



**Syd Hanna**

**2023, Fall**

**Capstone - Metalsmithing and Jewelry**

**Department of Art and Art History**

**Artist Statement:**

My relationship with my body has never been good. Growing up, I knew I was different from my peers. I didn't know what to call it or how to express it so for most of my life I pushed those negative feelings down and out of my mind. Through my art practice I began creating things that led me towards the changes I desperately needed to make. My current work continuously points me in the way of the body; more specifically, the one I have resented for so long.

Through my work, I explore these feelings of fear and confusion surrounding my gender identity. I reveal normally hidden spaces on my body to commemorate my struggle to find myself. I elevate these private spaces as a celebration of my journey, transforming the darkness that has held on to me for so long into something of immense value, both precious and beautiful.

The relationship between the human body and art has been explored for centuries, and my work focuses on pushing that exploration to highlight my transgender experience. I channel the pain and uncertainty into something beautiful that accentuates my body in a unique way. The delicate textures of my hands and the curves and lines that cradle them, remind me to hold myself closely and gently in times of uncertainty and stress.

Title	Original Format
Figure 1: Traditions	1.5 in x .5 in x 2.5 in
Figure 2: Traditions, worn	
Figure 3: Traditions, detail	
Figure 4: Holding Close Series - Clenched	2 in x .5 in x 2 in
Figure 5: Holding Close Series - Clenched, worn	
Figure 6: Holding Close Series - Clenched, detail	
Figure 7: Holding Close Series - Bite	1 in x 1 in x 1.5 in
Figure 8: Holding Close Series - Bite, worn	
Figure 9: Holding Close Series - Squeeze	1.5 in x 1 in x 1.5 in
Figure 10: Holding Close Series - Squeeze, worn	
Figure 11: Holding Close Series - Clasped	2 in x 1 in x 1 in
Figure 12: Holding Close Series - Clasped, worn	
Figure 13: Holding Close Series - Grip	1.4 in x 1 in x 1.4 in
Figure 14: Holding Close Series - Grip, worn	
Figure 15: Impressions	4 in x 2.5 in x 6.8 in
Figure 16: Impressions, worn	
Figure 17: Impressions, Detail	
Figure 18: Bound	1.5 in x 1.5 in x 2 in
Figure 19: Bound, worn	
Figure 20: Bound, detail	
Figure 21: Wrapped	6 in x 1.5 in x 4 in
Figure 22: Wrapped, worn	
Figure 23: Wrapped, detail	



**Figure 1: Traditions**



Figure 2: Traditions, worn



**Figure 3: Traditions, detail**



**Figure 4: Holding Close Series - Clenched**



**Figure 5: Holding Close Series - Clenched, worn**





**Figure 6: Holding Close Series - Clenched, detail**



**Figure 7: Holding Close Series - Bite**



**Figure 8: Holding Close Series - Bite, worn**



**Figure 9: Holding Close Series - Squeeze**



**Figure 10: Holding Close Series - Squeeze, worn**



**Figure 11: Holding Close Series - Clasped**



**Figure 12: Holding Close Series - Clasped, worn**



**Figure 13: Holding Close Series - Grip**





**Figure 14: Holding Close Series - Grip, worn**



**Figure 15: Impressions**



**Figure 16: Impressions, worn**



Figure 17: Impressions, detail



**Figure 18: Bound**



**Figure 19: Bound, worn**



**Figure 20: Bound, detail**





**Figure 21: Wrapped**





**Figure 22: Wrapped, worn**



**Figure 23: Wrapped, detail**