

TEXT by Johanna Bear

Graziela Guardino's sculptural paintings investigate binary forces and dichotomies that pervade the human experience. Absence and presence, darkness and light, fragility and resilience find balance in her works. Guardino offers a visual metaphor for the tensions between these dualities and how they ripple across our lives. Through a continuous process of experimentation—deconstructing, cutting, sewing, rebuilding—that is grounded in her painting practice, materials are playfully transformed. Linen threads are unravelled and lathered in paint to become solid forms, both symmetric and asymmetric, which drape across geometric frames. Their rich textures layer into shimmering monochromatic veils of black and white, or punctuated by jewelled red, green, orange and yellow. These abstractions of colour, materiality and form hover at the threshold of the tangible and intangible. By opening up a space where emotion and memory dominate, Guardino questions the philosophical and psychological underpinnings of how we experience the world.