

*Fecund Series II Statement*

I am concerned with the often contentious debate about science, culture and religion and how a seemingly willful lack of understanding hinders our development as better human beings. My work explores bioethics and the dichotomy between emotional and intellectual thought in an increasingly technological world.

Specifically, I am interested in ethical questions created by rapidly advancing technology. Is it right to artificially sustain those in persistent vegetative conditions? Is it moral to abort a fetus that tests positive for a serious abnormality? What are the implications of using non-human cells to treat diseases? Current technology can make makes for very difficult decisions, especially when religious beliefs are also considered. Are we being smart to take advantage of what science and medicine can offer or are we playing God? At what point do we draw the line?

To explore these ideas in the studio, I manipulate and assemble natural materials such as shells, hair and seeds with manmade products such as metal, plastic and glass. I also select movies that show the latest scientific advancement in the field of biophysics. I combine the videos and objects with anthropomorphic specimen cases so that they can be seen but not touched. Some works are fun, elegant and beautiful; others are marred by the recombination process. Viewers become participants in the work when they peer inside a piece and see their reflection. This series speaks to the human desire for progress and the possibility of Frankensteinian horrors.