

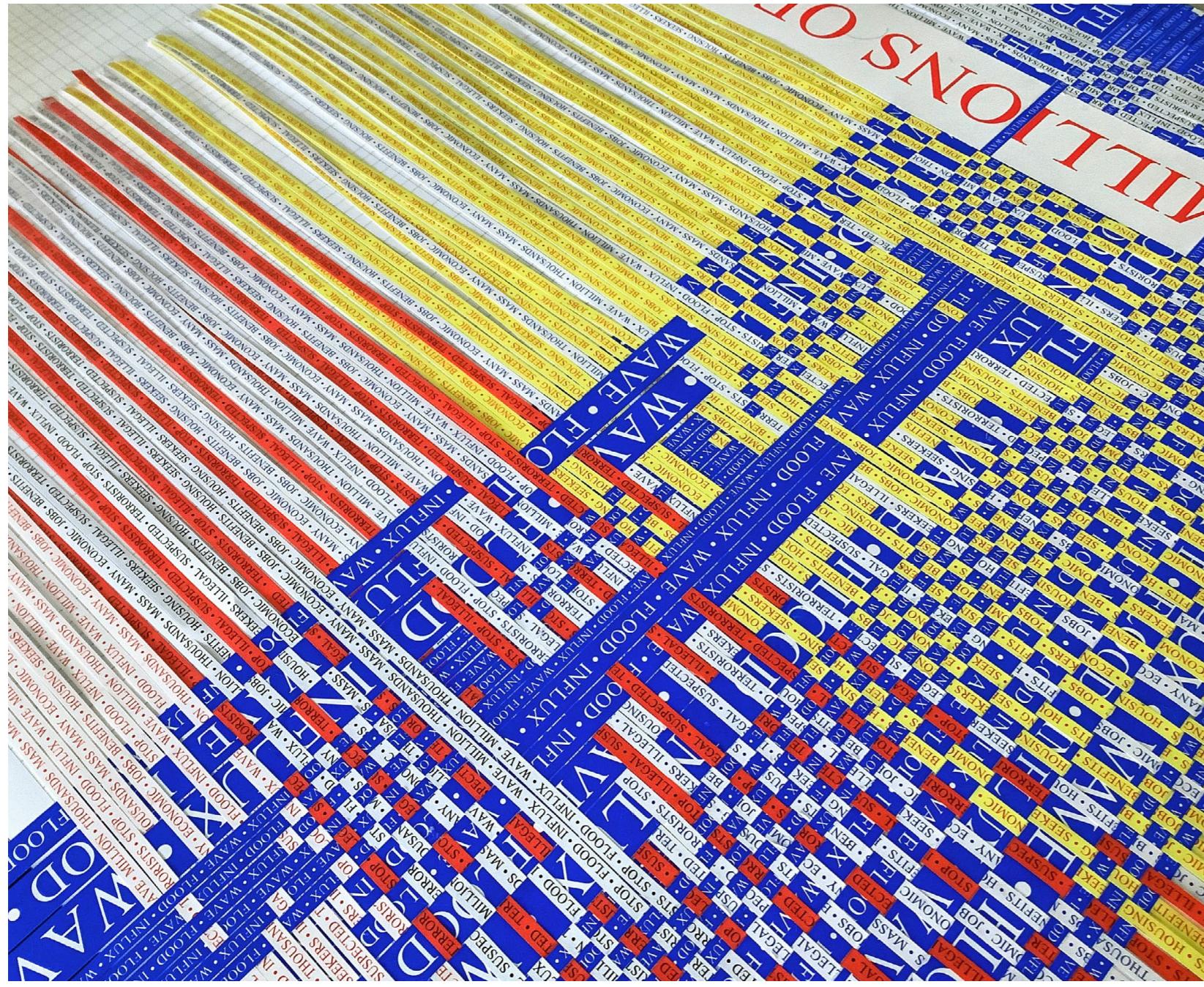
‘Imagined Immigration’

A collection of paper woven tapestries
by Ella Krispel

'FLOOD' - Purchased and exhibited at Lethaby Gallery, London.



