

Good Girl Puppet Quilt (on stage)

November 2024

8 x 5 x 1'

Recycled fabric, recycled fill, ribbon, cassette tape

Created with PussyPaws Puppetry for the erotic disabled puppet musical: That Paradise Place. The performance tells Anna's story of living with Marfan's and the intimacy of open heart surgery. I worked closely with Anna to design this quilt before stitching the piece entirely by hand, piecing together its 3-dimensional body. The stitches are raw and visible and the chest, held together by internal magnets, splits open. As part of the performance soft-sculptures I created were passed thru Anna's body. All of the materials for this quilt were sourced from the creative reuse organization, Materials For The Arts.





I led the creation of soft sculpture organs for the Good Girl Puppet sequence and constructed this soft sculpture crown for Natalie (performing the patient) to wear.



the foot

August 2024

20 x 30 x 82"

soft sculpture, recycled fabric, polyester fill

The foot is an intrusive reminder of my body. I created it to honor the 2nd anniversary of my stroke. Sitting atop the sand in the Rockaways, it's been photographed in the same location where I lost the ability to stand.



The giant foot in use. As an object it has become both soft sculpture and furniture. Laid on and carried by the same community who shared in my stroke and recovery. The foot takes up a lot of room but also eventually integrates into its environment, a fitting (footing?) metaphor for the way my disability can feel both large and imposing and a normal part of life.



what storm???

July 2024

20 x 22.5"

recycled fabric and denim, beads, rickrack

A mix of soft sculpture, assemblage, and quilting, *what storm???* tells the story of the storm that rolled in Sunday of Pride at Riis beach. With reports of 40 mile per hour winds and hail, many queers, including myself, reluctantly packed up their bags and headed to the parking lot. This piece imagines what it was like for those who stayed, celebrating the freedom, power, and naiveté of running into the ocean uninhibited by fear.



do you want a towel?

July 2024

27.5 x 26"

recycled materials, machine sewn, hand quilted

This quilt is a part of a larger Sex Quilt series which makes the invisible visible, highlighting the mundane, intimate, funny, and ecstatic aspects of sex. Created to poke fun at the assumption that disabled people aren't sexual, a thought held and thus perpetuated by too many in the medical field.



still on hold with my cath supplier

June 2024

28.5 x 15"

Recycled fabric, polyester fill, beads, rickrack, synthetic lei

I created this quilt while waiting in the maw of the medical system, on hold with my catheter supplier. Enduring endless call music only to be told that they once again forgot to submit my order to my secondary insurance and waiting on hold again to talk to the billing department. To avoid giving in to either fury or despair I took to working on this quilt. A blend of soft sculpture, appliqué, and hand quilting, this quilt could be considered a product of escapism or an insistence on weightlessness is the face of institutional bureaucracy.



Much too much

April 2024

12.5 x 18"

Fabric, ribbon, beads, plastic bag

Much too much is a small study in hand quilting, fabric appliqué, ribbon appliqué, beading, and fringe.



How to Self-Catheterize (still from live performance)
March 2024

In this live freak show performance piece I catheterize myself using a single-use VaPro Plus Pocket catheter, accompanied by an audio recording of step by step instructions for how to self-catheterize. I mimic the steps of catheterizing like a flight attendant giving a safety talk, contrasting the formal, didactic language of the instructions against the intimate, every day reality of the act. Together the audience and I explore what it is to catheter oneself, a totally new experience for many and a still relatively new experience for me. At the end of the performance I offer the opportunity for people to experience cathertization themselves, privately teaching viewers how to self-catheterize and then allowing them to bedazzle and create their own “catheter purse”. Like all great ephemeral performance art, this piece was never captured in its entirety.



How to Self-Catheterize (object)

March 2024

Presented as sculpture, this used VaPro Plus Pocket catheter it is a testament to the process and practice of catheterization. In the body fluid spirit of Carolee Schneemann's "Parts of a Body House Book" (specifically the page containing a sheet of toilet paper blotted with her period blood) it is a defiant, jarring proclamation of self and body.



