

Artist Statement:

Alana MacDougall, January 2016

Drawing on personal experiences with medical institutions, my current work discusses the fragility and vulnerability of the human body. The intersection of organic and industrial materials speak to medical intervention - an invading and manipulation of the body by something foreign. This uncomfortable contrast alludes to the psychological impact of pushing through the body's barriers. Invented systems are pulled taut or sag under the weight of the forms they suspend. Ceramic forms are interlaced or punctured with industrial cable, cords, or steel wire recalling probing, stinging or sutures. The sculptures use physical weight and tension as metaphors for psychological tension or anxiety. I am interested in interior to exterior relationships and use hollow forms to represent internal masses and pathways.