

The Narcissist's Library

An exhibition proposal by

Nava Atlas

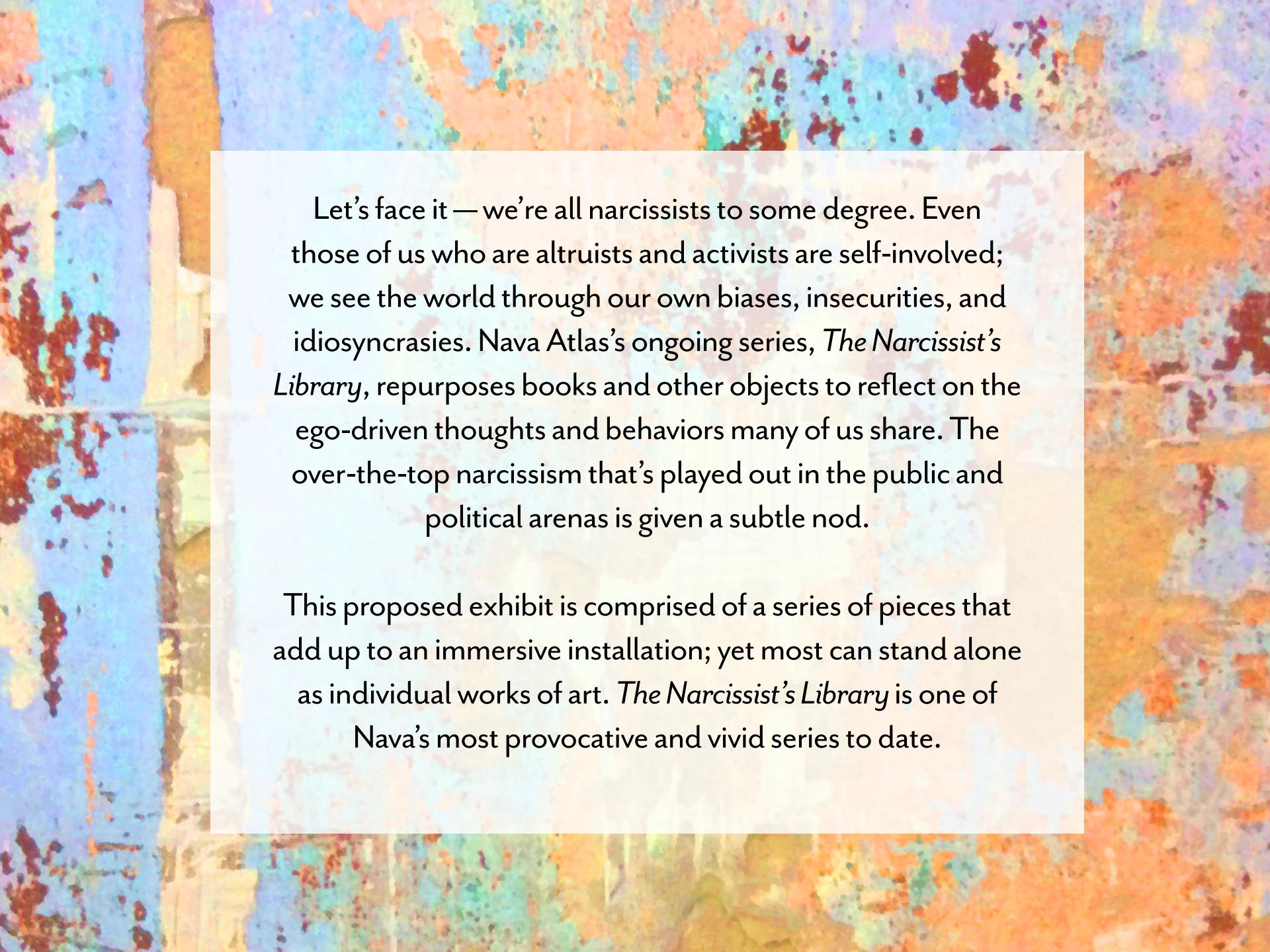
NavaAtlasArt.com





Encyclopedia of Human Behavior

Altered books, mixed media, and digital prints, 12" w x 18" w x 12" w, 2016

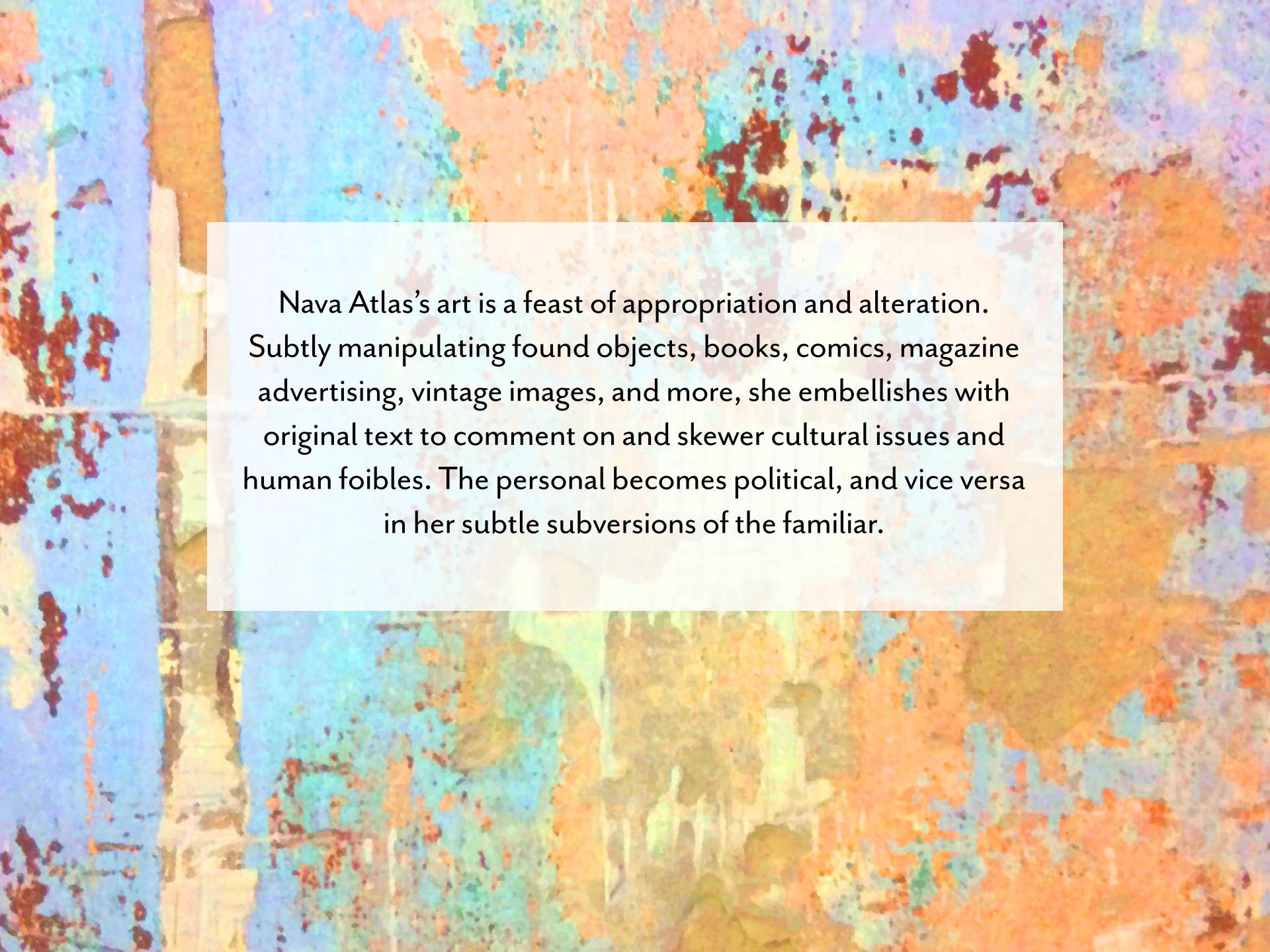


Let's face it — we're all narcissists to some degree. Even those of us who are altruists and activists are self-involved; we see the world through our own biases, insecurities, and idiosyncrasies. Nava Atlas's ongoing series, *The Narcissist's Library*, repurposes books and other objects to reflect on the ego-driven thoughts and behaviors many of us share. The over-the-top narcissism that's played out in the public and political arenas is given a subtle nod.

This proposed exhibit is comprised of a series of pieces that add up to an immersive installation; yet most can stand alone as individual works of art. *The Narcissist's Library* is one of Nava's most provocative and vivid series to date.