PISS SHIT AGONY DEATH

March 2024

21 x 76"

Hand quilting, fabric, ribbon, sequins, beads

A banner for the sick. Based on the quote from *Sick Woman Theory* by Johanna Hedva: "It did not intuitively make sense to me to say that the sick are weak because being sick is fucking metal. It has nothing to do with weakness and everything to do with blood, shit, agony, vomit, pus, and death." Creating this banner I explored new techniques in needle felting and cord couching.



The ReMemory Quilt

January 2024

33 x 52 "

Recycled fabric, ribbon, machine sewn, hand quilted

The ReMemory Quilt catalogs a period of my life, immediately post spinal stroke where I lived, mourned, and recovered in the hospital. I borrow the term "rememory" from Toni Morrison, who uses it to describe when Sethe, "remember[s] something she had forgotten she knew" (Beloved 61). Squirting from an enema, the right panel captures my highly standardized hospital schedule and the repetitive nature of recovery and healing. The triumphant trickle of piss from the catheter in the left panel shows the change such repetition can bring.

ReMemory Quilt Activation @ The Wedding
Cake House Providence, RI
January 2024

In the first display of the ReMemory Quilt I included an interactive component for viewers to engage with the work. I modified the stuffed devil earth to have its own urethra. Visitors were encouraged to learn and practice how to catheterize its soft, malleable body. This process both contrasted and mirrored the way medical students are taught to catheterize on hard plastic genital models. Neither recreates perfectly what it is to insert a catheter into a living, sweaty human with multiple folds and holes.





