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A GOOD CRY

Sallie Scheufler

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A GOOD CRY
SALLIE SCHEUFLER

A GOOD CRY

Sallie Scheufler

March 12 - March 30, 2018

CFA Downtown Studio

113 4th st NW, Albuquerque, NM 87106

What affects my ability to control my body?

Why is emotion often separated from the body?

Can crying be a valid form of communication?

How can manipulating the experience of crying give me control over the act itself?

Introduction

I have a history of crying at the most inappropriate of times. A *GOOD CRY* is inspired by, and made of tears. Through a series of performative videos, I induce crying to regain a sense of control over my body, using onions, menthol, a high-powered fan, and forcing myself to fake tears. The *Futile Handkerchiefs*, made of various materials, fail to offer solace or an ending to tears; instead, they generate more tears, cause pain, or embarrassment. A video installation about the act of swallowing a birth control pill, every day, every week, every month, every year, to control my body in turn makes my body lose control. Crystals grown from my own tears make something disposable precious and serve as a record of my cries. A too-tall-to-reach box provides a seemingly endless volume of tissues for the never-ending cry. A box made with a single tissue is reserved for the most vital cry. Akin to Sarah Ahmed's *Feminist Killjoy*, who creates social discomfort, I am calling attention to the moments when the salty fluid is met with uneasiness. A *GOOD CRY* questions and scrutinizes the nature of crying behavior.

HOW MUCH OF
CRYING IS
LEARNED?



