

Threadbare Beauty



My grandmother was a trouser-maker, and she taught me to work with my hands from a very young age.

By the time I was four, I was already learning to embroider.

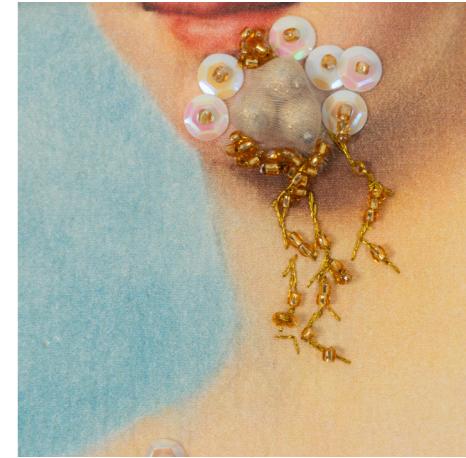
Fashion has always been part of my family's life, and I've continued that tradition in my own way.

I studied fashion and textiles, and now I bring fabrics to life through embroidery.

I'm a textile artist living between Leuven, Belgium, and Milan, Italy.

Embroidering with beads, sequins, and metallic threads on organza, linen, and cotton is truly the work of my heart.





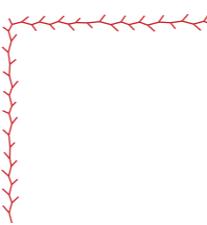
Once, during a visit to Nymphenburg Palace in Munich, I wandered into the Gallery of Beauties – thirty-eight portraits of the women King Ludwig II considered the most exquisite of his time. Standing among those long-gone faces, I found myself contemplating the idealisation of beauty.

At home, in front of the mirror, I studied the lines that time had etched into my own face. I looked at my hands, growing bonier by the day, my sunken eyes... I recalled the women in the gallery: captured at their most radiant moment, immortalised in paint. Figures of a divine perfection that would never fade.

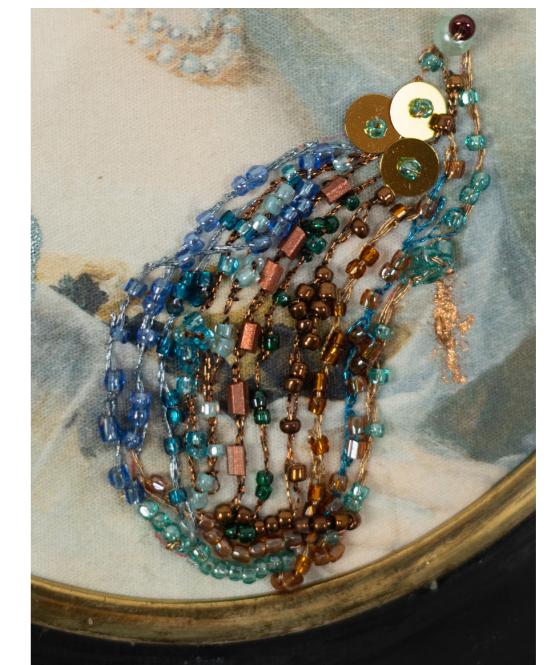
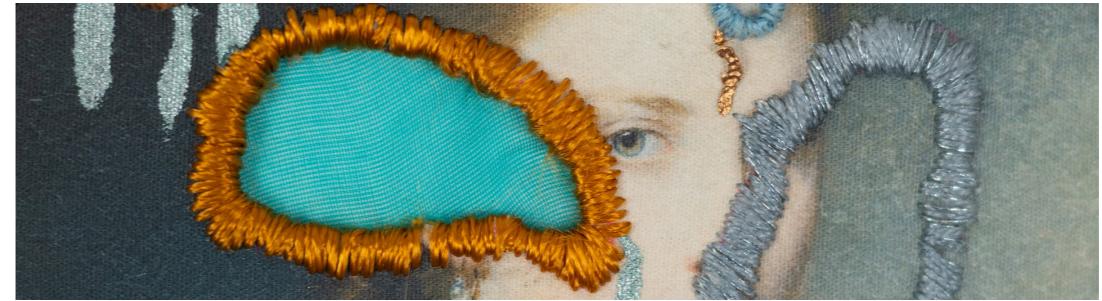
What did the women in Ludwig's palace – growing older just like me – think of their perfect counterparts in Ludwig's gallery? How did they feel as the gap between themselves and their portrait widened with the years?

So, to liberate them from this plight I took up the needle. I used embroidery to break into those ghostly portraits, leaving my mark on them. I stitched in my own language, making them age. Because even in decline, there's a certain beauty – it's part of being human. Stitch by stitch, I made them mortal again.