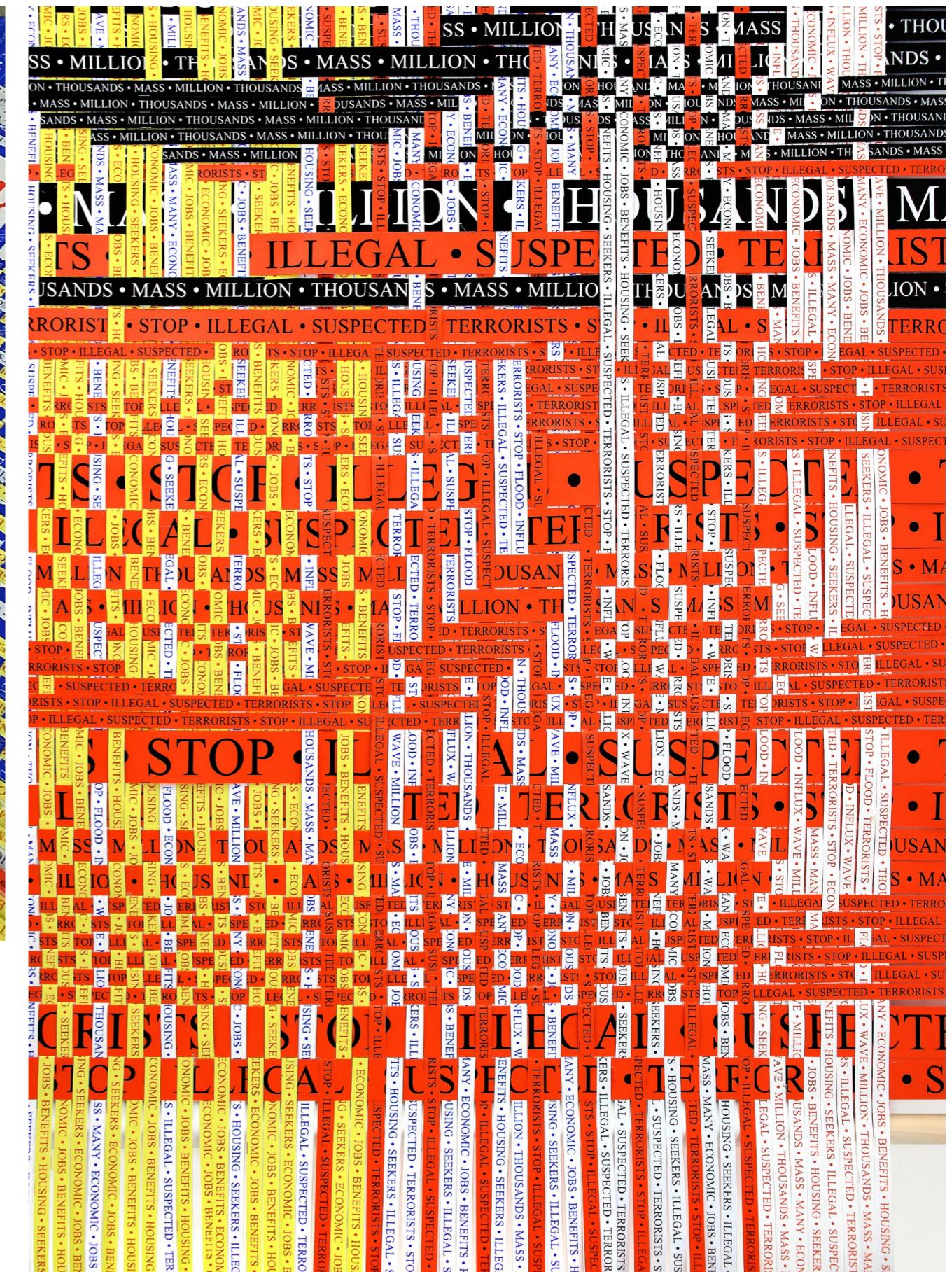
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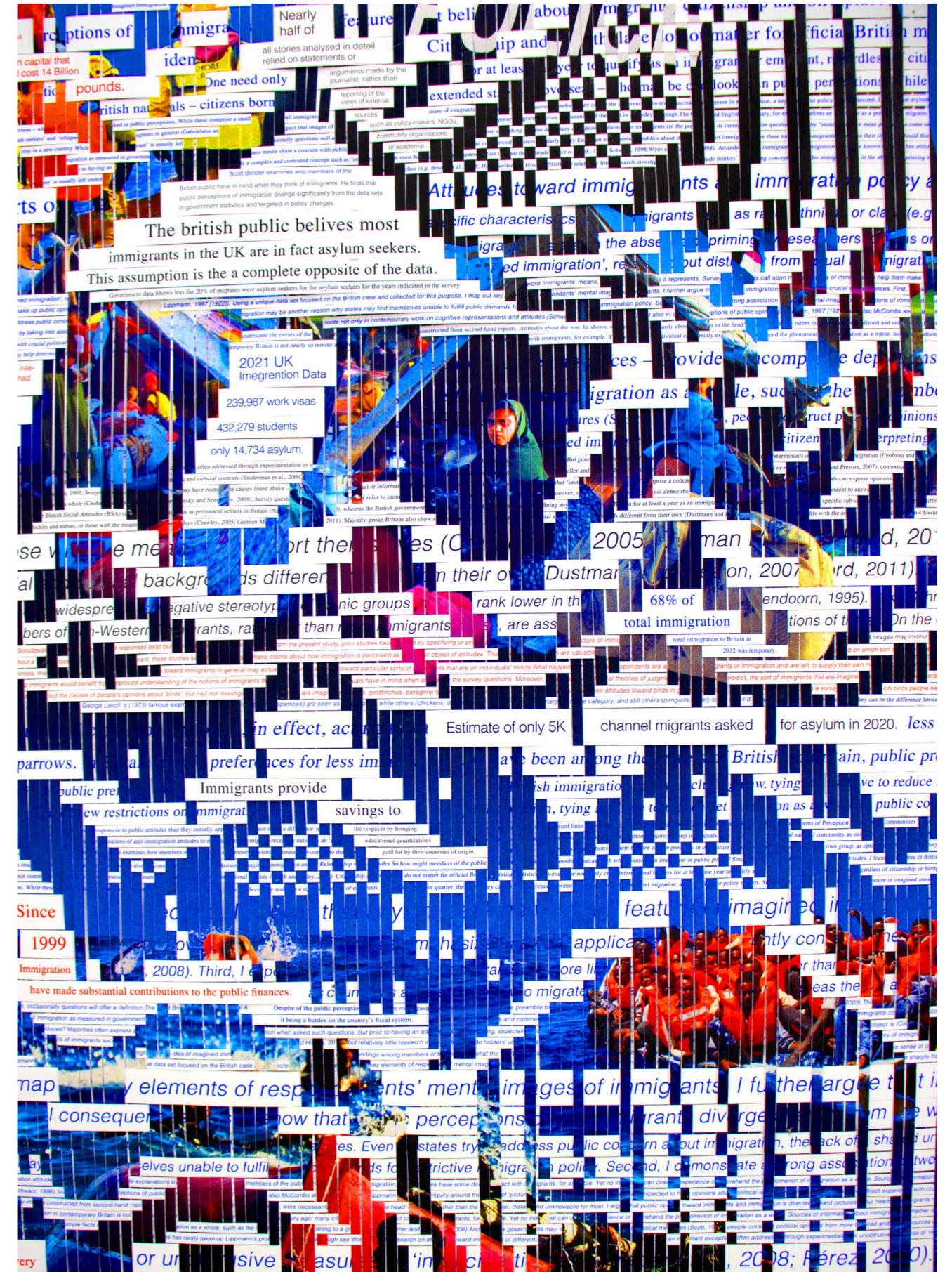
The 'FLOOD' tapestry was woven from multiple coloured-printed paper strips. Each colour group of strips (red, blue, yellow, black, and white) contains a repeated set of common words that were used by the media in relation to immigration.

