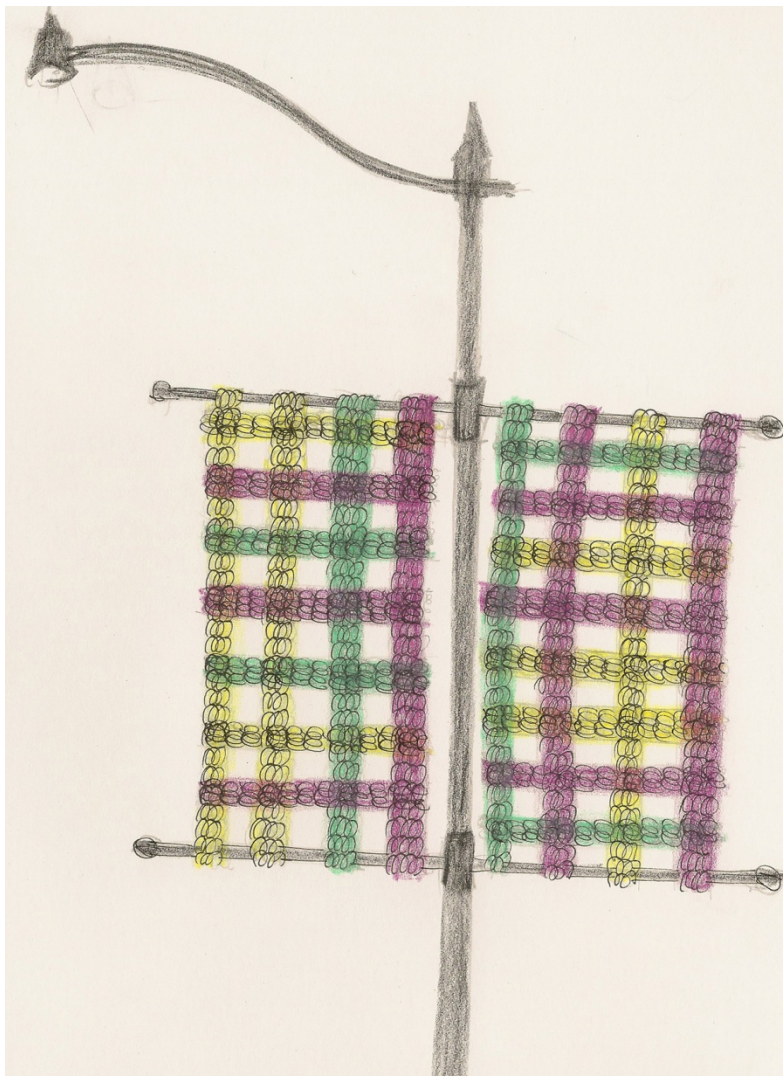


14th Street Bridge – Knitted Wire

The 14th Street Bridge is a long stretch of road, which allows a fantastic view of the city skyline – especially in the evening; the sunsets are fabulous reflecting off of the downtown buildings. Colour and the downtown architecture are our inspiration for this bridge. A variety of colours of wire will be used to create machine knitted pieces which will then be hand woven together in an open, yet layered structure. The light will easily pass through and delicately reflect off the banners to create texture and a sense of our city skyline.

*Wire is a strong material which will be able to hold up outside. The knit and weave techniques will add to the strength of the material, for a long lasting banner.