Futile Hankies: Onion

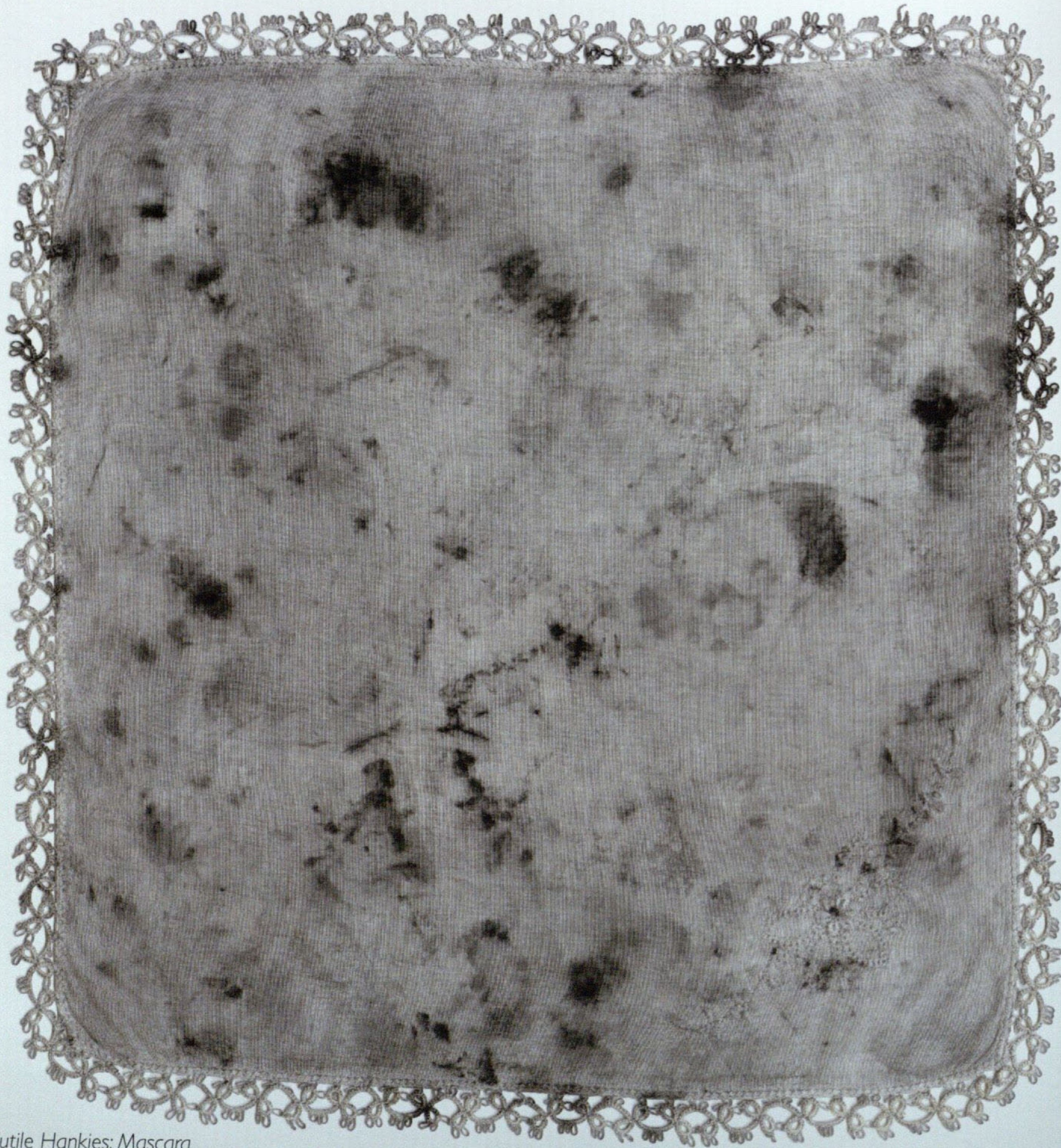




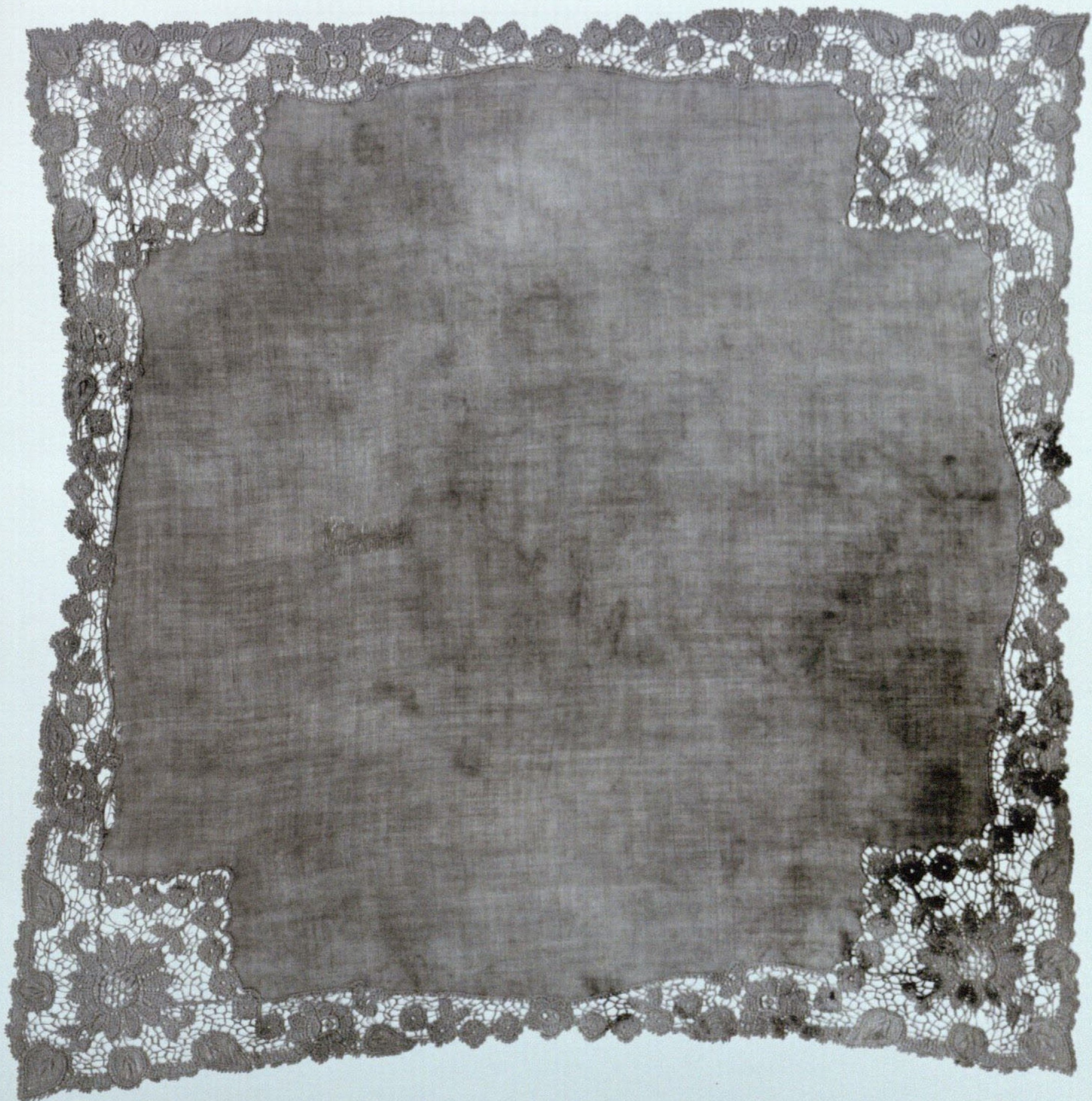


Crying (fake)