The data used in this work are taken from Will Allen's article 'A Decade of Immigration in the British Press,' which presents the trends and usage of language in newspapers reporting on immigration over the decade from January 2006 to May 2015.

'FLOOD' aims to illustrate how the media's biased use of language is responsible for the formation of warped public assumptions about immigration and immigrants in the UK.



'INFLUX'



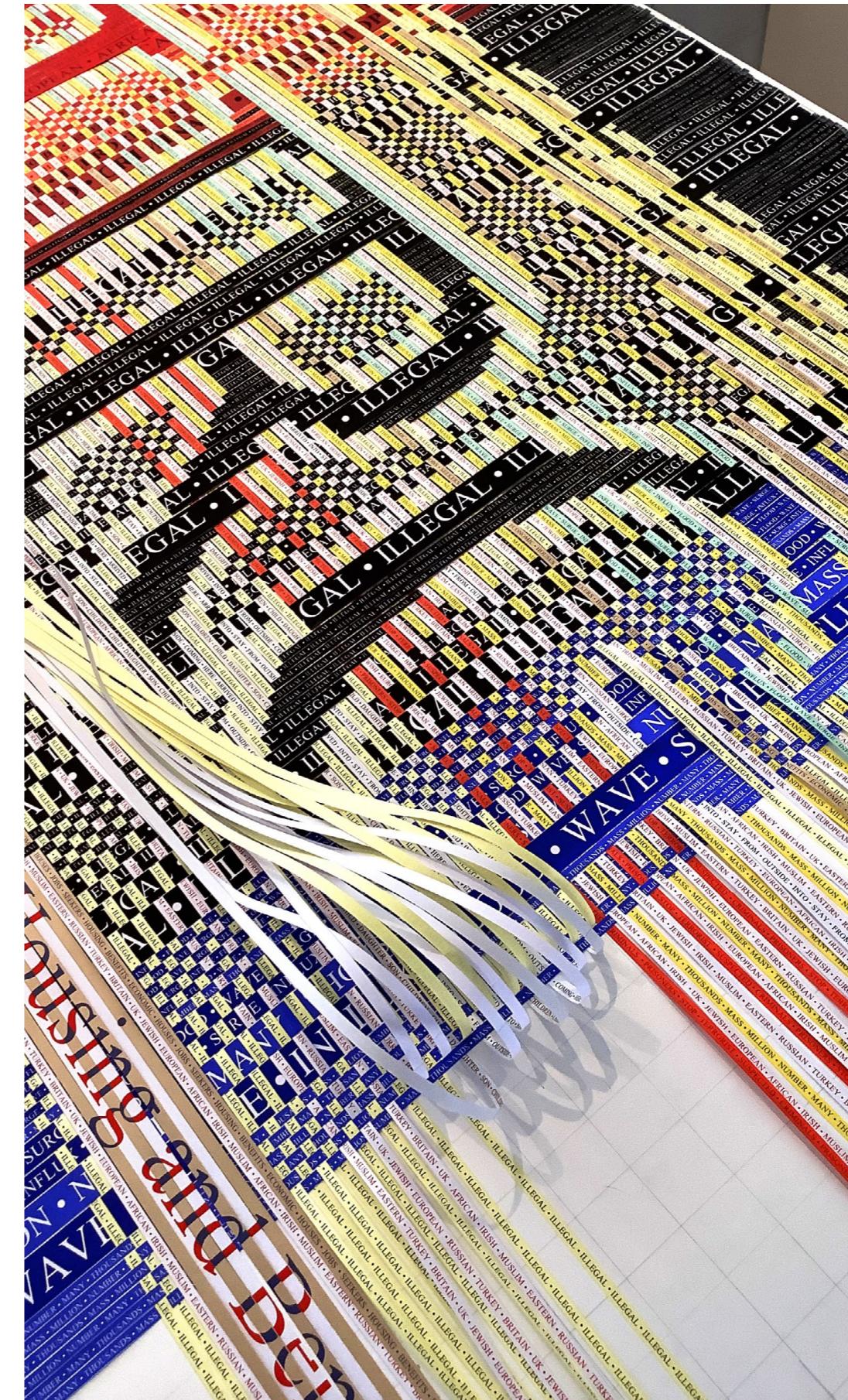
'WAVE'



The 'WAVE' tapestry gives a personal perspective on the immigration community by the artist's own lived experience. Similarly to 'INFLUX,' 'WAVE' places a source of information in juxtaposition to another. Here, the warp (the vertical woven strips) is made out of a repeated set of words, commonly used by the media in relation to immigration to the UK, while the weft (the horizontal woven strips) presents imagery capturing the artist's own community of immigrants living in London.

The tapestry's woven impression responds to common imagery associated with migrating to the UK, and similarly to 'INFLUX,' to the common use of water metaphors to describe immigration as a type of water-related crisis.

'SURGE' - Commissioned and exhibited at the Migration Museum, London.



