

HOW CAN APPLICATION DEEPEN OUR APPRECIATION OF INDIGENOUS PRACTICES?



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THE PROBLEM

Appreciation is shallow if it is only theoretical. To connect we must practice the craft.

Theory does not replicate the stained fingers and attentive process of indigenous weaving. To fully respect the art and the land that

I make my art on, I investigated native weaving and dyeing techniques through attempting to make my own textiles.

THE EXPERIMENT

I gathered materials from daily life: cochineal found on cactus during runs and onion skins saved from a week of cooking, symbols of the time I have during these

activities to think. Some of my greatest ideas come when I'm chopping vegetables or resting after getting up a tough hill.



Is it the repetitive process, much like weaving that inspires?



What would weavers think about then?



Weaving required careful attention.

The hours over a pot making dye, stirring the yarn, waiting for it to dry, and then weaving each detail taught me patience.

The slowness almost became the point of the project itself; understanding native labor through weaving.

THE INSIGHT



The process and the product become so much richer when we understand the history and context behind our crafts. The process itself can be a form of remembrance.



My suburban house pattern opens a conversation about displacement and asks: who owns the process



and methods we have inherited? Like the homes in the design layout neat in rows, we too fall into conformity, mindlessly creating



things that were perfected long before we were born. How can we honor that design history?

THE

OPPORTUNITY

This project recontextualizes making as a form of respect for history. When looking at the materials we choose, the fashion we wear, and the designs we make, we can start to see how cultural techniques are often borrowed without credit. How then can we strive for accountability By practicing it ourselves.

By trying out techniques that inspire our modern tools, we gain a greater appreciation for the process and honor those who created the tools.

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