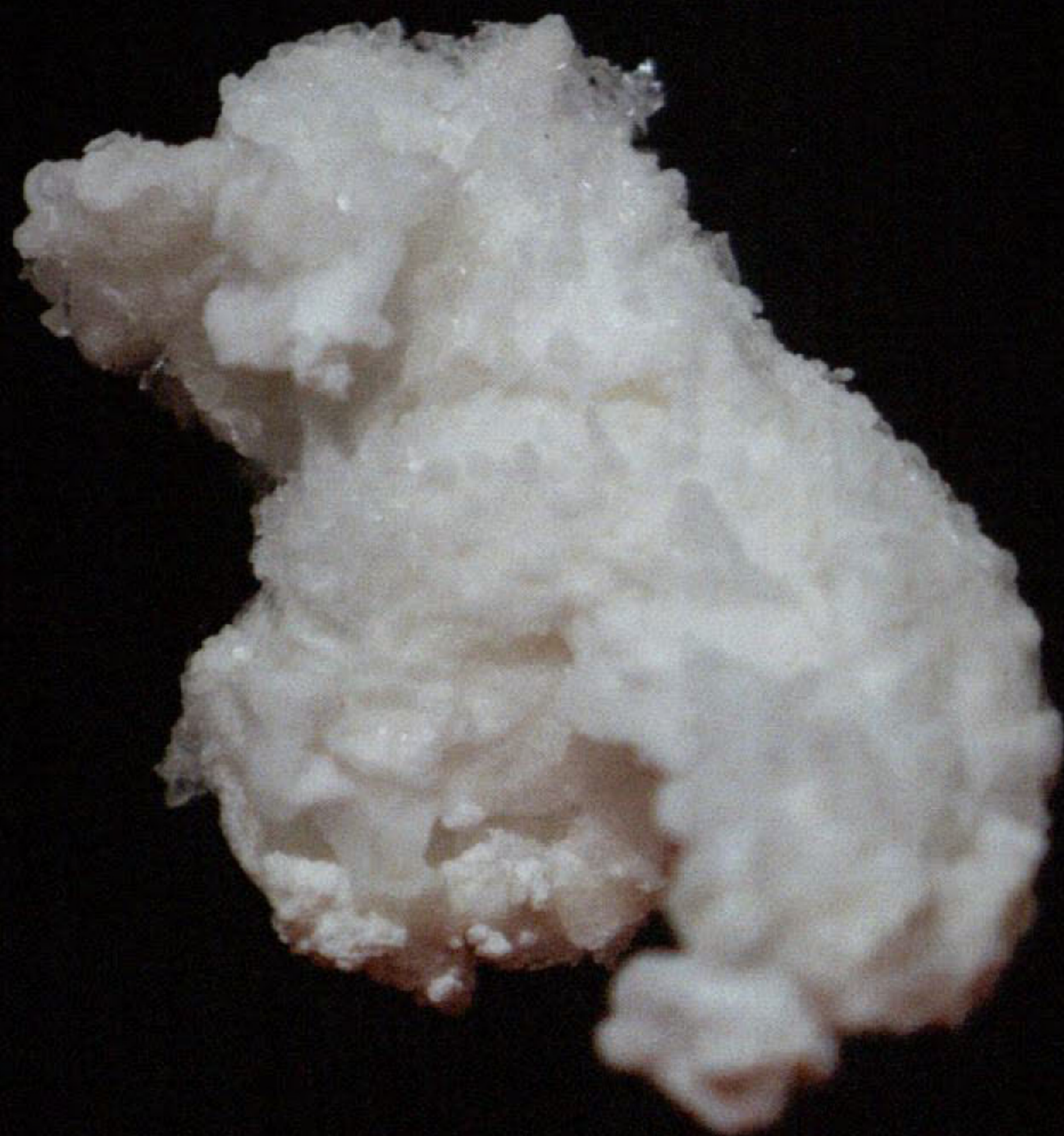


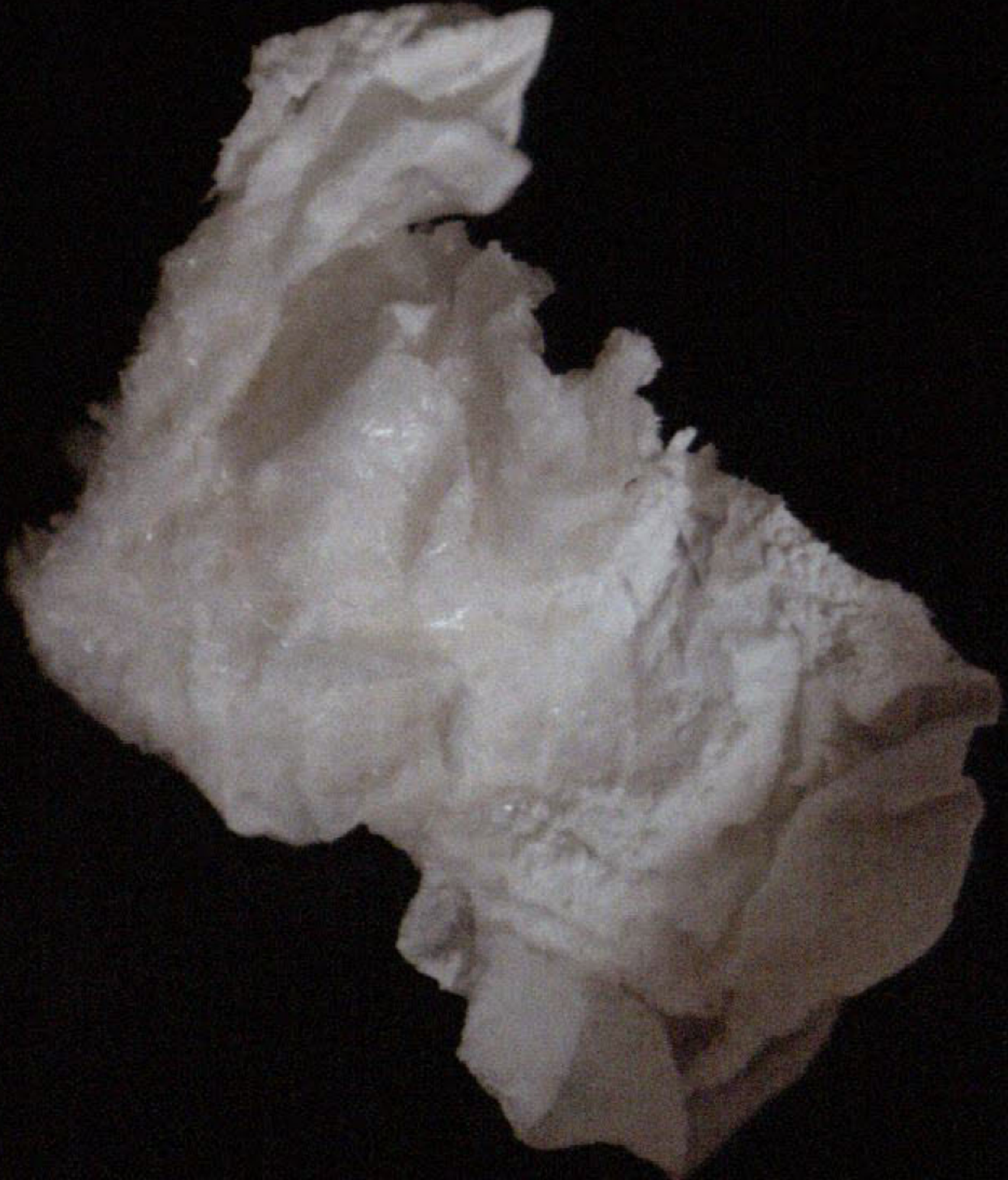


Futile Hankies: Mascara

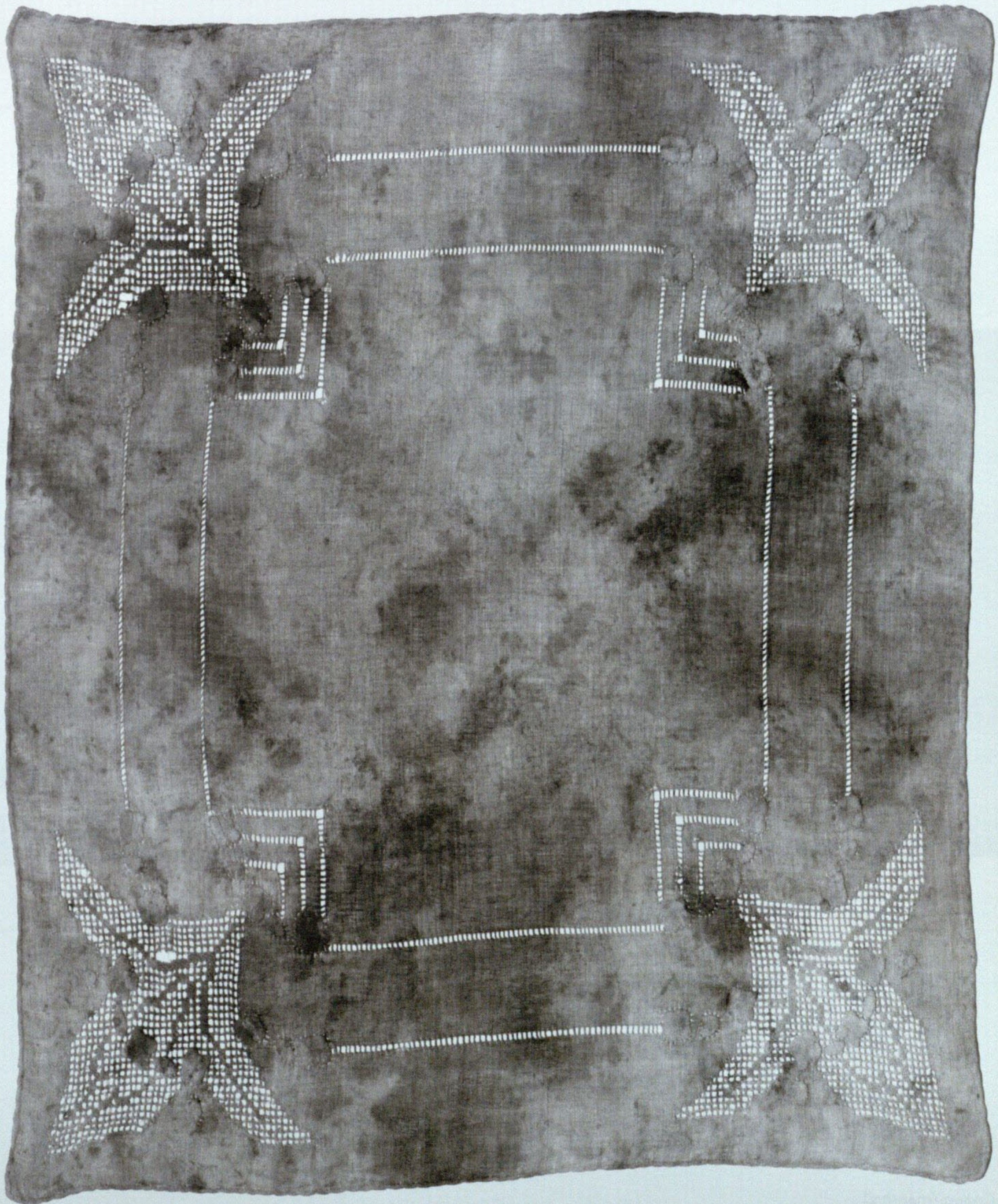


IS CRYING
ALWAYS EMOTIONAL?