10th Street – Louise Bridge – Funny Faces in Disguise

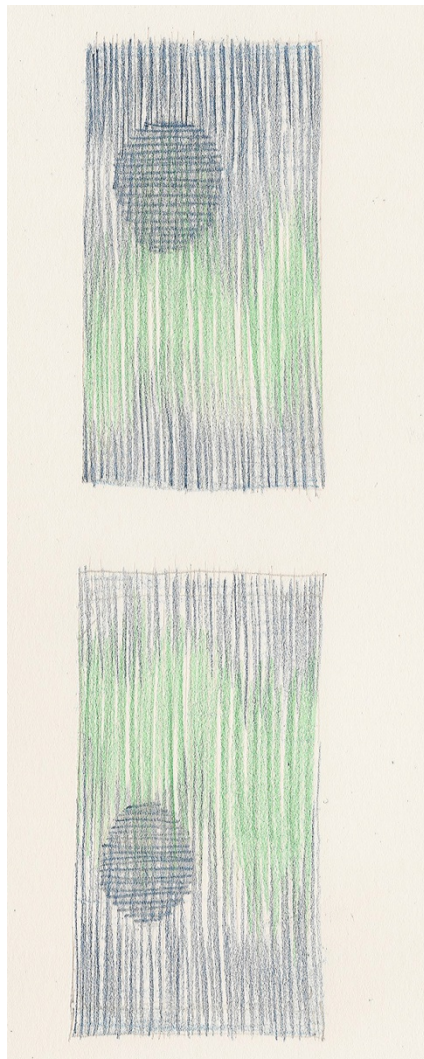
The 10th Street Bridge is the bridge that reminds us of the previous banner project the most. Walking to and from Kensington it was hard not to notice all of the fun faces, crawling with camouflage butterflies, ants and other insects. In the spirit of re-using materials to create new banners, the 10th Street Bridge will become a new form of camouflage. All of the banners will be meticulously cut into long pieces of fabric, and re-knitted by hand. Bits and pieces of the banners, (eyes, mouths, bugs, etc) will be protruding from areas of the banner to allow pedestrians to interact in a playful way as a reminder of the old banners. Light will be able to lightly seep through the knitted loops and the colours from the banners will mix together to create new pattern.

*The nylon from the banners does fray when cut. We have allowed for fraying during the knitting process to make the re-using more recognizable. Once the banners are created, they will be sprayed with a non-fray treatment to keep them from fraying further while on 10th Street.



Centre Street Bridge – Shift and Fade

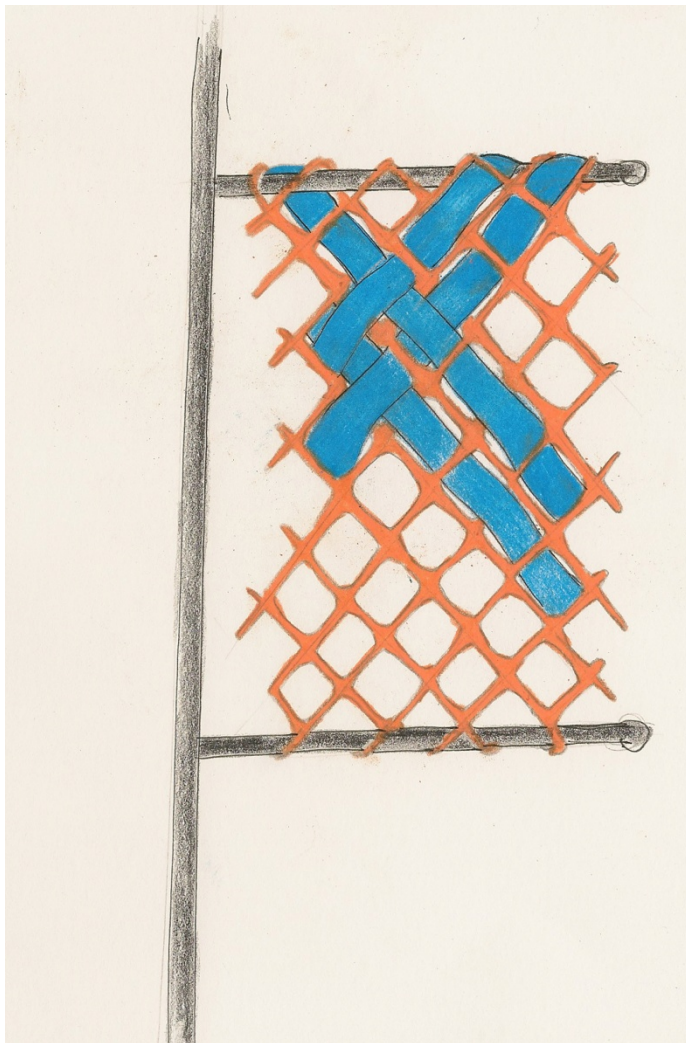
Centre Street Bridge is a vast and wide expanse over the Bow River and the heart of entering downtown. With China Town at the base of the bridge and the Calgary Tower in the distance, it is the entrance to a city full of old and new. Along with the Lions as grand structures on the bridge, we feel it necessary to create banners with enough beauty and visual effect to stand up to the feeling and stature of the Centre Street Bridge. The banners will be woven from a warp of thin, nylon rope that will be hand painted using colourful dyes in a process called ikat dying. The weft will be woven with fishing line. The nylon rope enables structural integrity while the fishing line creates a piece of cloth that appears transparent depending on the distance and angle it is viewed at. Within the woven structure there will be a simple circular image that will shift its position on each banner. Furthermore, this image will be less transparent than the rest of the fabric, as it will be more densely built up with fibres and will react differently to the dye.



