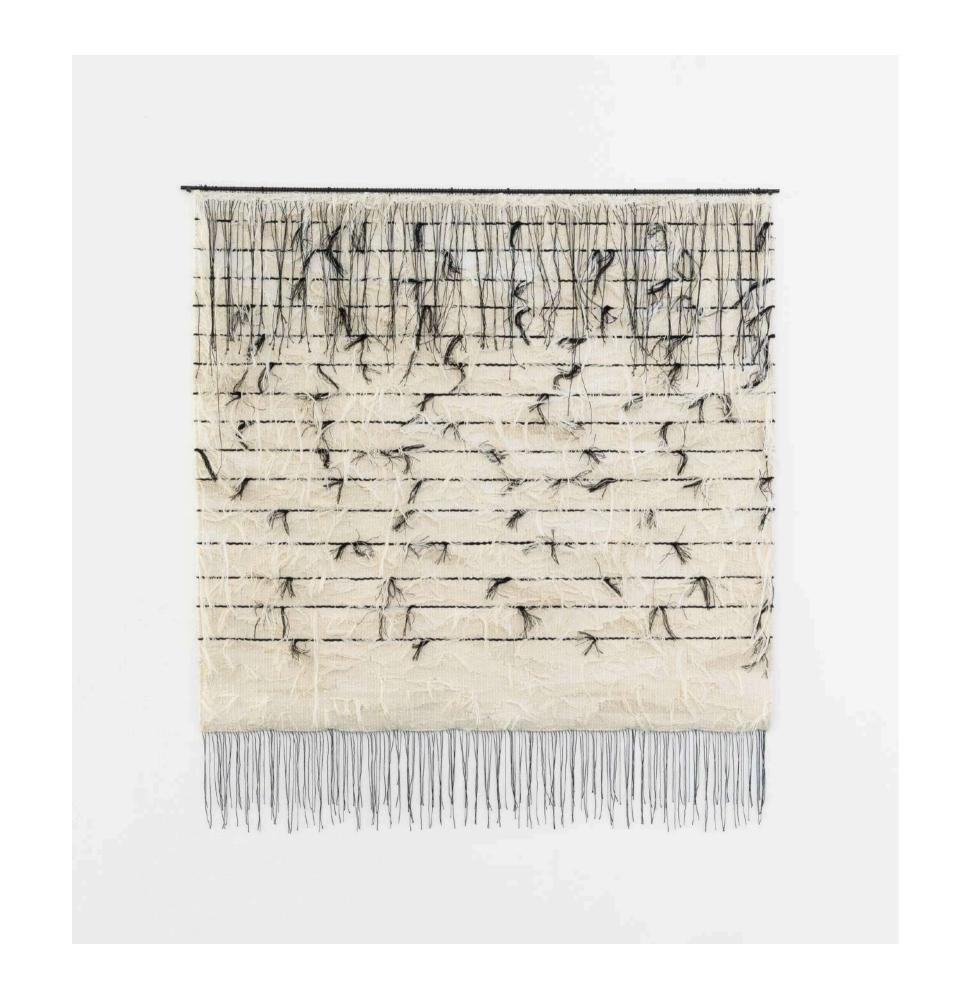


Blue Reflex #1
2025
wool, rug yarn remnant from Amanda, jute,
cotton warp, timber, painted steel, leather
180 x 80 cm
\$900