Tear Crystals

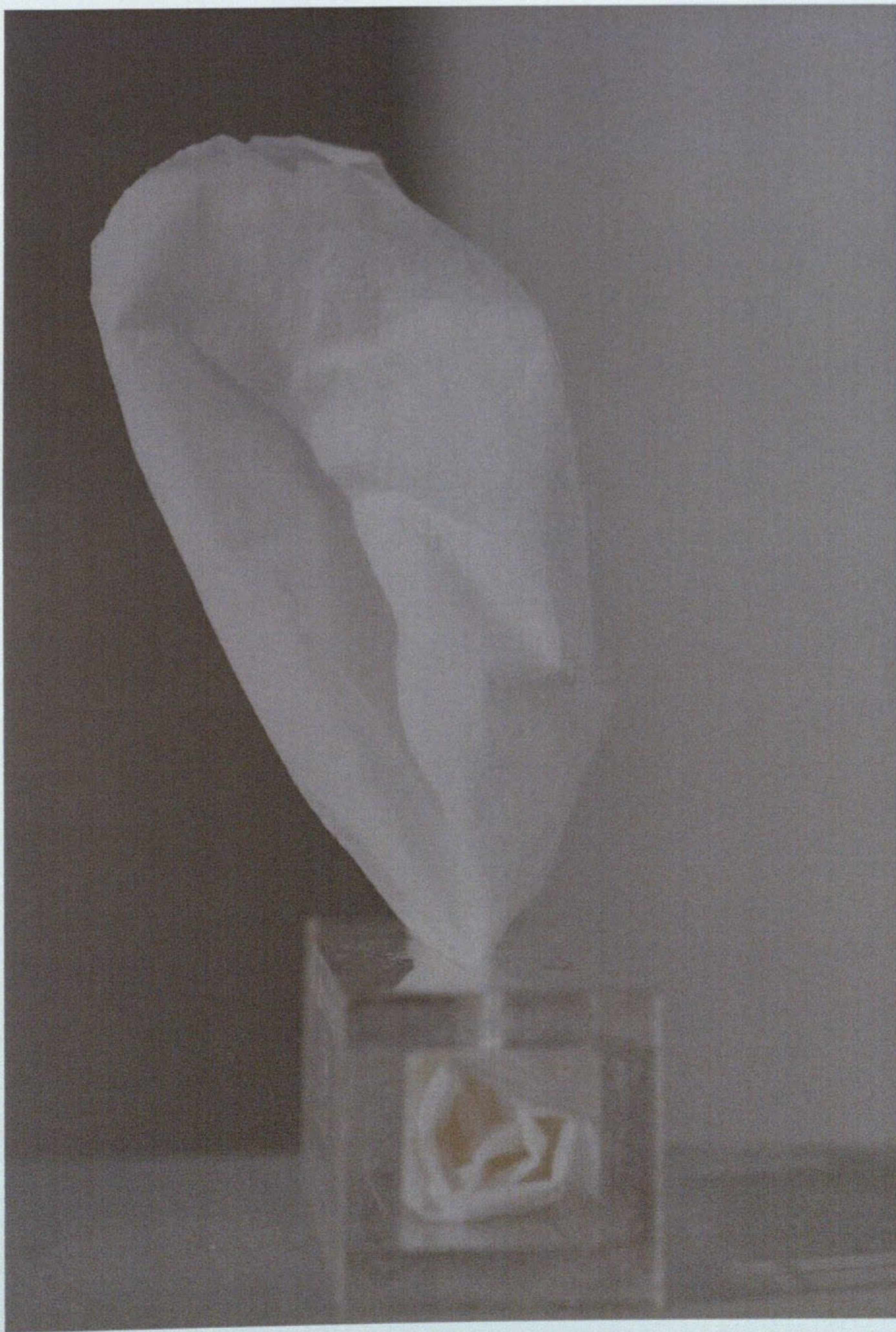








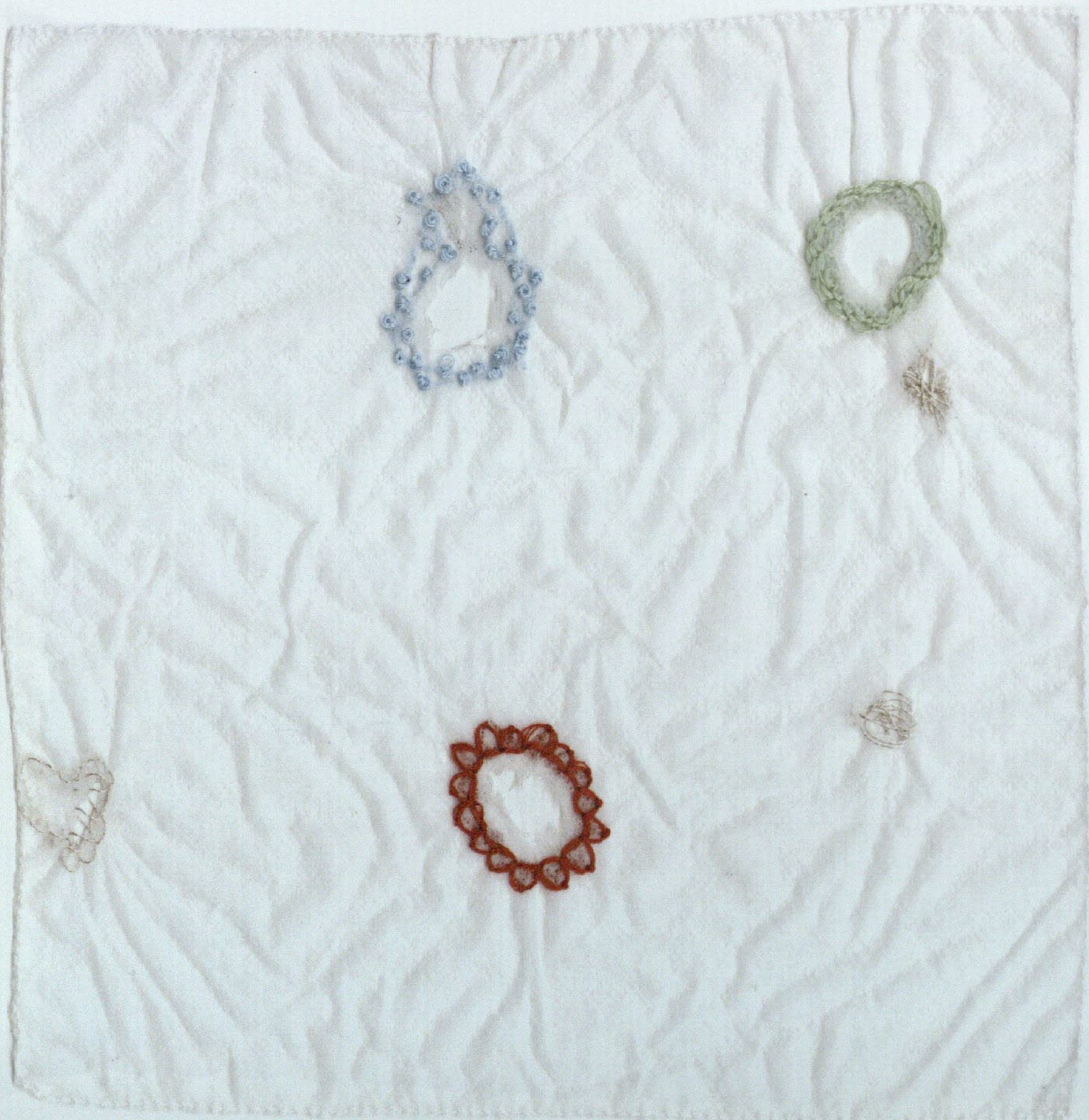
Single Tissue Box







Futile Hankies: Onion