Edmonton Trail – Langevin Bridge – City Under Construction

The view from Langevin Bridge brings one main image to mind; the ample amounts of construction sites as you enter downtown. Calgary is undergoing constant transformations as we grow past one million people and the beltline is always under construction. For this bridge we will be using materials that would be recognizable to all citizens of Calgary. The banners will be created by using orange, temporary fencing (often seen in construction sites and along the pathways below the bridge) and items such as tarp and tent materials. The fencing will be used as a base for embroideries with the other materials being used to stitch graphic images into. Visually, they will be bold and interesting for both pedestrians and commuters alike. The colours will allow them to be seen well from far away and will also be a nice surprise for those walking under them to discover what they are made of.

*The materials will be strong and long-lasting through the changing seasons.

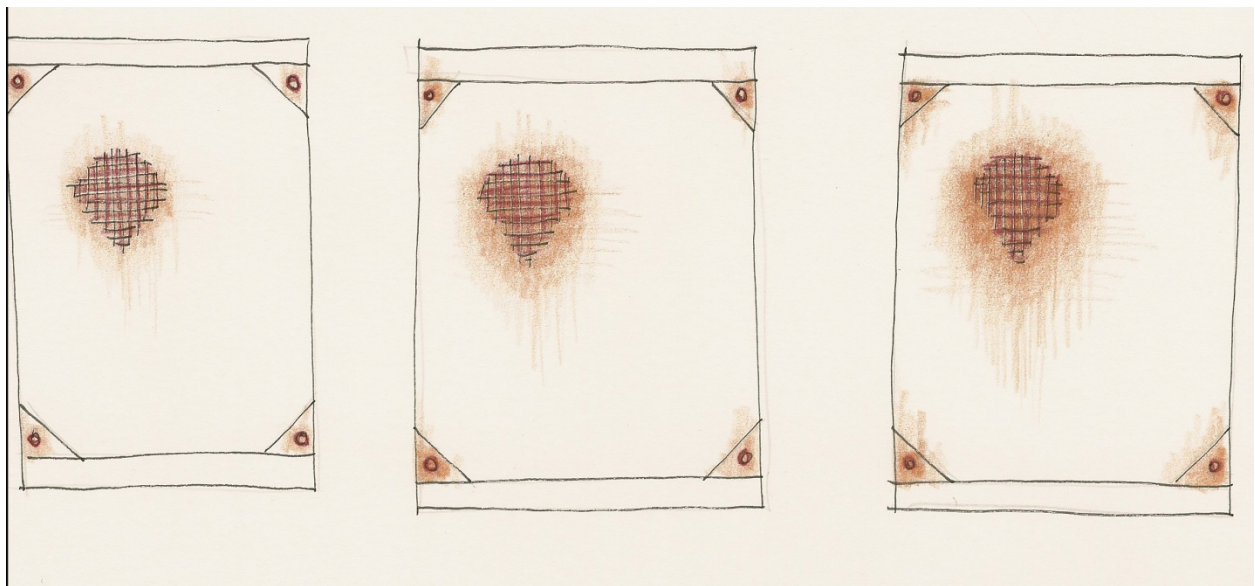


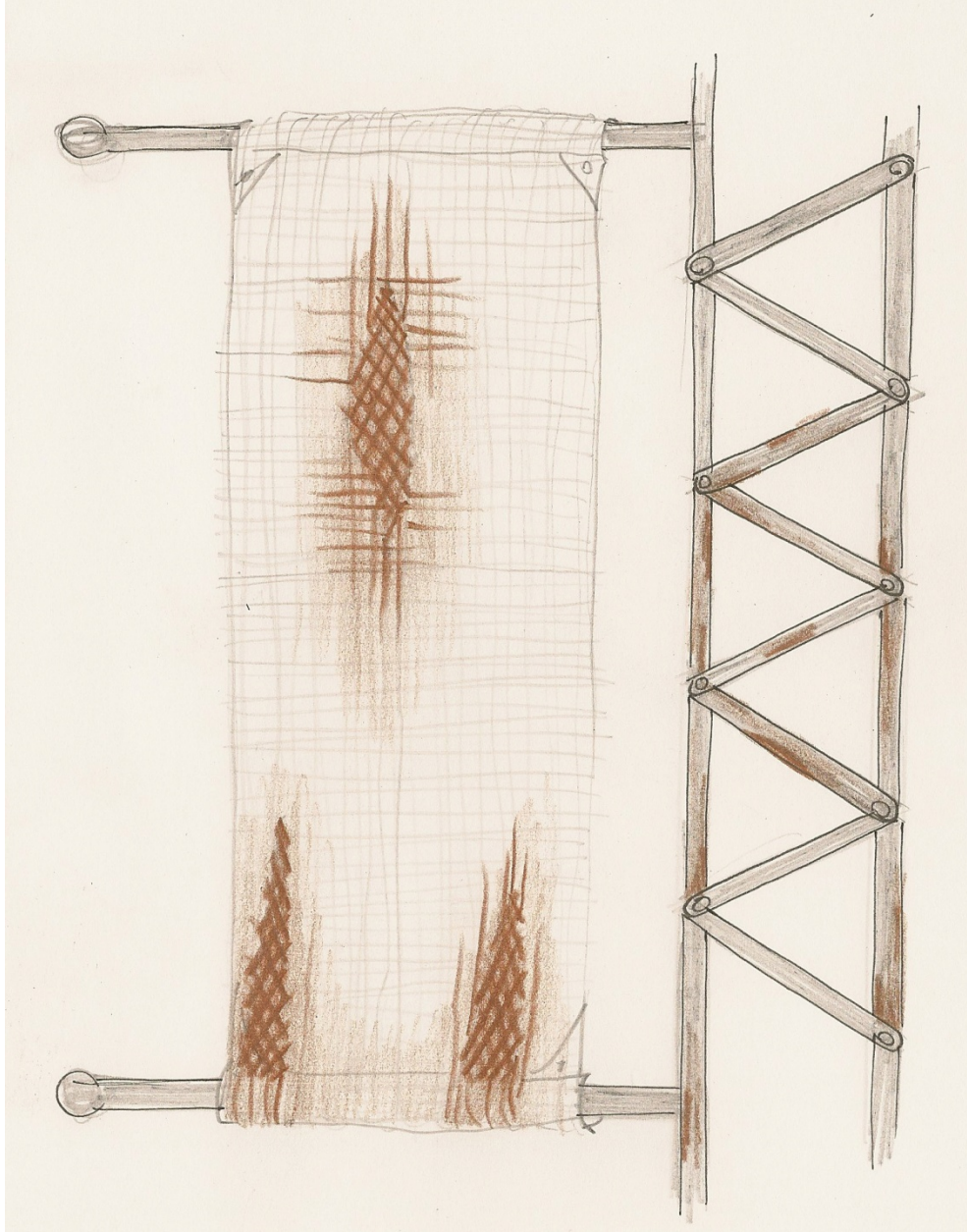
9th Ave - Inglewood Bridge - Progressions of the Seasons

The Inglewood Bridge is a passageway from downtown into an older neighbourhood of Calgary where old architecture and businesses illustrate the beauty of aging. The existing structure of the bridge also shows this aging process through the rusted metal. We are interested in incorporating the rusting process into the banners by combining neutral coloured fibres such as cotton and wool with small pieces of rusted metal. Throughout the duration that the banners will be installed, the rust will dye various parts of the fabric depending on the materials used as well as weather conditions. This process will happen organically and will mimic the slow deterioration of the existing bridge structure, the old feeling of the train tracks, the peeling wall murals, and the riverbed below.