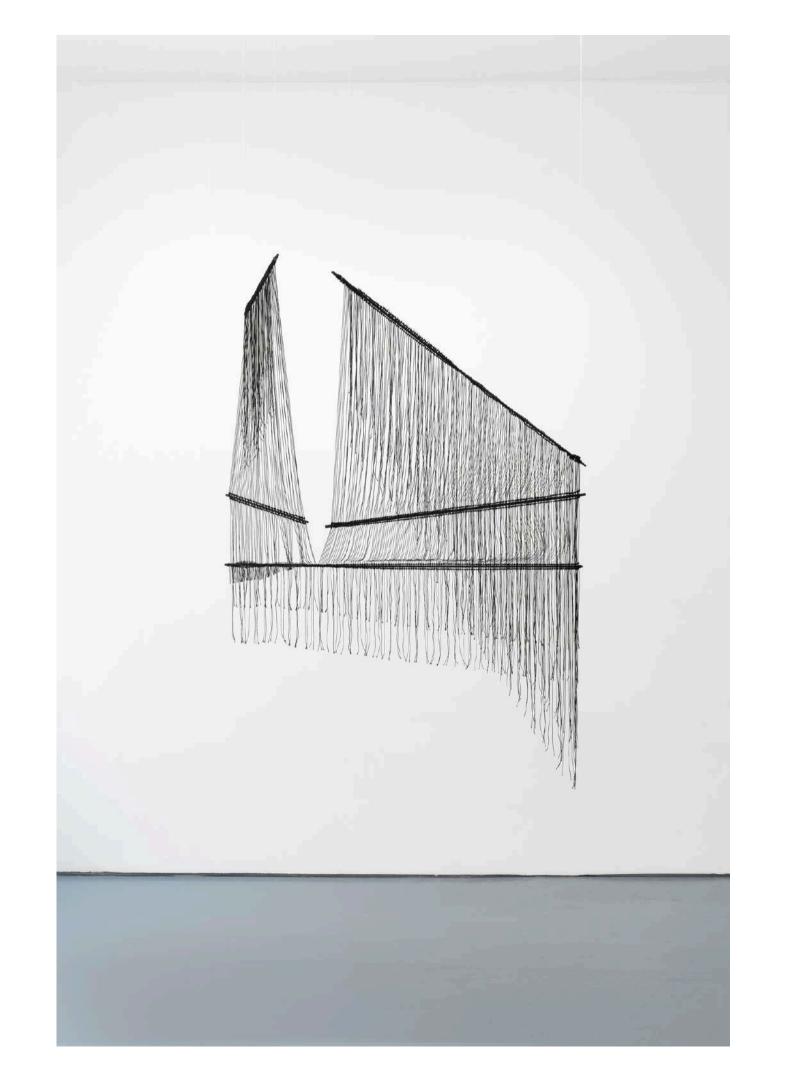


Blue Reflex #2
2025
wool, mesh remnant from Jasmine, jute,
cotton warp, timber, painted steel, leather
146 x 80 cm
\$900