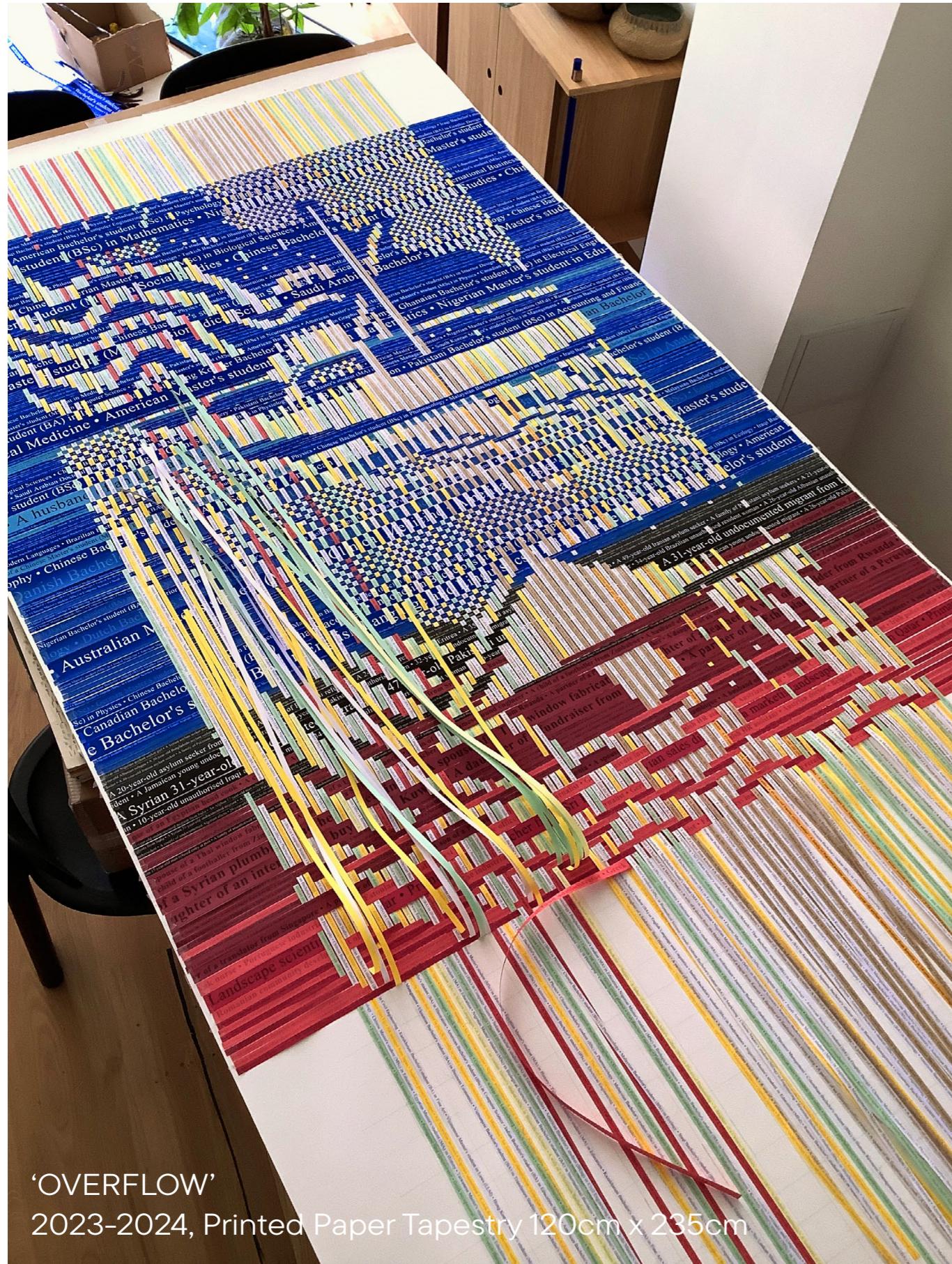
'SURGE' demonstrates how the media's extensive repetition of selective words contributes to the formation of negative public assumptions about migrants and immigration to the UK.

It is crafted from coloured and printed paper strips. Each colour group of horizontal strips features a different set of words, commonly used by the British media in relation to immigration. The size of each word group accurately represents its proportional media usage.

By weaving these words together into a generic news headline, I aim to illustrate the effects of repetitive biased language on the British public.



'OVERFLOW' - Commissioned and exhibited at the Migration Museum, London.

