

Neil Goss

My journey as a weaver began in college. It immediately resonated with my core of being and creating. The number-based sequences of threading, treadling, and thinking soothed my OCD and served as a form of therapy. Touching every inch of fiber when setting up the loom offered deep pleasure, satisfaction, and connection to the work while also fulfilling some of my trichotillomania tendencies. I weave to ease anxiety and cope with my ticks. Some days it helps and some days it simply feeds it.

My work is rooted in the idea that art creation, my personal therapy, does not need to be a “beautiful piece of toxic trash”. I want my work to be created with materials and processes that align with my ideals and that align closer with the Earth as opposed to against it or extractive of it. Weaving offers a possible solution to all of these ideals and this way of working infuses my practice with thousands of years of history that both expose and possess humanity’s existence--the good, the bad, and the neutral.

I am deeply motivated by the ideas of contradiction, duality, plurality, biocentrism, interconnectedness, birth, life, and death. I view these concepts through personal experience and a polycultural lens. These concepts are obscured in my work through visual abstraction, various weave structures, and works that go beyond loom-woven capabilities. Weaving is the way I communicate as I remain motivated by the history of land and cultures from the past, present, and future.

“Live and dye naturally” is Goss’s signature. It is not only his trademark, but also his life philosophy. He bases his work on the research and practice of sustainable artistic processes and this informs his teaching, his lectures, and the individual artworks, immersive installations, and ephemeral public art that he creates

Bio

Neil Goss is a Kansas native, transplanted to the Blue Ridge Mountains, now living and working in Asheville, NC (Tsalaguwetiyi Land- Eastern Cherokee Territory). Goss primarily focuses on the processes of weaving and natural dyeing to create works that bridge the gaps of art and craft. In 2012, they earned BFA’s in both textiles and ceramics as an undergraduate at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. His work has been exhibited in numerous group and solo exhibitions. In addition to his work here at Textile Center, their work is also included in *Biocentric Interconnectedness: We All Contribute to the Web* at the ROB in Lake City, SC.

neilgoss.com

[@_neilgoss_](#)