

**Bobbi Meier**  
**Artist's Statement**

Extracting from personal triumphs and tragedies, I make fiber-based constructions that are repositories of personal struggle. Appropriating remnants of found clothing, toys, medical equipment, and household objects I pervert these nostalgic materials by means of surgical reconstruction, into comically sensuous, anthropomorphic forms. These unlikely objects embody the familiar and the fantastic in form and content. They are ambiguous abstractions with a sensibility of the grotesque. Painful past experiences have been transformed into quirky objects embodying seduction, revulsion and humor.

My projects, "Shake the Hurt"\* and "Family" redirect my life experiences into works that are simultaneously distressing, funny, and full of sexual ambiguity. Worlds of childhood and adult fantasies collide in a mish mash of overindulgent sensuality. Deconstructed toys, children's clothing, and pantyhose are embedded, intertwined, and re-configured to protrude and dangle rudely into space. Bizarre forms of mysterious origin are charged with a painful and playful narrative to elicit emotions of revulsion, embarrassment and voyeuristic curiosity.

\*Title appropriated from the lyric, "Dance to Shake the Hurt" and song, "Boogie Wonderland" by the R&B band, *Earth, Wind & Fire*

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