

Tensile Forms

Emily Xie

Tensile Forms is a series that examines the relationship between the handmade and the computational. Each work begins as a generated form and ends as embroidered textile.

At its core is an algorithm that generates a distinct set of shapes for each work. The forms are evocative and figure-like, reading as creatures without settling into any specific, nameable one. These are shapes a hand would be unlikely to arrive at on its own, which is part of the point: they are a kind of form made possible by computational emergence. The shape generation runs fully through the artist's own code, and its underlying structure is left visible, with the vertices that define each contour exposed along the edges.

These shapes are then translated into physical textile, and this step, turning code-based form into thread, is central to the work.

This contrast is clearest in how the pieces will be made, across two techniques. The larger works will be fully hand-embroidered: detailed, one-of-a-kind, and marked by the small irregularities of the hand. These designs will be determined by a combination of hand collage, generative texturization, filled with contrasting patterns and assembled into the composite figures.

A set of smaller works, distinguished by the name *Tensile Constructs* will be machine embroidered, where the same generated forms are executed exactly rather than interpreted: faithful and exact in a way the hand never is. Placed side by side, the two techniques set the handmade against the computational, each answering a shared source in different voices.

Art Basel Miami 2026
Miami Beach Convention Center
Zero 10, Booth Z01
Wed 12/2 to Sun 12/6

All catalog prices exclude shipping, customs, and duty fees.

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TENSILE FORMS



Tensile Forms I



Tensile Forms II



Tensile Forms III



Tensile Forms IV

TENSILE CONSTRUCTS



Tensile Constructs #1



Tensile Constructs #2



Tensile Constructs #3



Tensile Constructs #4



Tensile Constructs #5



Tensile Constructs #6

Tensile Forms I



Emily Xie, *Tensile Forms I*, 2026.
Hand-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
35 x 51 ⅝ in (88.9 x 131.1 cm)
Signed verso.

$50,000

Tensile Forms II



Emily Xie, *Tensile Forms II*, 2026.
Hand-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
35 x 51 ⅝ in (88.9 x 131.1 cm)
Signed verso.

$50,000

Tensile Forms III



Emily Xie, *Tensile Forms III*, 2026.
Hand-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
52 x 35 in (132.1 x 88.9 cm)
Signed verso.

$52,000

Tensile Forms IV



Emily Xie, *Tensile Forms IV*, 2026.
Hand-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
70 x 48 in (177.8 x 121.9 cm)
Signed verso.

$90,000

Tensile Constructs #1



Emily Xie, *Tensile Constructs #1*, 2026.
Machine-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
15 ⅜ x 11 in (39.1 x 27.9 cm)
Signed verso.
Accompanied by NFT.