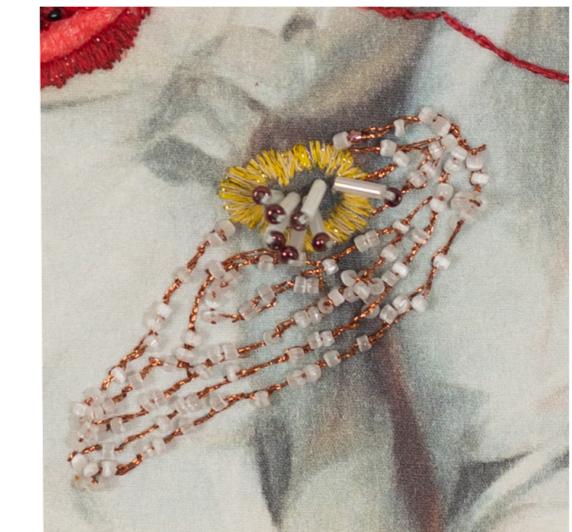
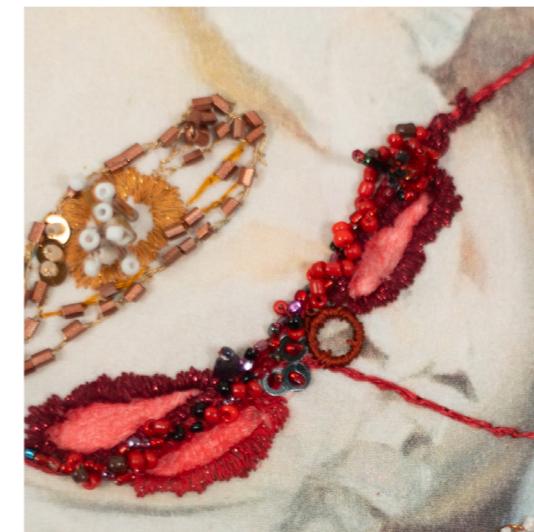
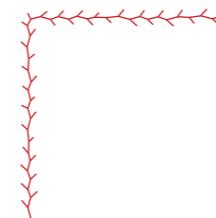
Cm 19x23. Gilded frame.
Digital print on linen.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint.



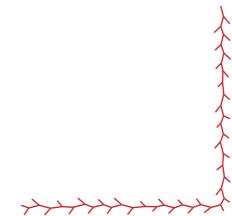
Cm 21x25. Wooden oval frame.
Digital print on cotton.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



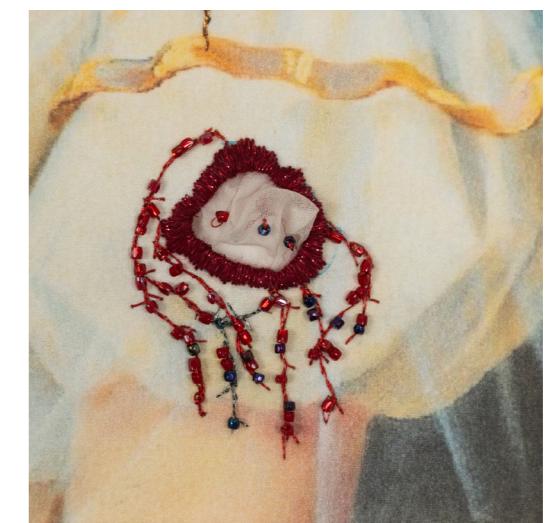
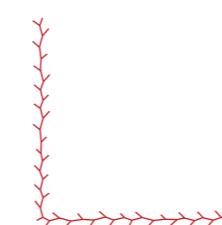
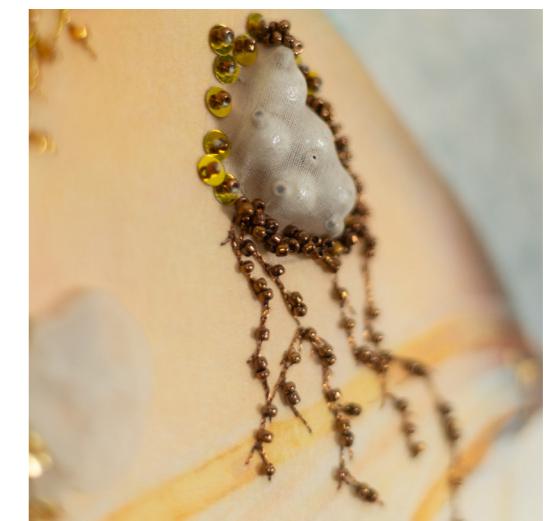
Cm 20x20. Gilded square frame.
Digital print on cotton.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