What I
Did
Whilst
Waiting
for My
"Real Life"
to Begin



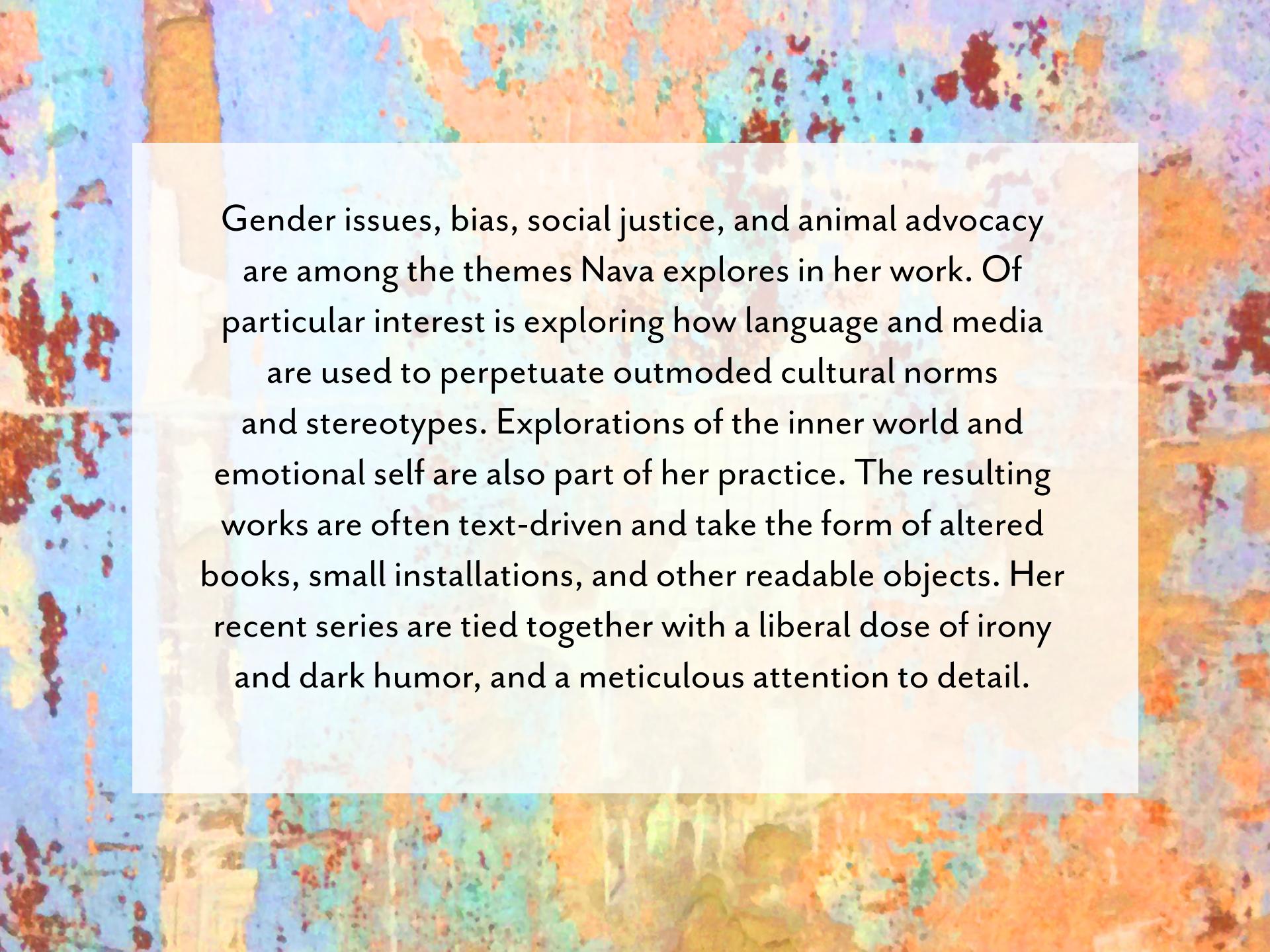


Nava Atlas's art is a feast of appropriation and alteration. Subtly manipulating found objects, books, comics, magazine advertising, vintage images, and more, she embellishes with original text to comment on and skewer cultural issues and human foibles. The personal becomes political, and vice versa in her subtle subversions of the familiar.

