



Untitled

Date

2016

Primary Maker

Michelle Grabner

Medium

Bronze

Description

This untitled bronze by the artist Michelle Grabner belongs to a series of sculptures cast from hand-crocheted and hand-knitted blankets the artist has collected over the years, which have previously served as inspiration for some of the minimalist, seemingly abstract patterns that appear in her paintings. Through the casting process, the material loses its softness and comfort; at the same time, the domestic object is monumentalized. Although Grabner's technique would allow for the production of multiples in an edition, she rejects this possibility, creating unique sculptures that reflect the handmade quality of the originals. Grabner thus celebrates the role of the blanket's maker: most likely a woman, probably a mother, an aunt, or a grandmother. In addition, evidence of the artist's body and gestures remain in the curved shape of the bronze sculpture, which is forever suspended from her absent hands. In her paintings and sculptures, Grabner addresses women's work and materiality as primary themes. She has also investigated aspects of suburbia, including American football, and routine domestic activities, such as baking. In 2014, Grabner, who currently serves as the Crown Family Professor of Painting at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, became the

first practicing artist to curate the Whitney Biennial in the eighty-plus years of that prestigious New York exhibition's existence. (SOURCE: Alcauskas, INNOVATIVE APPROACHES, HONORED TRADITIONS, 2017)

Dimensions

Overall: 56 1/2 x 26 1/2 x 16 in. (143.5 x 67.3 x 40.6 cm)