DOG GUTS automata

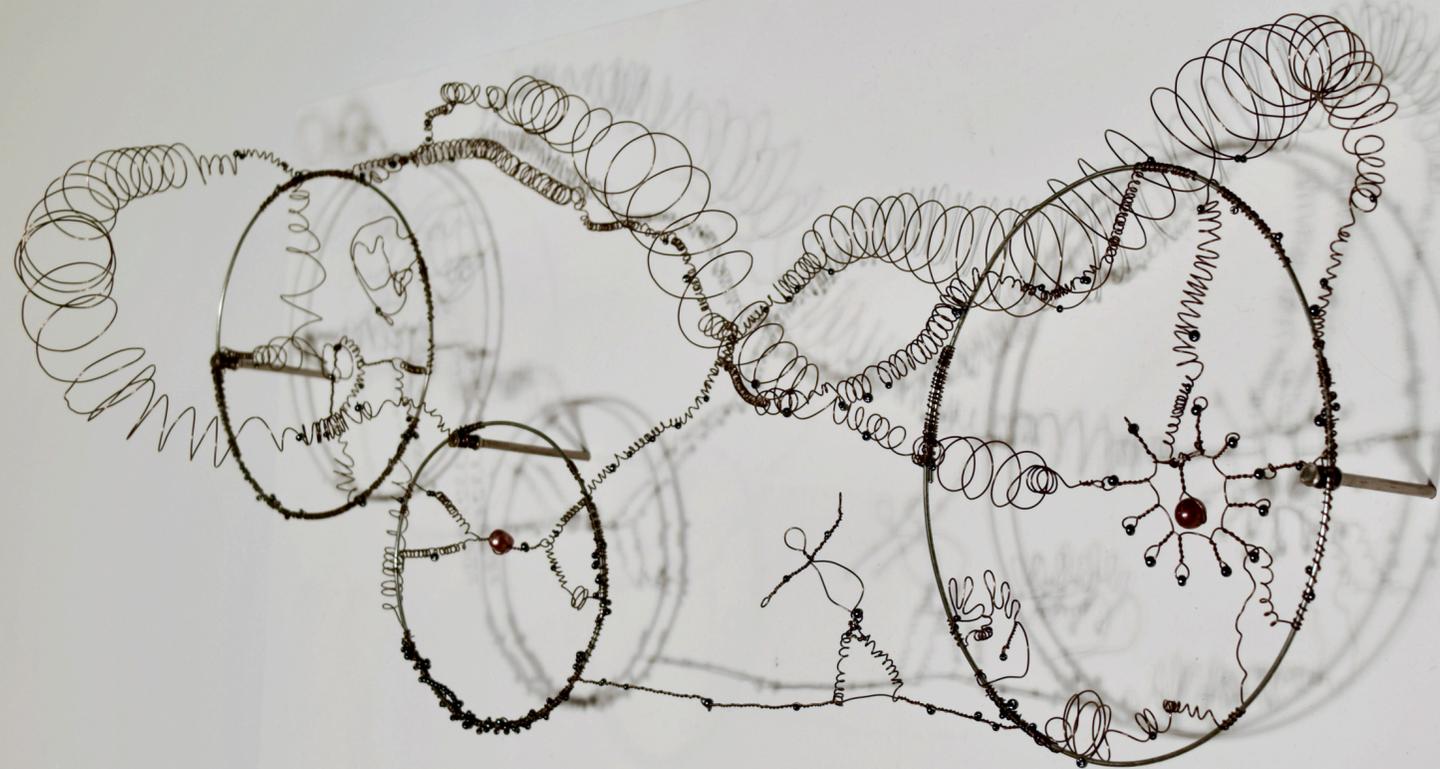
January 2024

12 x 5 x 5"

Wire, cardboard, fabric, string

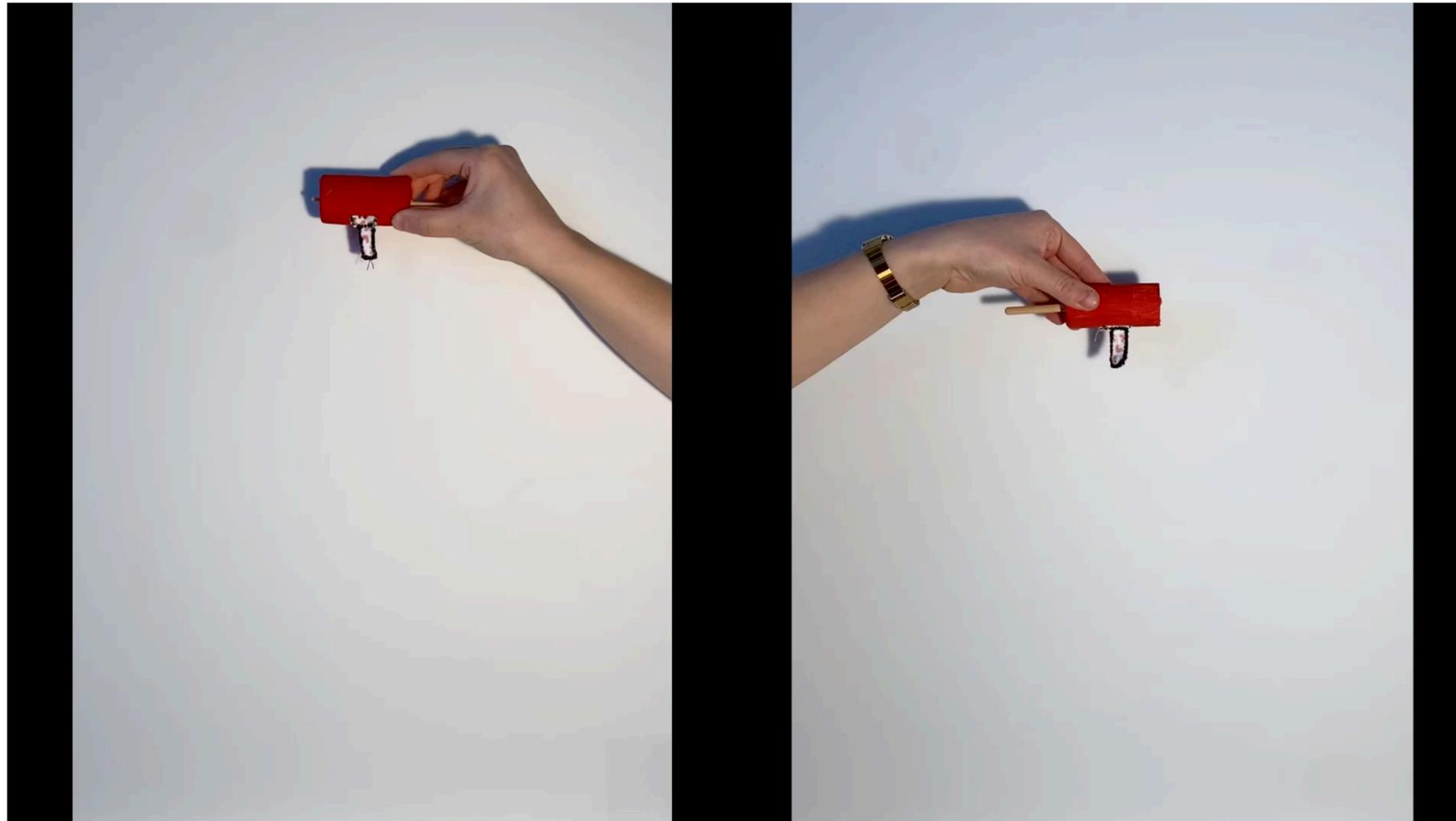
I was drawn to automata as a way to explore autonomy and movement. As a person with a disabled bodymind I've often needed to sacrifice the former for the latter. There have been times when I've depended on others to move my legs and shift my body, release my urine, and make me shit. The absurdity of this finds its equal in the mechanisms of automata. Both playful and morbid, DOG GUTS is a body split apart, wiggling both because of the user and on its own accord.