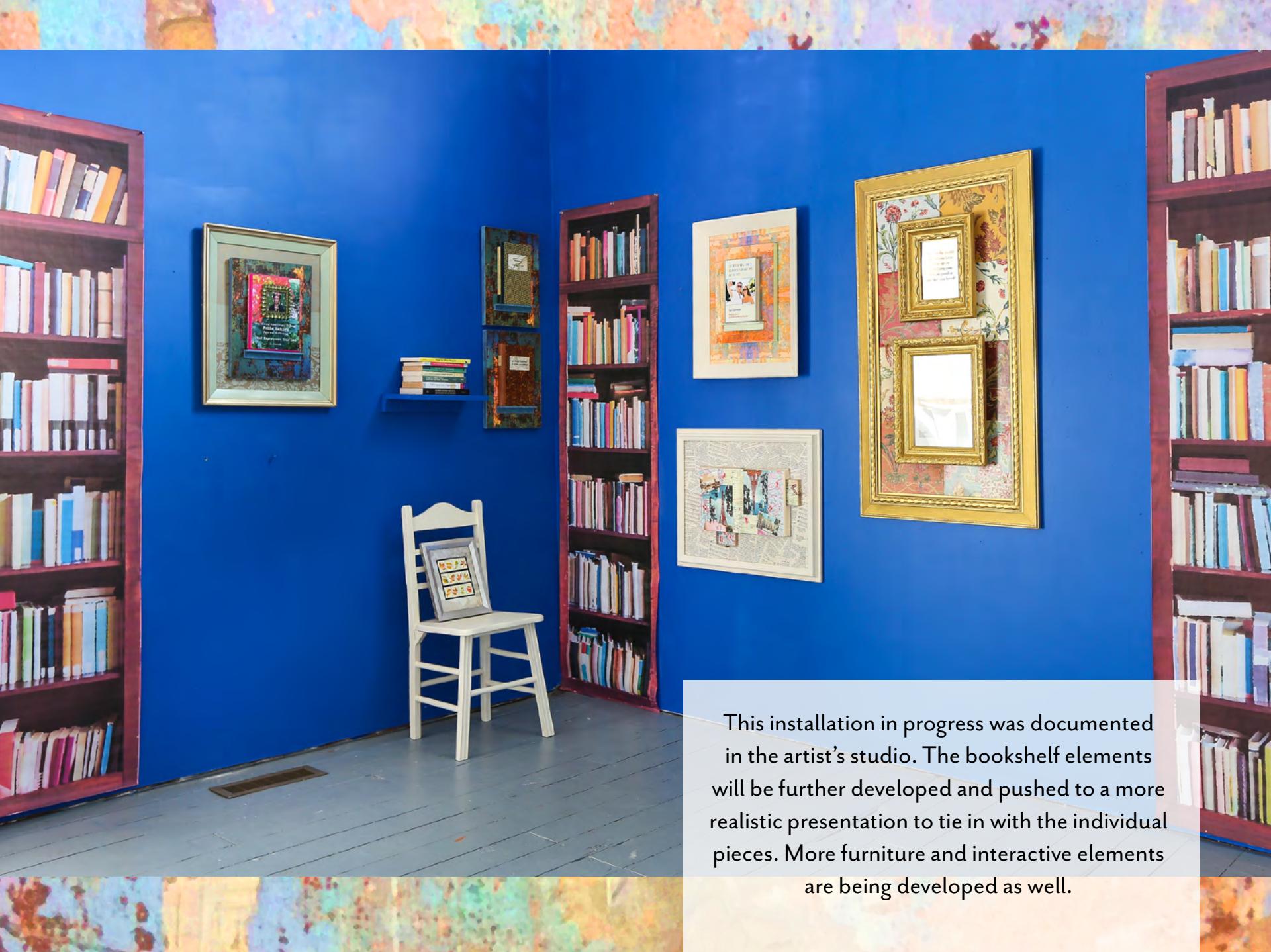


Tragic Tales of My Not-Quite Life

Found objects, mixed media, and digital prints 39" w x 39" h, 2016



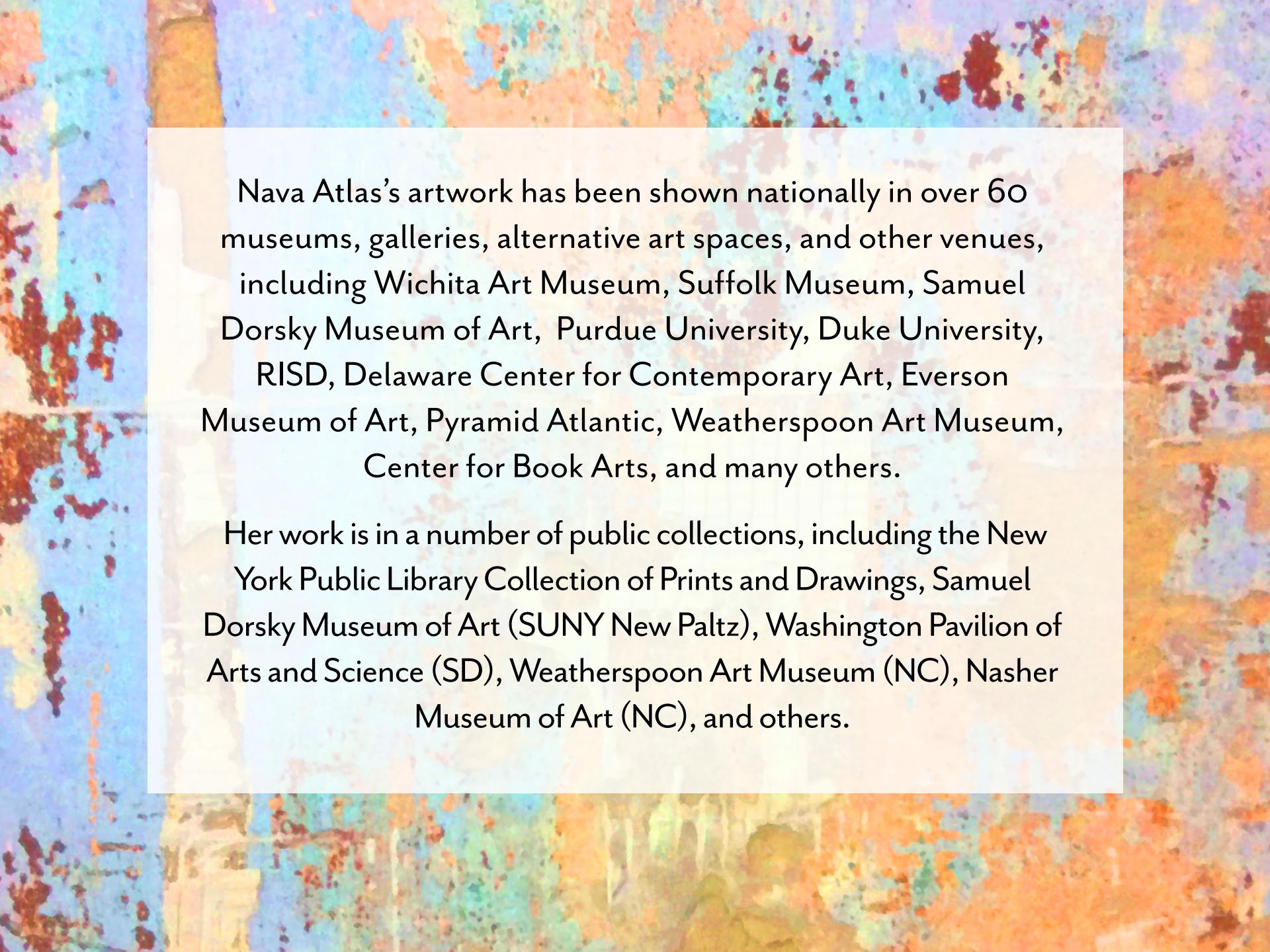
Gender issues, bias, social justice, and animal advocacy are among the themes Nava explores in her work. Of particular interest is exploring how language and media are used to perpetuate outmoded cultural norms and stereotypes. Explorations of the inner world and emotional self are also part of her practice. The resulting works are often text-driven and take the form of altered books, small installations, and other readable objects. Her recent series are tied together with a liberal dose of irony and dark humor, and a meticulous attention to detail.



This installation in progress was documented in the artist's studio. The bookshelf elements will be further developed and pushed to a more realistic presentation to tie in with the individual pieces. More furniture and interactive elements are being developed as well.