$2,500

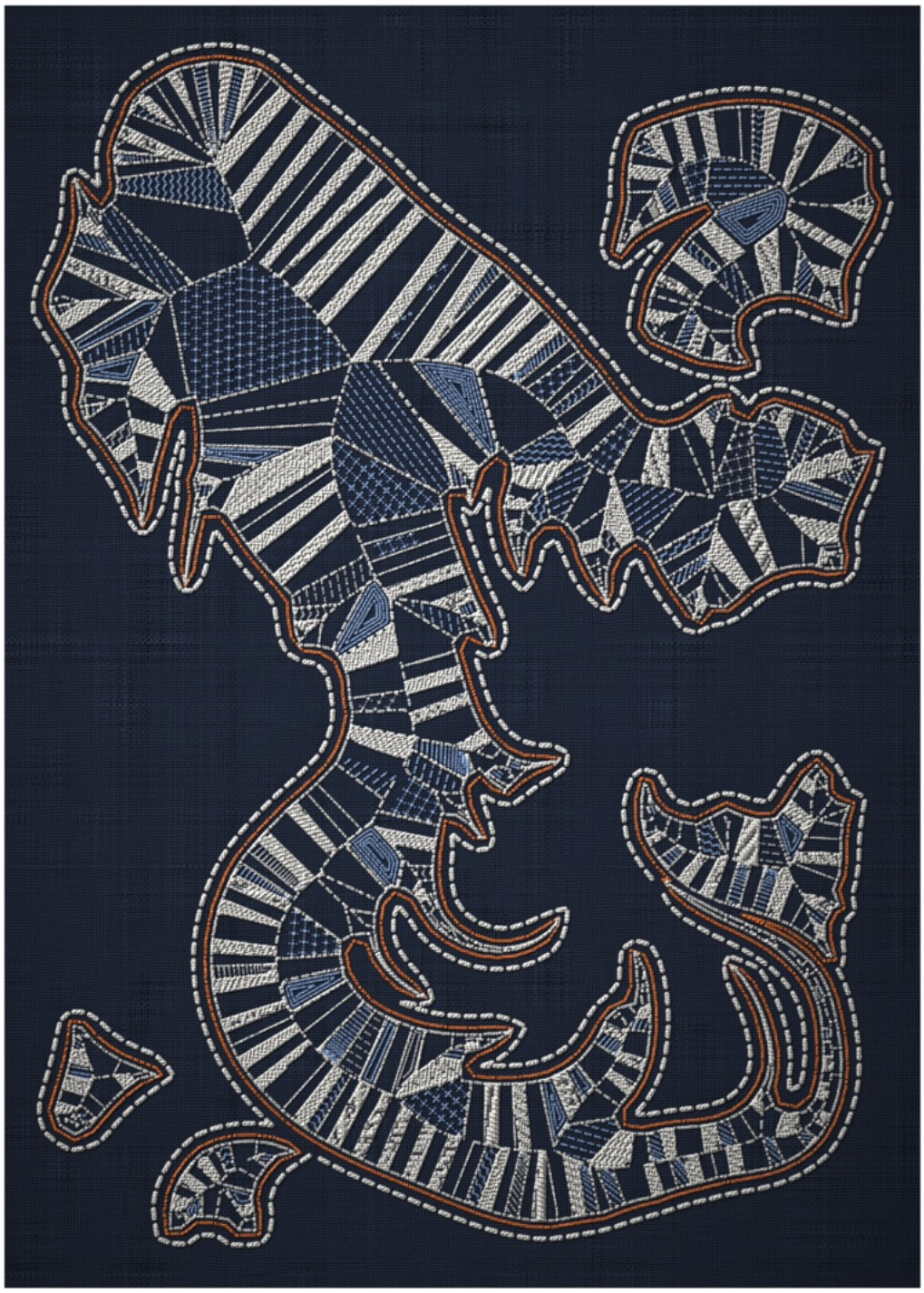
Tensile Constructs #2



Emily Xie, *Tensile Constructs #1*, 2026.
Machine-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
15 ⅜ x 11 in (39.1 x 27.9 cm)
Signed verso.
Accompanied by NFT.

$2,500

Tensile Constructs #3



Emily Xie, *Tensile Constructs #1*, 2026.
Machine-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
15 ⅜ x 11 in (39.1 x 27.9 cm)
Signed verso.
Accompanied by NFT.

$2,500

Tensile Constructs #4



Emily Xie, *Tensile Constructs #1*, 2026.
Machine-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
15 ⅜ x 11 in (39.1 x 27.9 cm)
Signed verso.
Accompanied by NFT.

$2,500

Tensile Constructs #5



Emily Xie, *Tensile Constructs #1*, 2026.
Machine-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
15 ⅜ x 11 in (39.1 x 27.9 cm)
Signed verso.
Accompanied by NFT.

$2,500

Tensile Constructs #6



Emily Xie, *Tensile Constructs #1*, 2026.
Machine-embroidered textile over stretched canvas.
15 ⅜ x 11 in (39.1 x 27.9 cm)
Signed verso.
Accompanied by NFT.

$2,500



Emily Xie

Emily Xie is a visual artist living in New York City. Her practice spans code, computation, and textiles, and often incorporates physical media like fabric and collage. She is interested in how disparate materials and patterns come together into cohesive compositions—ones shaped by mythology, memory, tradition, and heritage.

Xie's generative systems balance chance and control, the organic and the systematic, and the traditional and the modern. Since 2024, her computationally composed visuals have also been realized as hand-embroidered pieces on linen and canvas. At the intersection of code and textile art, Xie's work brings human touch into conversation with machine processes.

Xie's pieces are collected and shown internationally. Recently, she has exhibited at the Toledo Museum of Art, Untitled Art Fair, the United Nations Headquarters, Singapore ArtScience Museum, Kunsthalle Zürich, Unit London, and the Armory Show.

Art Blocks

Art Blocks is the home for generative art, redefining how digital art is created, collected, and permanently preserved. Founded in 2020 by Erick Calderon (Snowfro), Art Blocks enables collectors to own one-of-a-kind works, each generated in real time by the artist's algorithm, ensuring every piece is truly unique. In 2025, Art Blocks completed the Art Blocks 500, a finite collection of 500 flagship projects representing a foundational era in on-chain generative art. Works by Art Blocks artists have been acquired by leading international museums and cultural institutions.

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