1. A side is a woven face   2. B side is a photographic print on paper of the same face.

Both are made from the same image of a face. I chose an image that was purposely blurred and the emotional expression could be interpreted in different ways ie ambiguous.

2. The set up of the study in the gallery was as follows.

At the back of the exhibition two 8 foot square rooms next to each other were constructed with a passage way between them and an entrance on either side. In the "A room" a 50 x 70" woven face was installed. There is a chair to sit while looking at the work and writing in response. A small table at the back of each room held pencils, clipboards and a box to leave the envelopes containing the finished questionnaires.

The "B" room was identical to the "A" room except that work installed was a largescale photographic print on paper of the same image of a face.

Only one person participates in the study at a time.

Facing the back wall of the exhibition there is a pedestal with words printed in bold letters on the front inviting people to join me in my research project. A stack of large 81/2x11 envelopes sits on the pedestal with directions taped to the front of each envelope. The directions to proceed are written on the outside. Each envelope has inside a complete set of instructions, questions to answer and space for answering each question. The envelope is marked with an A or a B on the outside. The participant picks up an envelope and is instructed to enter either room A or room B first. You can clearly see the letter A or B on the wall in front of the pedestal indicating which entrance to take first. After entering the first room they take a clipboard and pen pull the directions out of the envelope and start the study.

Participants are asked to spend a minute of two in silence with the work and then write their response to the questions. After they have finished in the first room they are instructed to take the back passageway to the second room. The pieces are placed so that you cannot see them at the same time. The participants are asked the identical set of questions regarding the work in the second room. They are also asked to write a free form response to the work they are looking at and as well as answering a few specific questions.

When they are done with the second room they are instructed to leave in the box located in the back of the room the envelope with their written responses inside. There is also a book where they can leave their address or email if they wish to find out the result of the study

Basic idea:

The basic idea of the study is to determine the nature and the intensity of the emotional response to a visibly woven face compared to a photograph on paper of the same image. It is my hypothesis that the woven translation of a face adds intensity and evokes a different emotional response when the evidence of the woven cloth and "the hand" becomes apparent. I am interested in finding out how and what way our memories of the experience of touch, specifically the touch of the hand or body on cloth contributes to this emotional response.

Although I have been interested in the sense of touch, the body in relationship to woven cloth for some time. The idea to explore the emotional aspect of this in a more depth occurred as a result of my traveling exhibition of woven faces. The response to the work was highly emotional, even sometimes strongly negative as well as positive. The intensity of the response was much stronger that I had expected. It was my idea that the intensity and the nature of the response came from the recognition that the image is constructed of interlacing threads, woven, and that in turn connects us to our sensual experiences with cloth and to the use of the hand in making the cloth.

I have done some very preliminary (single subject) tests comparing a woven face with a non-woven face using EEG eye tracking, pupil dilation, and fMRI

This behavioral study is taking a different approach using direct responses from the subjects collected over of a period of 6 months. The study takes place within the exhibition itself.

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