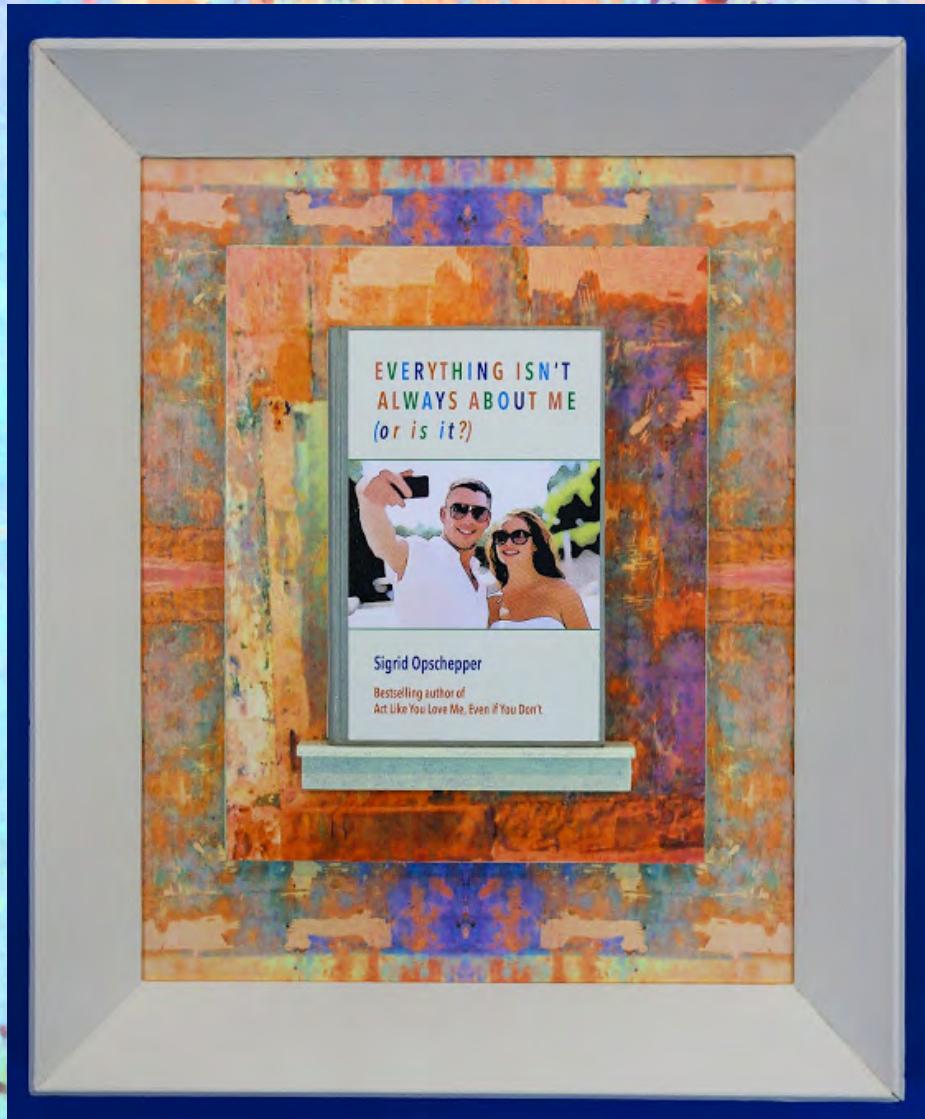


My Brush with Death
Altered books, found objects and digital prints 21" w x 18" h, 2016