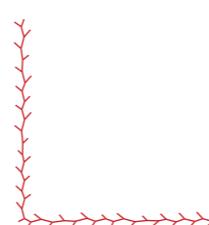
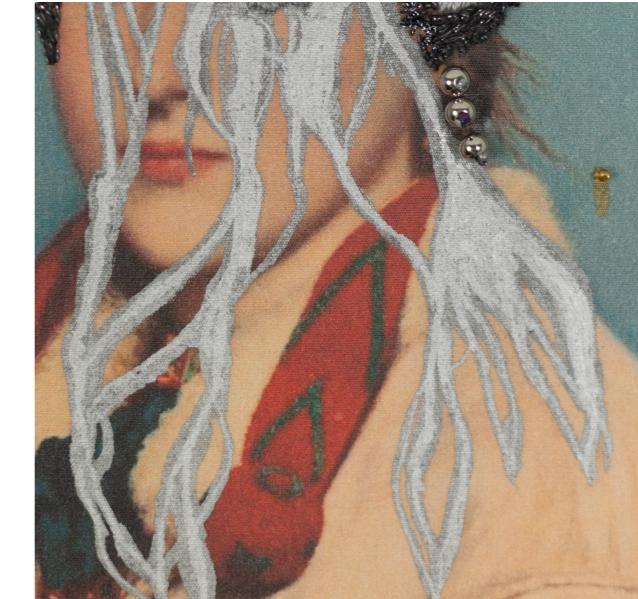
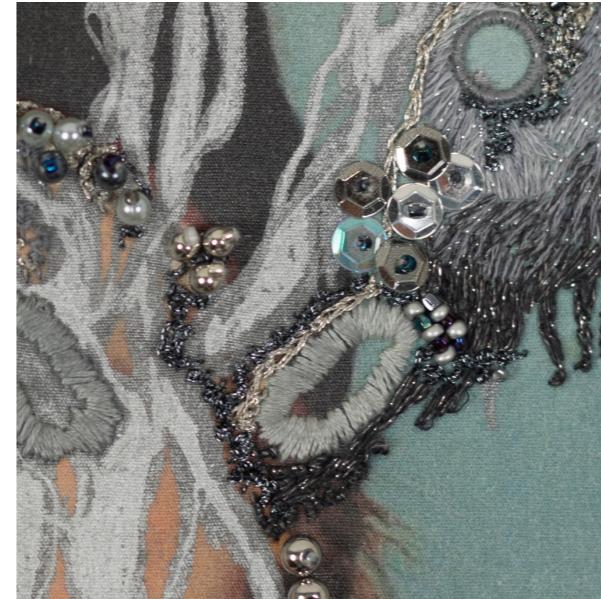
Cm 20x20. Gilded square frame.
Digital print on cotton.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



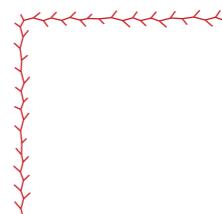
Cm 20x20. Gilded square frame.
Digital print on cotton.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



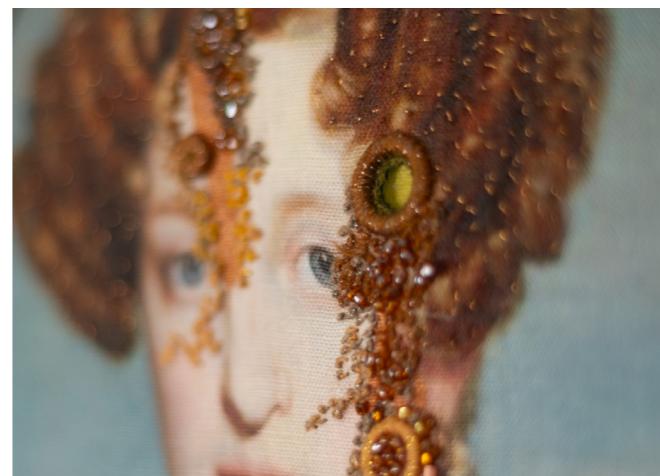
Cm 35x38. Gilded frame.
Digital print on cotton.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint.