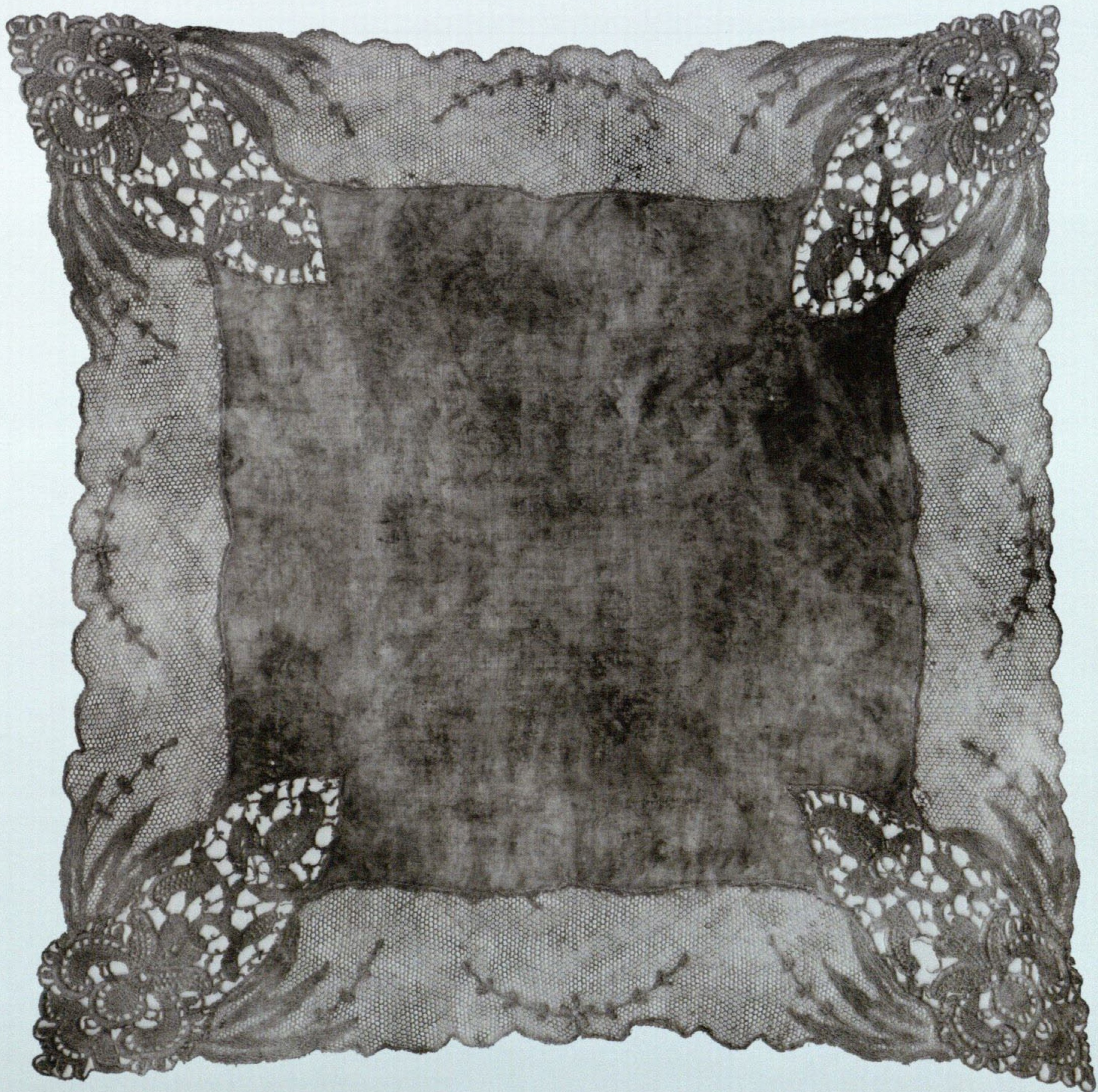
Futile Hankies: Water Soluble





Birth Control Everyday/Everyday Birth Control

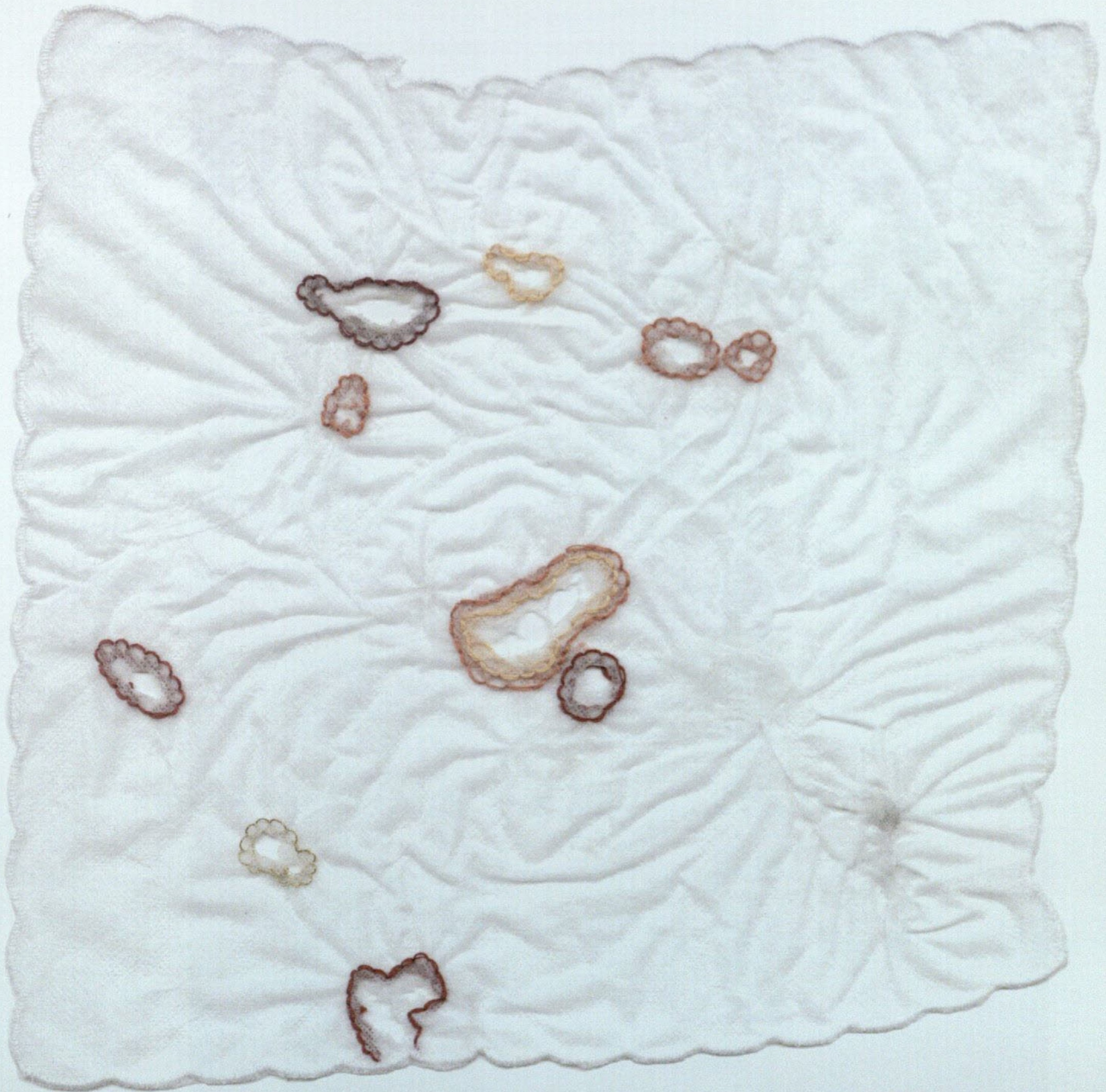