As well as the deterioration of man-made structures, we are also interested in the natural re-growth that will occur during the spring and summer seasons. Since the Inglewood Bridge has such large trees and vegetation surrounding it, the branches and the leaves will eventually integrate themselves into the space of the banners. The banners will then appear to be nested within the trees.

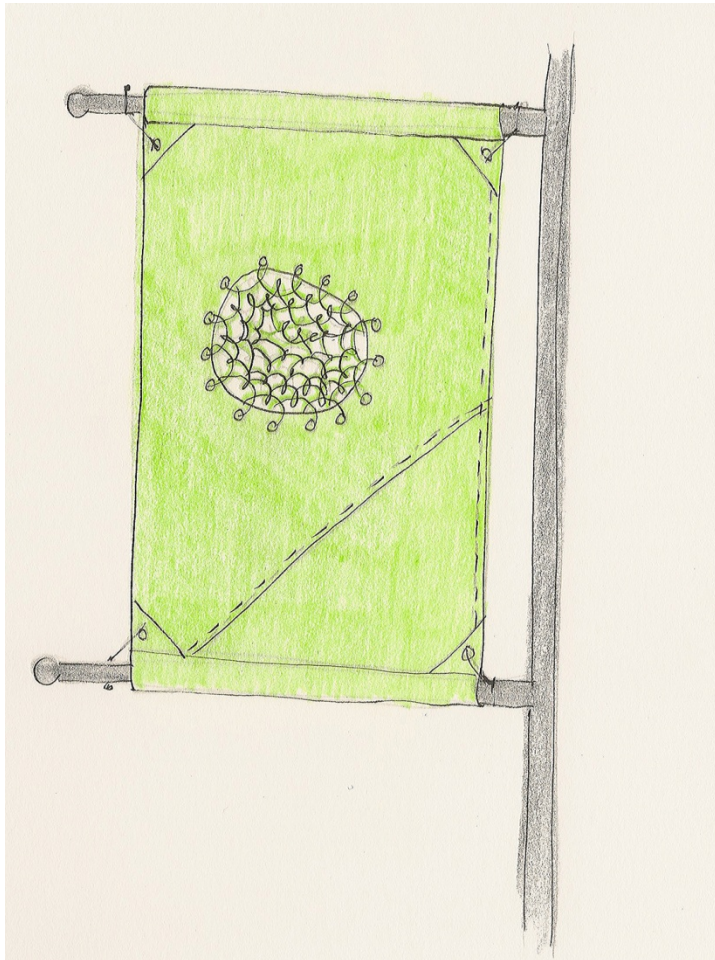
*Woven and knitted structures will then be felted with wool to create a more dense material that will not only withstand the elements, but the elements will aid in the felting and rusting process.