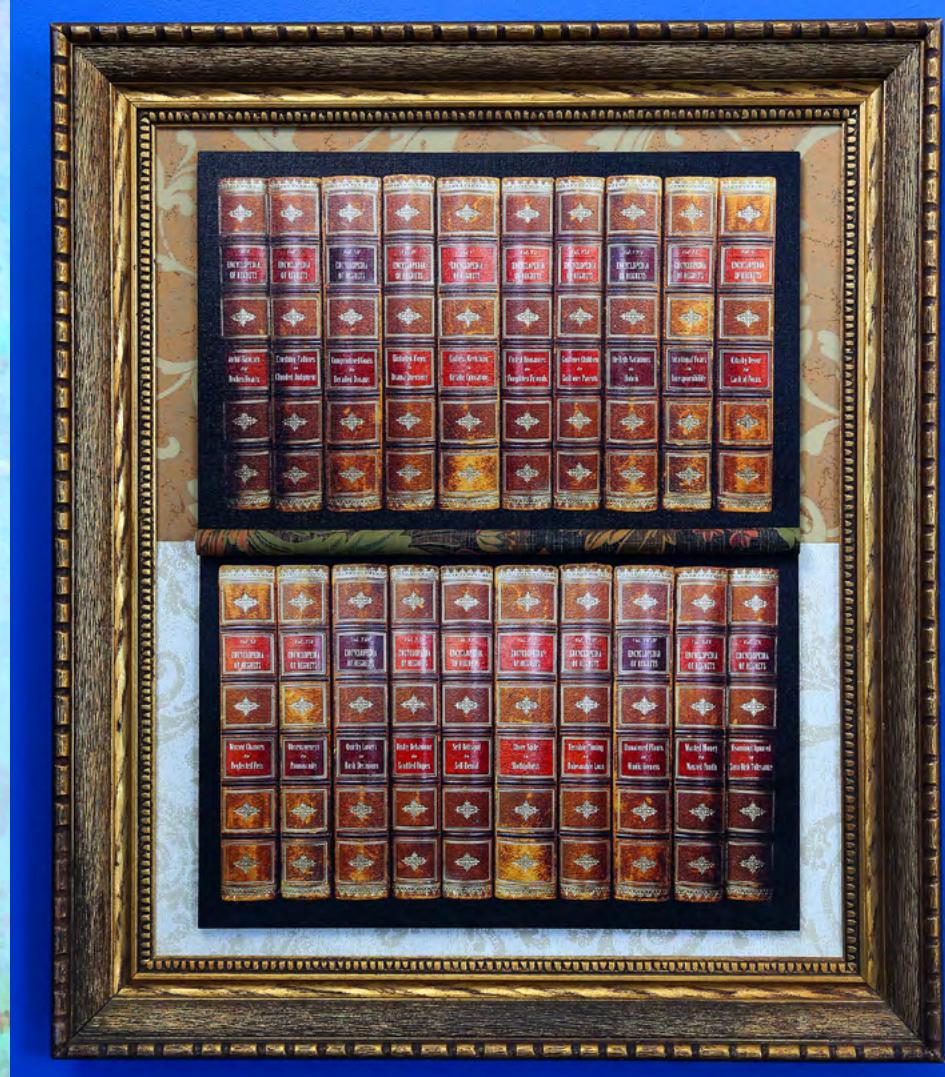


Nava Atlas's artwork has been shown nationally in over 60 museums, galleries, alternative art spaces, and other venues, including Wichita Art Museum, Suffolk Museum, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art, Purdue University, Duke University, RISD, Delaware Center for Contemporary Art, Everson Museum of Art, Pyramid Atlantic, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Center for Book Arts, and many others.