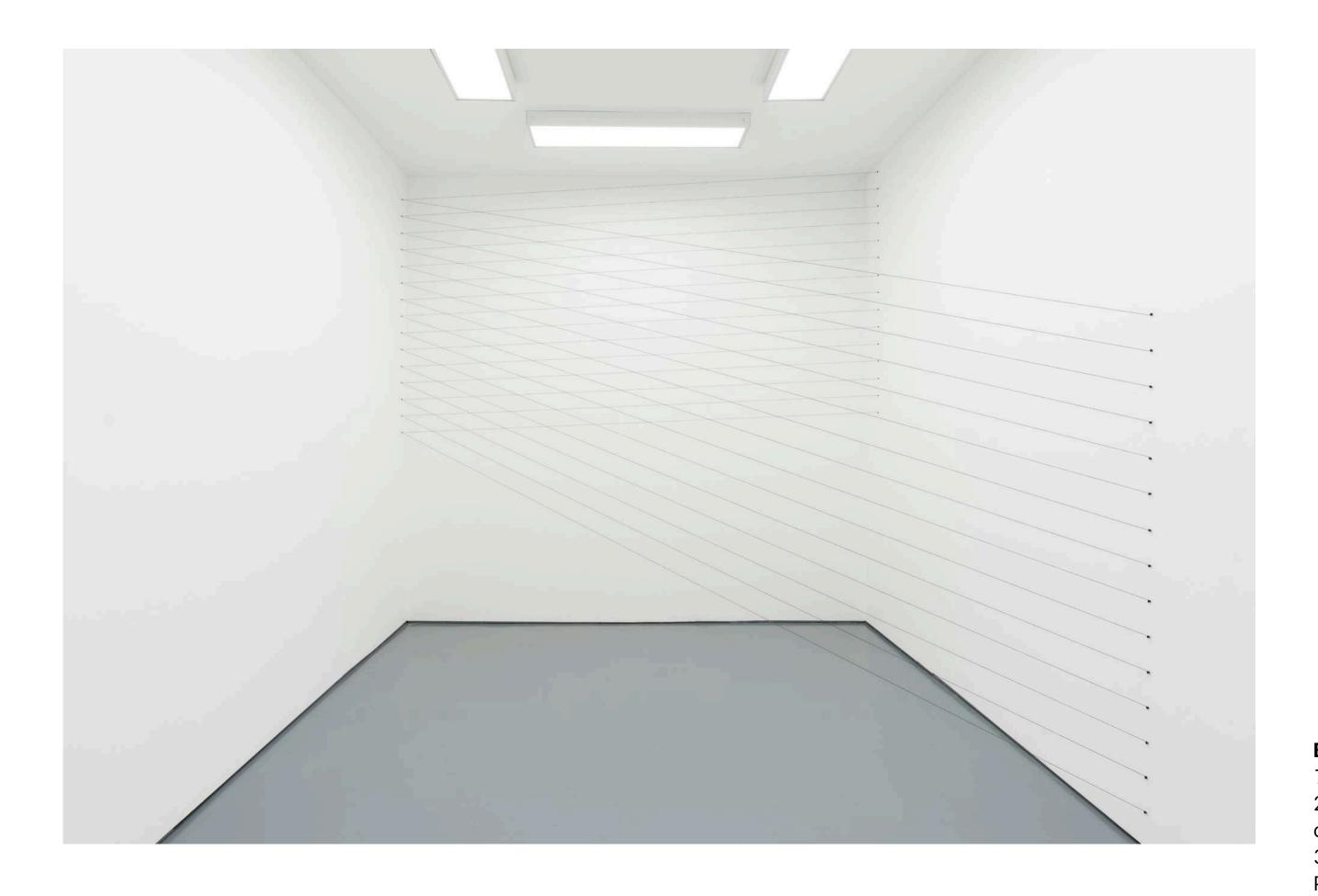


Britt Salt
Grid II (Reverse)
2023
wool and cotton
97 x 91 cm
\$2,300





Weaving Without Weft (After Gego)
2025
cotton, steel and stained Tasmanian ash
150 x 110 x 110 cm
\$2,300