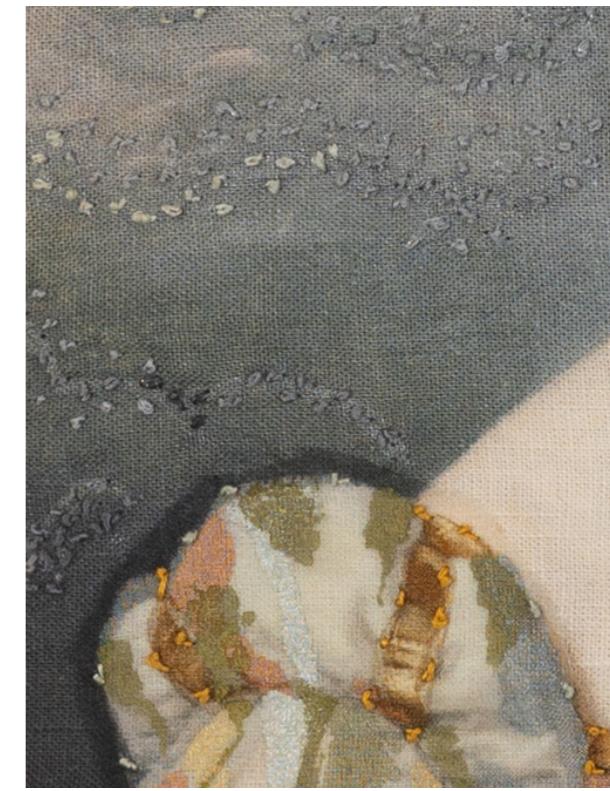
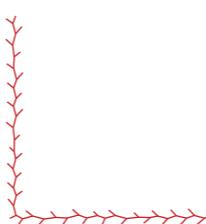
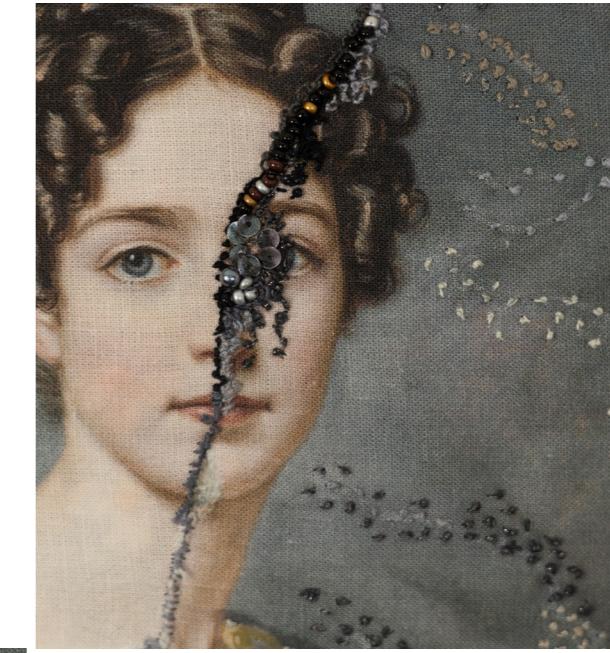
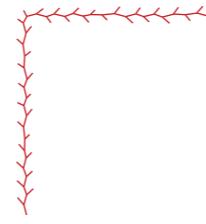
Cm 40x50. Gilded oval frame.
Digital print on linen.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



Cm 29x35. Gilded oval frame.
Digital print on linen.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



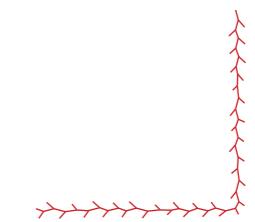
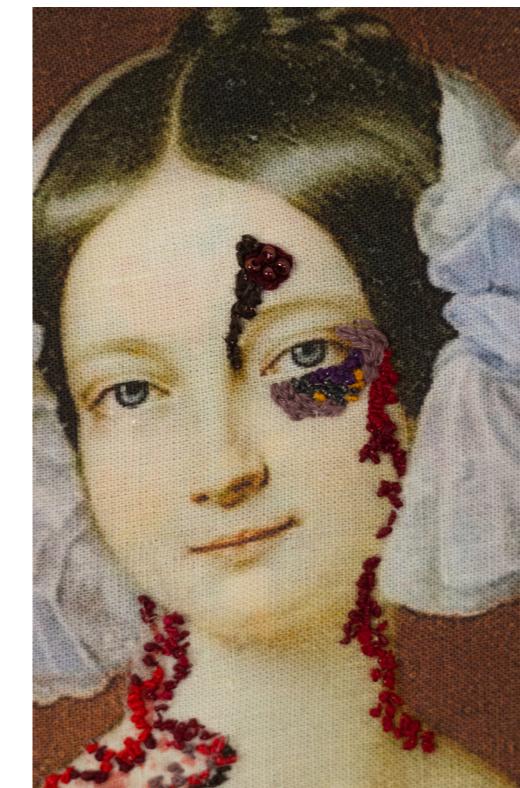
Cm 29x35. Gilded oval frame.
Digital print on linen.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



Cm 29x35. Gilded oval frame.
Digital print on linen.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



Cm 29x35. Gilded oval frame.
Digital print on linen.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint, organza.



Cm 50x60. Gilded oval frame.
Digital print on cotton.
Embroidery embellished with beads, sequins,
metal thread, acrylic paint.
Free motion machine embroidery on organza.

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