Watch DOG GUTS automata in motion [here](#).



Calder's Circus
December 2023
12 x 24 x 10"
Wire, beads

An explosion of spiraling black wire, I was compelled to create this piece after experiencing the whimsy of Le Cirque de Calder.



Portable Grief Altar

December 2023

Cardboard, chopsticks, recycled fabric, glass beads

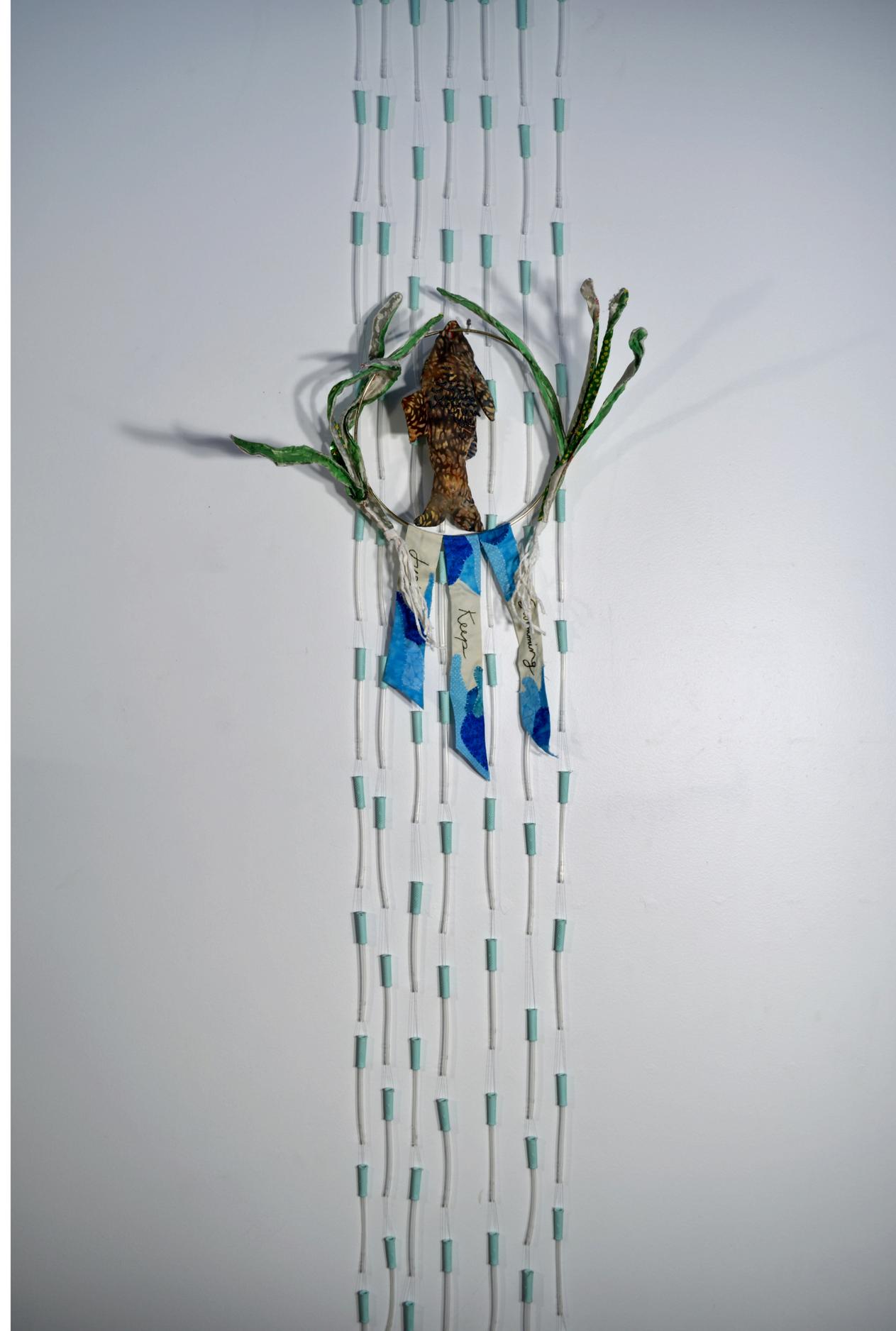
This two-part portable grief altar reads: “I know only that in chasing to achieve the person I once was” “I will miss the person I have become.” It’s a quote from Liz Moore’s essay, “I’m Tired of Chasing a Cure”, in Alice Wong’s Disability Visibility.

Since 2021, I have maintained a practice of creating “grief altars” to honor moments of change in my life. Building an altar, which means pulling together trash and ephemera that reminds me of the transformation taking place, allows me to transmute my feelings into something tangible. The process creates an object that I can revisit as I maneuver through the waves of grief.

Watch this Portable Grief Altar in motion [here](#).

Piss River
November 2023
101 x 16 x 10"
Plastic catheters, fabric, beads

Piss River mirrors my own recovery alongside that of the Delaware River. In it, a shad fish swims through natural grass and up a stream of falling catheters. The Delaware has gone through many iterations: once a place where residents of Philadelphia were able to swim freely, by the 1900s industrial pollution and human waste made such practices untenable. Ongoing restoration efforts throughout the 20th century have allowed for the return of native plants and animals including the American Shad. With time and effort, rivers, and perhaps bodies, can change and strengthen, welcoming the return of important movement and life.





little legs

July 2023

19 x 7.5 x 1.5"

Fabric, polyester fill

Almost as soon as they stopped moving, I began anthropomorphizing my legs. They became a thing with their own wants and needs, an effigy to pray to, an entity to hope for. The subject of intense attention, my legs inevitably seeped into my art as a reoccurring motif.



Captured Catheter Creature (Infyna Chic™ Intermittent Catheter by Hollister)

Caught June 2023, Tagged 2024

9 x 9 x 2.5"

Plastic catheter, beads, wire

The catheter creatures are borne of the deep-sea. Beaded and swirling, they are trash magic from the unknown. A medical object metamorphosed into life form.

Becoming disabled, I entered my own space of mystery; being told by doctors that they didn't know if I would move my legs or walk again. I found solace thinking about the deep ocean. In a space where so much remains unknown, anything becomes possible.

Orange Catheter Creature
April 2023
5 x 3 x 3"
single-use catheter, glass beads, wire