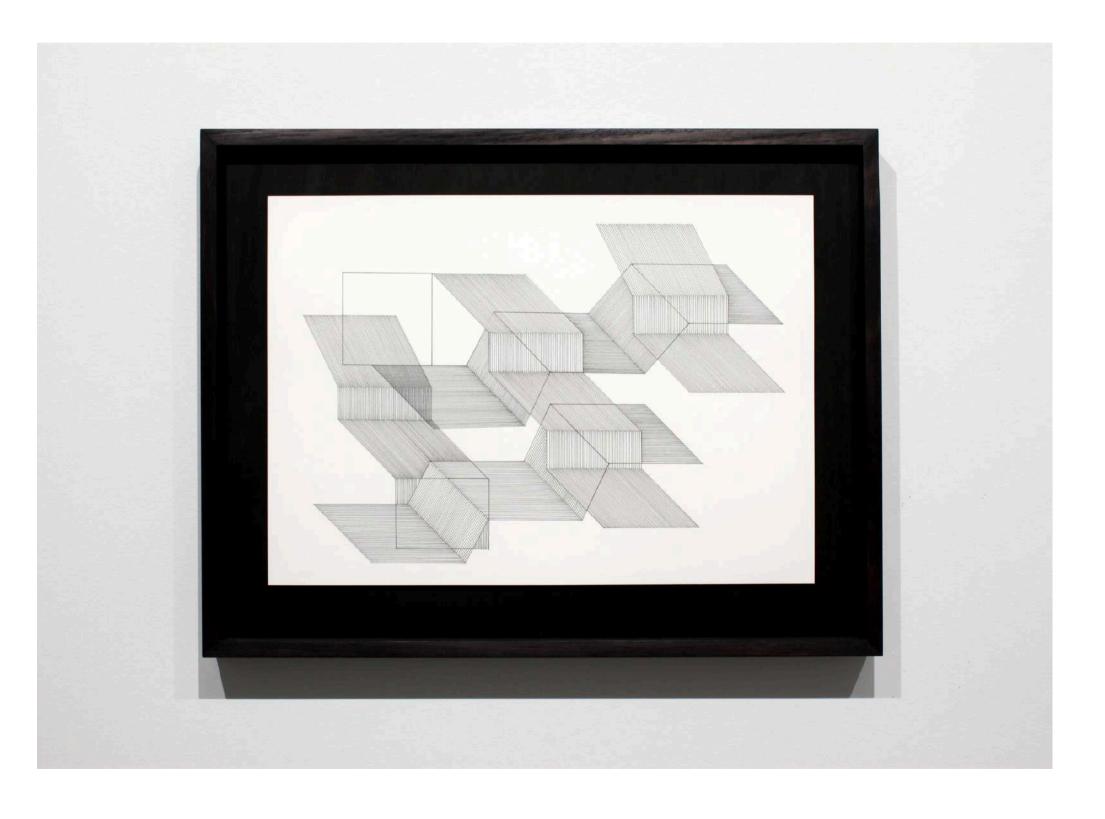


Britt Salt Turning the Grid IV 2025 cotton 312 x 300 x 160 cm POA





A Constant State of Becoming (II)
2024
pigment ink on archival paper
52 x 41 cm
\$990





A Constant State of Becoming (I) 2024 pigment ink on archival paper 52 x 41 cm \$990



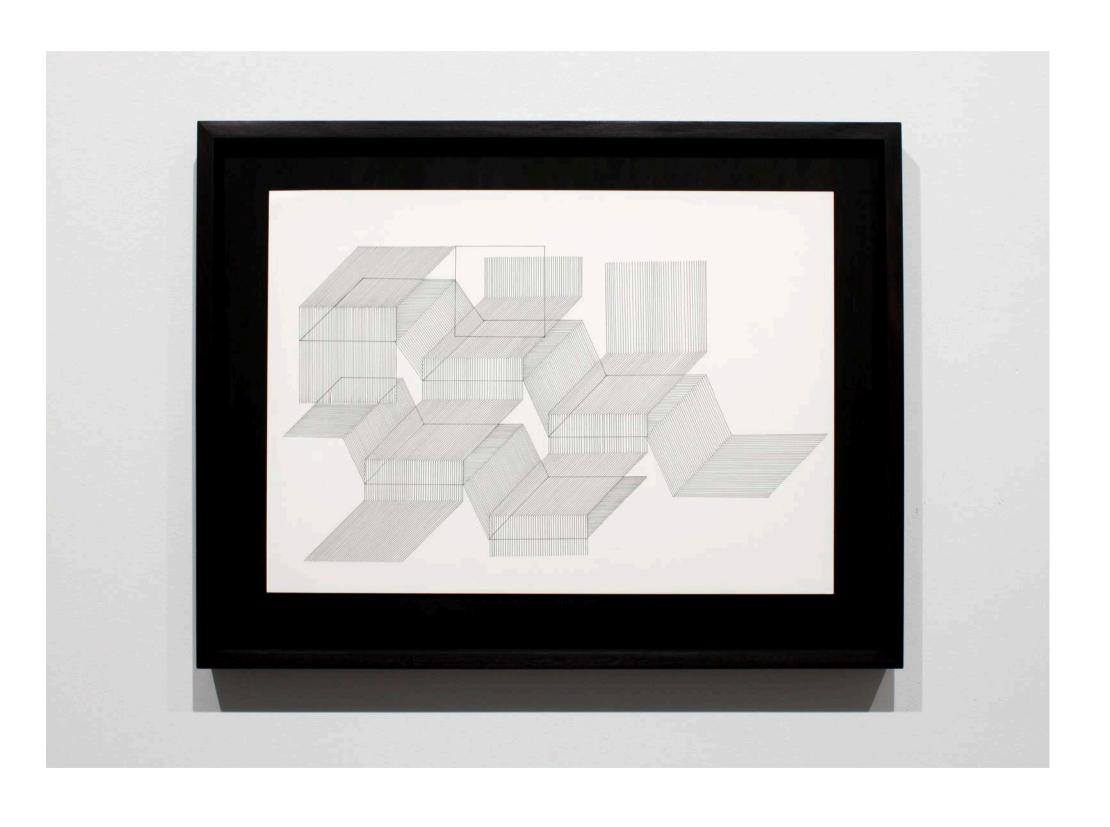


A Constant State of Becoming (V)
2024
pigment ink on archival paper
52 x 41 cm
\$990





A Constant State of Becoming (VII)
2024
pigment ink on archival paper
52 x 41 cm
\$990





A Constant State of Becoming (VIII)
2024
pigment ink on archival paper
52 x 41 cm
\$990