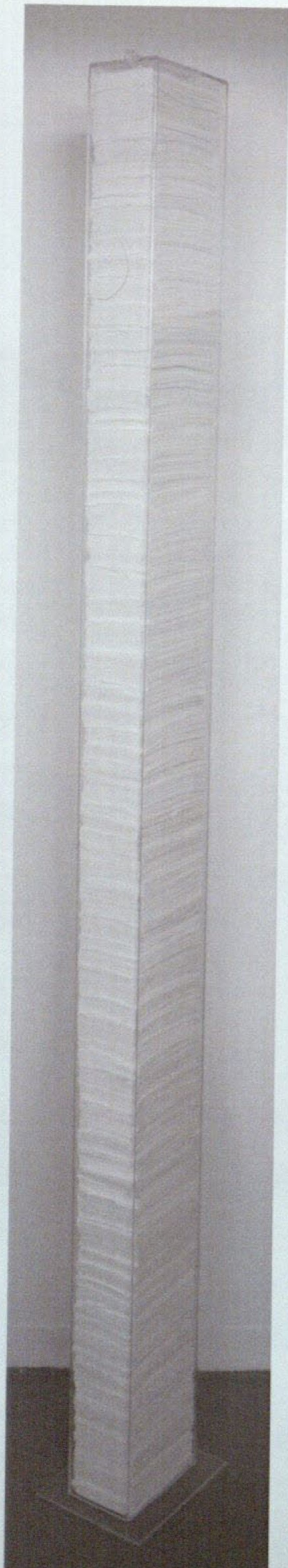


IS CRYING
PERFORMATIVE?

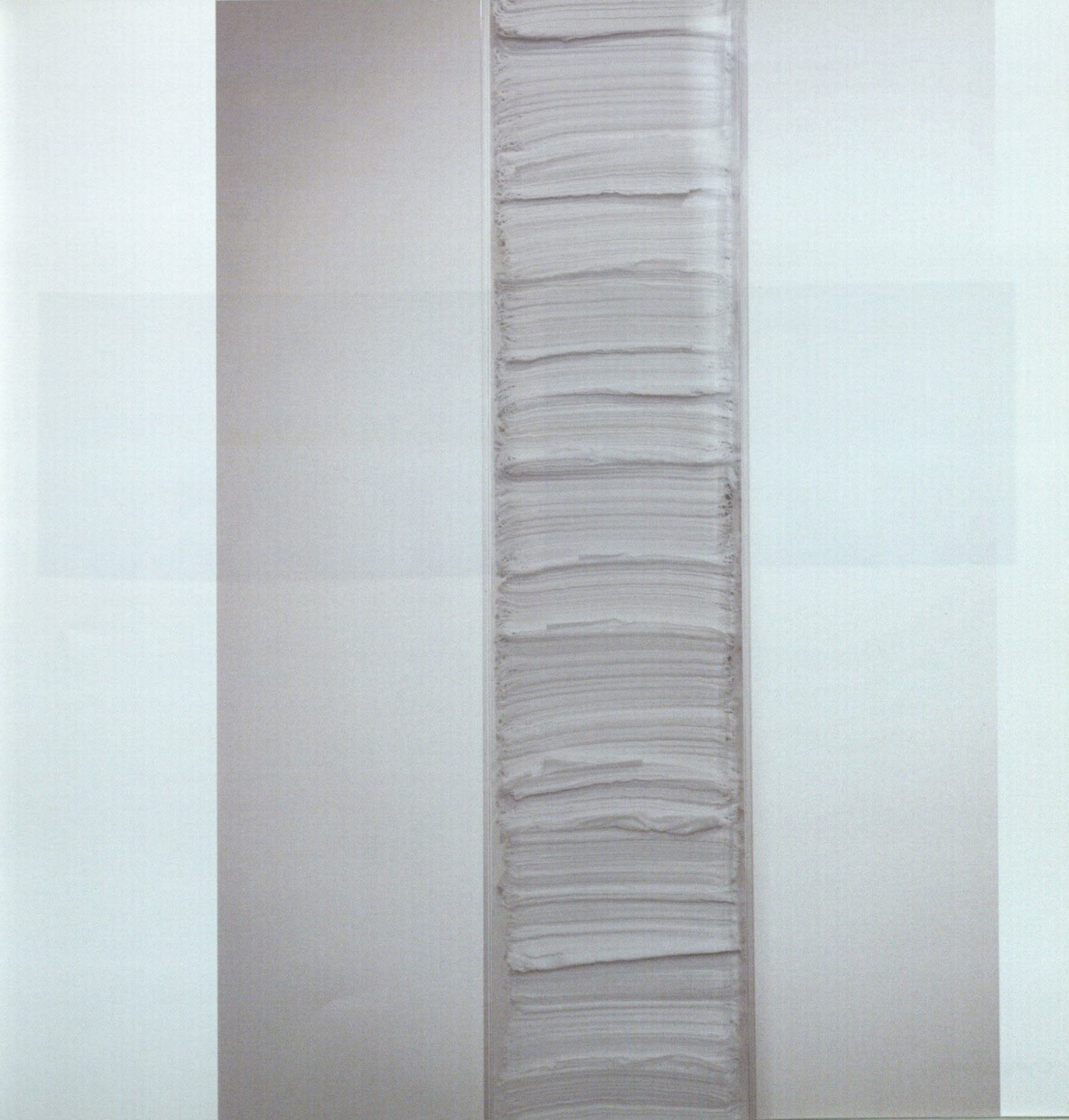


Futile Hankies: Water Soluble





Endless Tissue Box





Crying (onion)