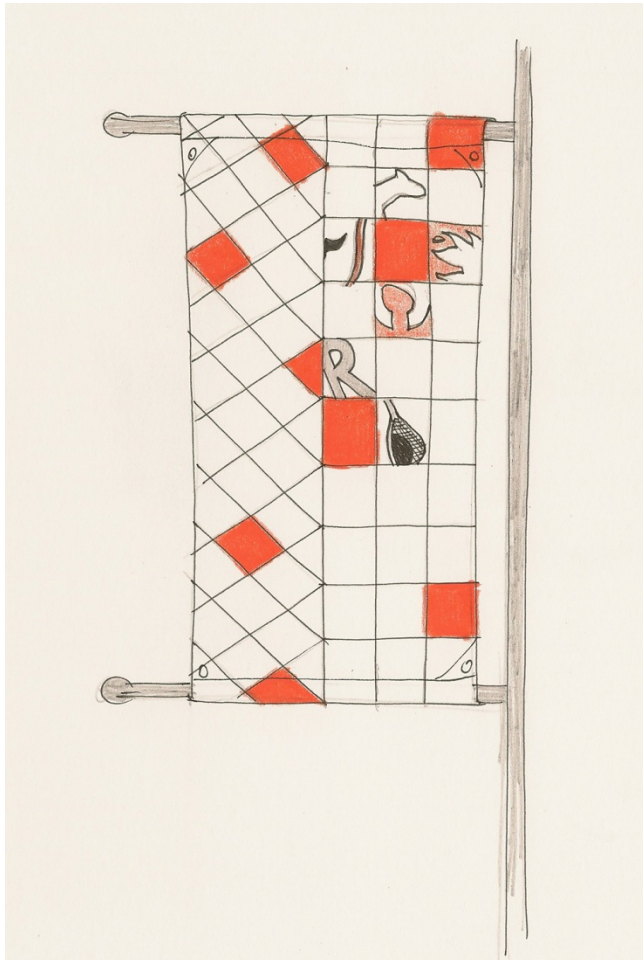
Zoo Bridge - Nests

The location of the Zoo Bridge brings to mind the functions of the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary and the Calgary Zoo as spaces that create protected environments for various species of wildlife. While thinking about various types of living environments and spaces, we also began to consider enclosures humans use for security and protection. We are interested in creating banners that become their own little shelters on the bridge to mimic the feeling of bird's nests. These shelters will take form in three-dimensional netted pouch enclosures made of wire that will be protruding from different areas of the banners. The pouches on each banner will be unique in shape, size and placement. As well, the materials chosen for the banners will vary from tent & tarp materials to the rubber used for white water rafts.



McDonald Bridge – Patchwork History

With such a wonderful view of the Saddledome along the river from the MacDonald Bridge, we could not ignore the relationship between the bridge and Stampede Park. Calgary would certainly not be the same without the Stampede, The Calgary Flames, The Hitmen, The Roughnecks, the 1988 Winter Olympics and all the other events that happen at Stampede Park. We will collect as many old banners as possible from events and sport teams (as mentioned above), and weave them into “patchwork quilts” of new banners. The MacDonald Bridge will be an interwoven story of the events that happen in our City. The banners will be carefully woven and sewn to have an old-time appearance of days & memories gone by.



Biography

Marci Simkulet lives and works in Calgary, Alberta. She received her education from Alberta College of Art + Design, Calgary and The Glasgow School of Art, Scotland (BFA 2007). Her use of non-traditional materials for knitting, such as copper wire and handmade paper have been the basis of works created, using both hand knitting techniques and knitting machines. Her interest in wearable art has allowed her to showcase her work at the U.G. Fashion Show at the Glasgow School of Art (2006), ArtaWEARness, at Alberta College of Art + Design (2007) and The Works: Art & Design Festival in Edmonton, Alberta (2007). Her interests also lie in creating temporary public art pieces located in odd urban settings, such as construction sites and metal scrap yards. By bringing her work into these spaces she makes the usual, unusual and allows for viewers to see common sites in new and interesting ways. Marci is currently working at the Alberta College of Art + Design as the Fibre Department Technician.

Biography

Stefanie Wong received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from the Alberta College of Art + Design, Calgary, AB in 2008 at which time she spent six years experimenting with textiles, woodworking, electronics, video/film and animation. She combines seemingly disparate mediums such as new media/technologies and textiles to examine our relationship with technology and its impact on human intimacy and interaction. Her most recent animation *Around the Corner from Solitude* (2008), a black and white 16 mm film has been screened across Canada in festivals including the Toronto Reel Asian Int'l Film Festival, Toronto, ON; Antitube at the Musee de Civilization, Quebec City; GIRAF Animation Festival, Calgary, AB and Full Boat, Winnipeg Film Group, Winnipeg, MB. Wong currently sits on the Board of Directors' for Quickdraw Animation Society and works for the Alberta Magazine Publishers Association in Calgary, AB. She finds great encouragement and inspiration from her five-year old daughter.