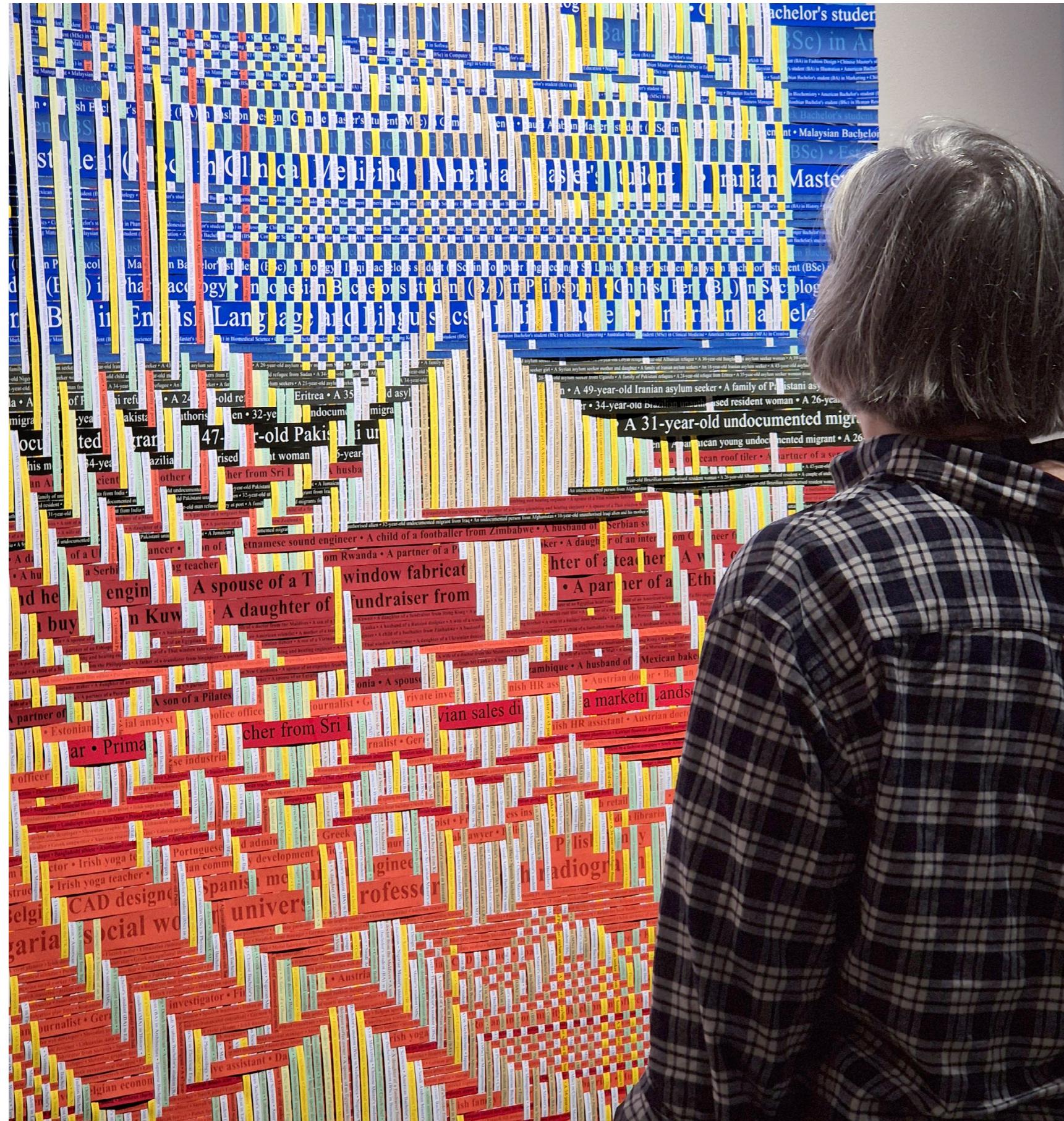


I created 'OVERFLOW' with the aim of exposing the wide range of identities that make up the fabric of immigrants living in the UK.

The piece disproves common public assumptions about immigrants' identities, origins, occupations, and reasons for immigrating to the UK.

It is crafted from coloured and printed paper strips. Each colour group of horizontal strips represents a different immigrant group, such as students, workers, refugees, dependents, and undocumented immigrants. The size of each group proportionally reflects its share in the community, based on reliable databases.

By creating this piece, I hope to challenge the assumptions propagated by the British media, which frequently frames immigrants in a negative and threatening light, often portrayed as a natural disaster.



Thank you