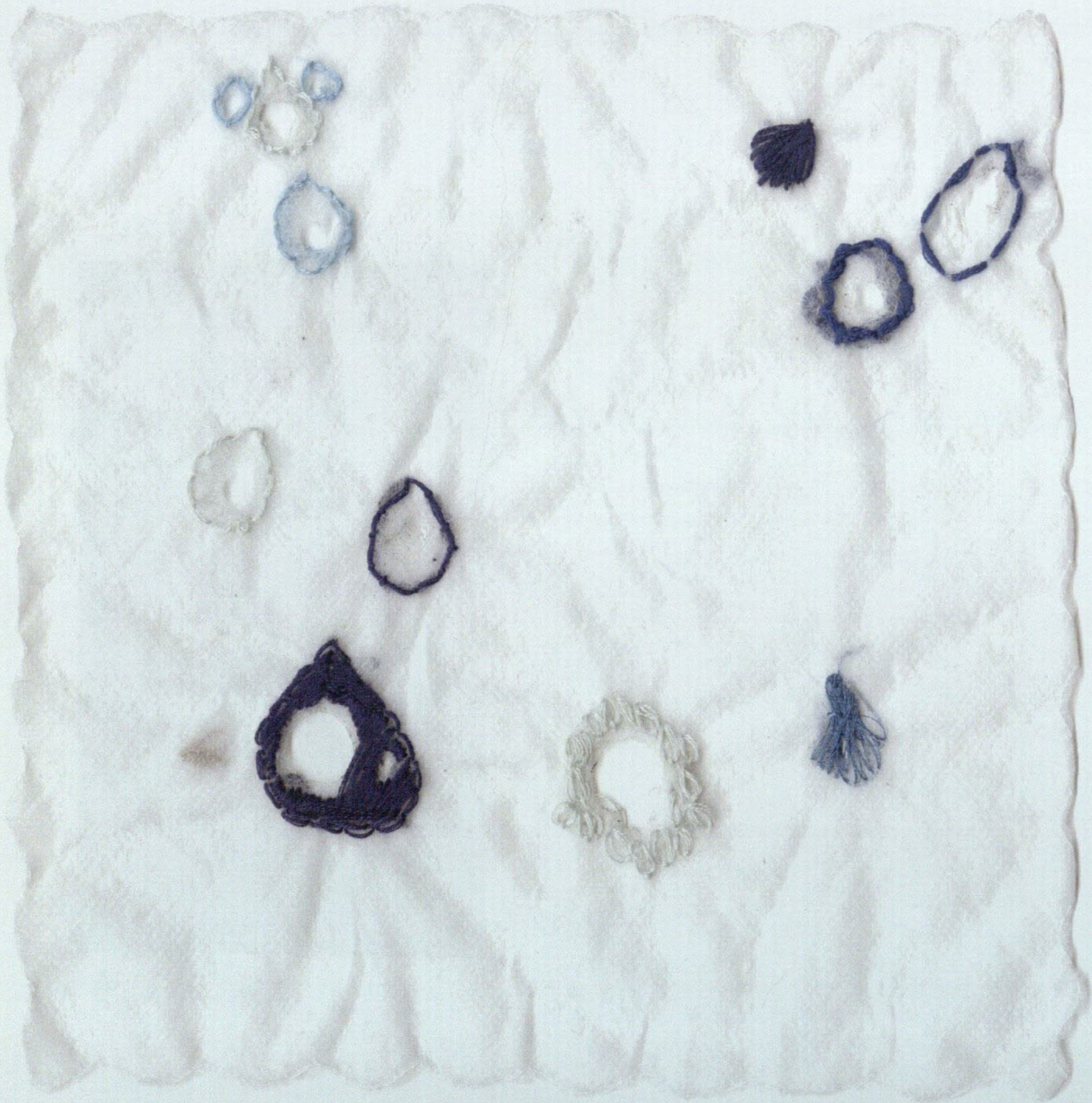




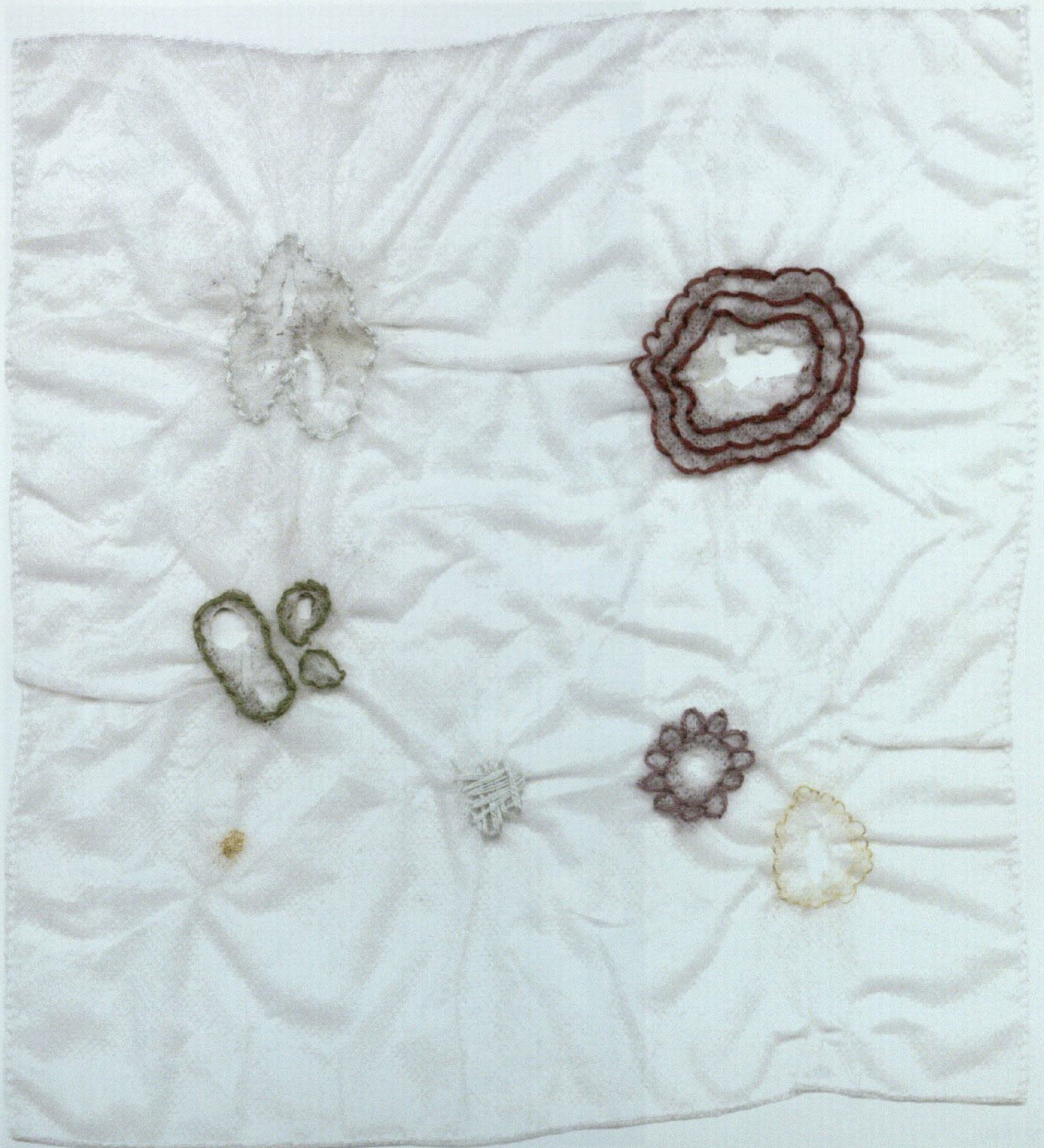
IS CRYING
AN ACTION
OR A REACTION?



