

THESIS

BLOOM

Submitted by

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In partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts

Colorado State University

Fort Collins, Colorado

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THESIS

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

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WE HEREBY RECOMMEND THAT THE THESIS PREPARED
UNDER OUR SUPERVISION BY JAN CARSON ENTITLED BLOOM
BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING IN PART REQUIREMENTS FOR
THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF FINE ARTS.

Committee on Graduate Work

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Adviser

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Department Head

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ABSTRACT OF THESIS

BLOOM

Butterfly Brown

groundedness

physicality

passion

Butterfly White

awareness

acceptance

willingness

Butterfly Blue

longing

humility

gratitude

In describing how I feel as a physical being, I draw from an experience of spiritual unfolding, which I compare to blooming. This is symbolized by the butterfly, which emerges in full glory, its purpose and beauty exhibited as a single attribute. Its metamorphosis and inherent interactions in nature follow a greater cycle. This artwork is an expression of that depth and radiance which I feel in being human.

Though intended for the human body, these pieces are designed to transcend human proportion. Because the feelings I am describing are powerful, the resulting form is voluminous. To wear the garment is to feel at once small, extended, fixed, and magnificent. The velvet is heavy and luxurious. The butterfly form signifies freedom and lightness of being, while the amount of fabric hinders movement and grace. It is a sensation of both suffering and sweetness.

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Fig. 1. *Butterfly Brown*. Procion Dye on Silk Velvet. 15' Diameter x 5' Height.



Fig. 2. *Butterfly White*. Procion Dye on Silk Velvet. 15' Diameter x 5' Height.



Fig. 3. *Butterfly Blue*. Procion Dye on Silk Velvet. 15' Diameter x 5' Height.