Crying Fragrance and Face Cream

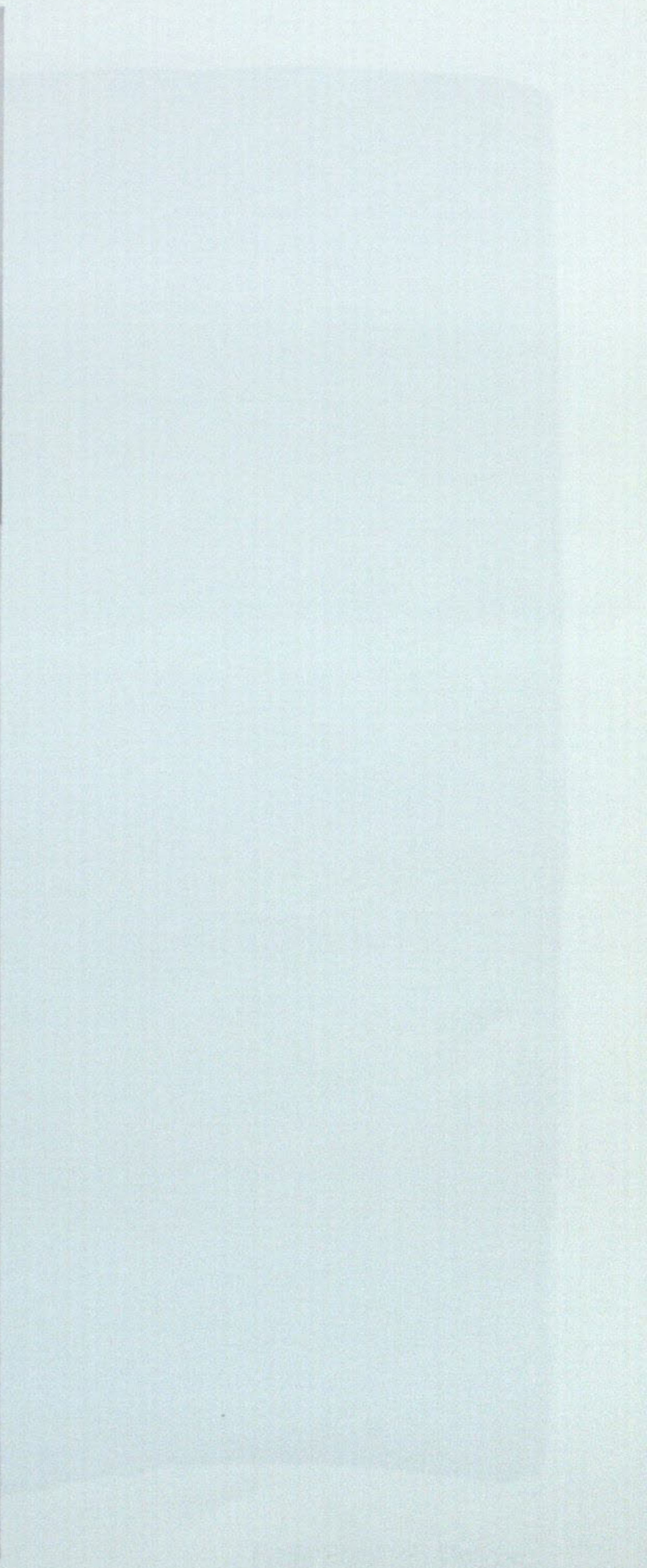


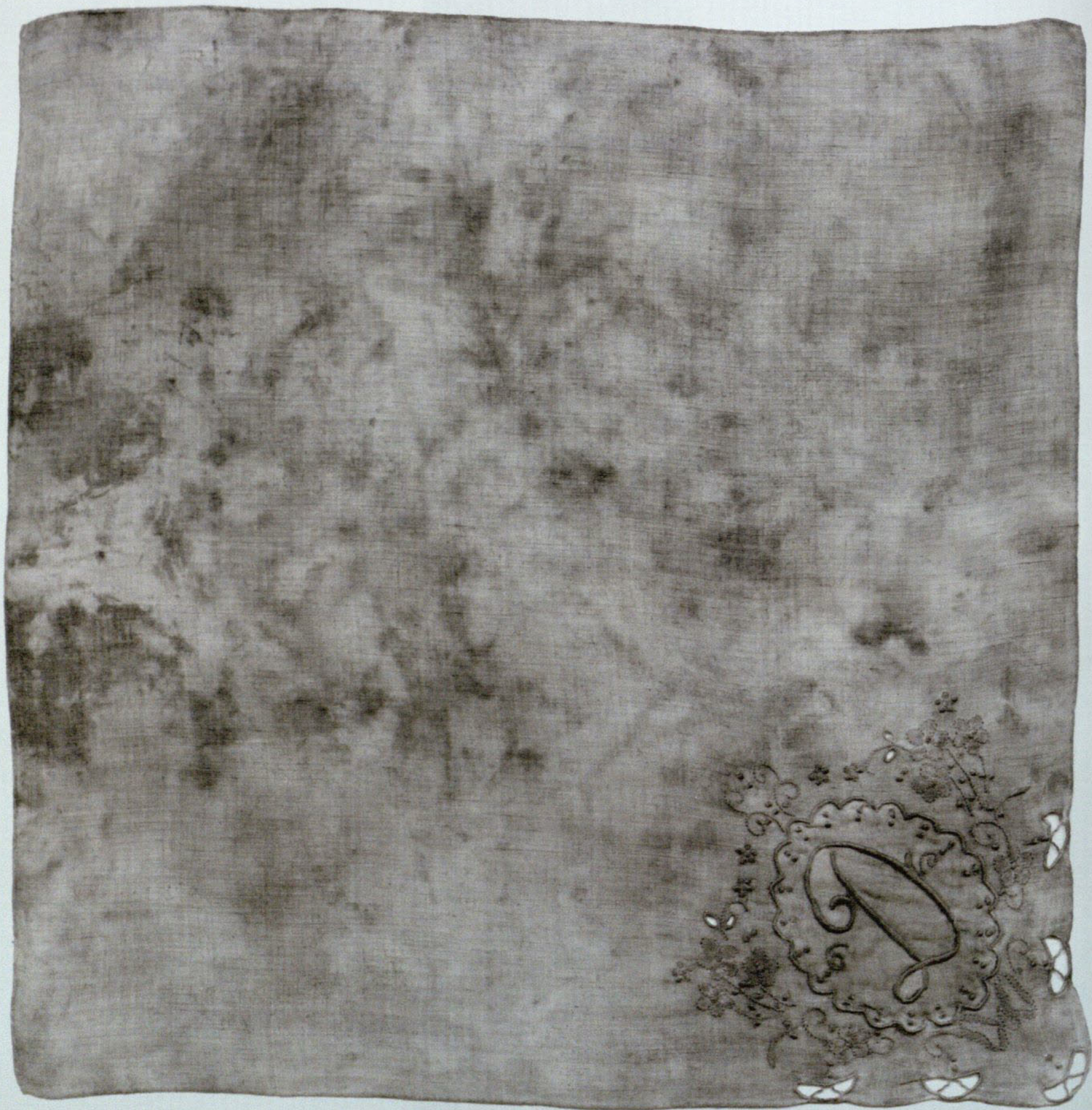
Futile Hankies: Water Soluble





Crying (fan)







Futile Hankies: Mascara

take a tissue and have a good cry,
stamped tissues

Crying Fragrance and Face Cream,
onion juice, perfume bottle, menthol, cold cream container

Endless Tissue Box,
acrylic & approximately 7,000 tissues,
8ft x 4in x 8in

Single Tissue Box,
acrylic, a single tissue,
4in x 1in x 1in

Tear Crystals,
salt crystals grown from my tears, tissues,
sizes variable

Crying (onion, menthol, fan, fake),
4-channel projected video and sound installation
each channel ~12ft x 7 ft

Futile Hankies: Birth Control,
vintage handkerchief, a month of birth control pills, 10in x 10in

Futile Hankies: Water Soluble,
wash-n-gone fabric, tears, embroidery floss,
sizes variable

Futile Hankies: Onion,
onion juice, vintage handkerchief,
sizes variable

Futile Hankies: Mascara,
mascara(non-waterproof), vintage handkerchief,
sizes variable

Birth Control Everyday/Everyday Birth Control,
7-channel video and sound installation
15 inch monitors

Master of Fine Arts Committee:

Meggan Gould

Mary Tsiongas

Ligia Bouton

Kirsten Buick

Thank you to all who made the exhibition and catalog for A GOOD CRY possible.

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