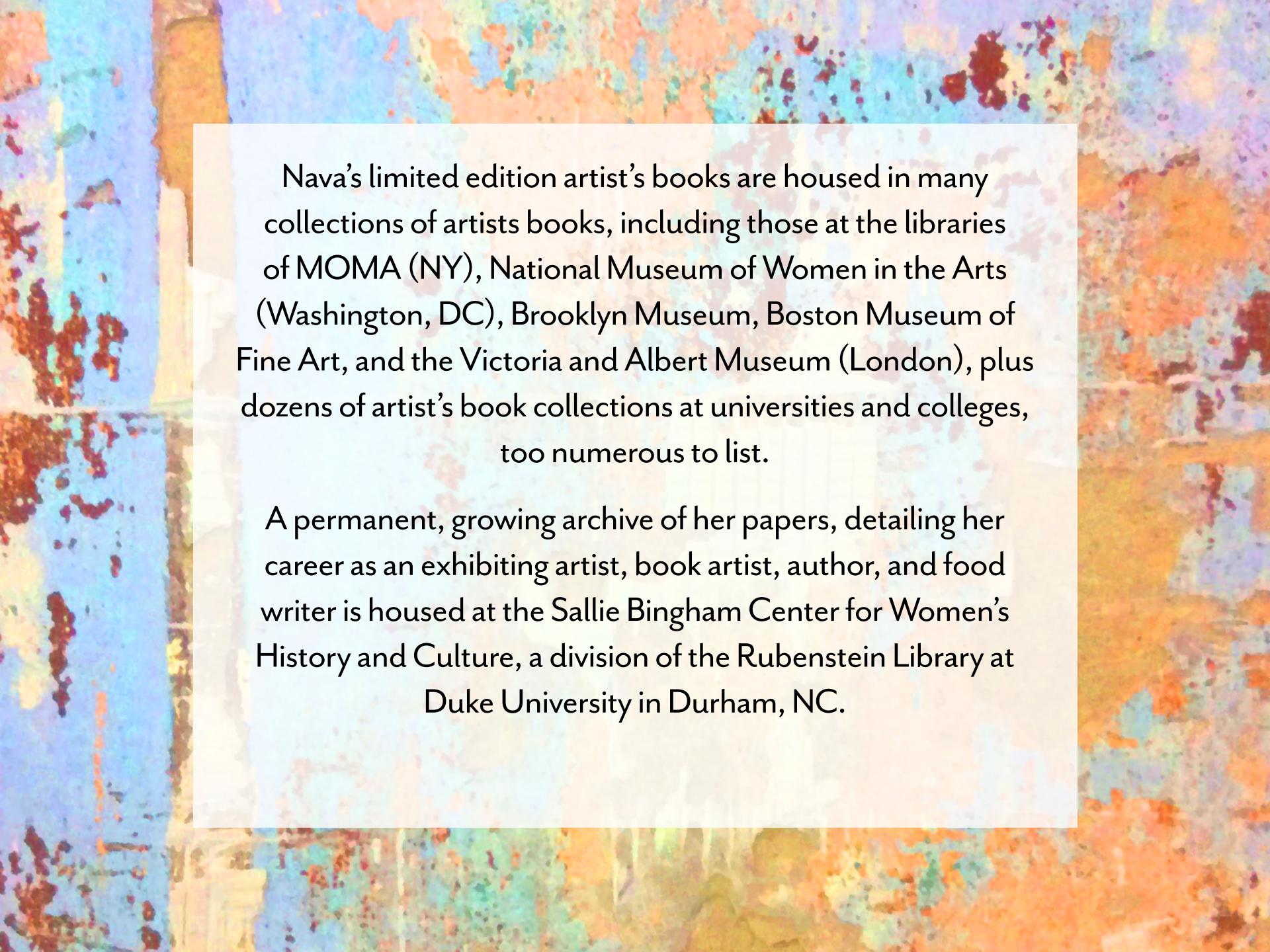
Her work is in a number of public collections, including the New York Public Library Collection of Prints and Drawings, Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art (SUNY New Paltz), Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science (SD), Weatherspoon Art Museum (NC), Nasher Museum of Art (NC), and others.



Everything Isn't Always About Me
Altered books, mixed media, and digital prints,
17" w x 21" h, 2016

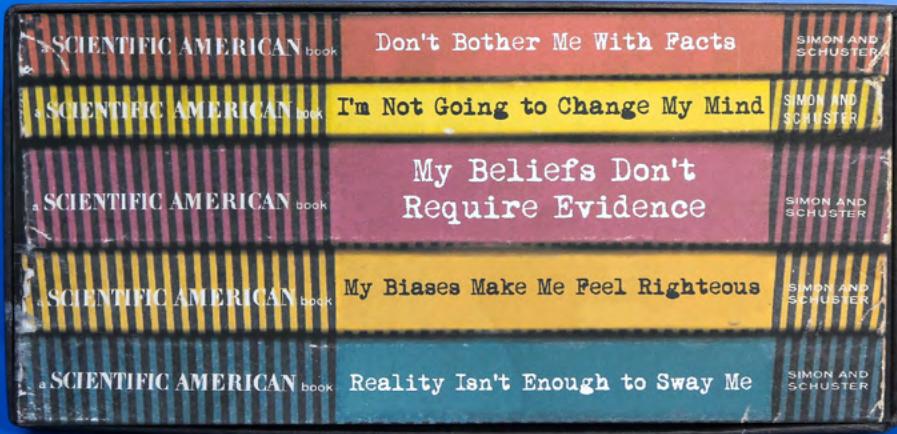


Encyclopedia of Regrets
Found objects and digital prints 18" w x 28" h, 2016



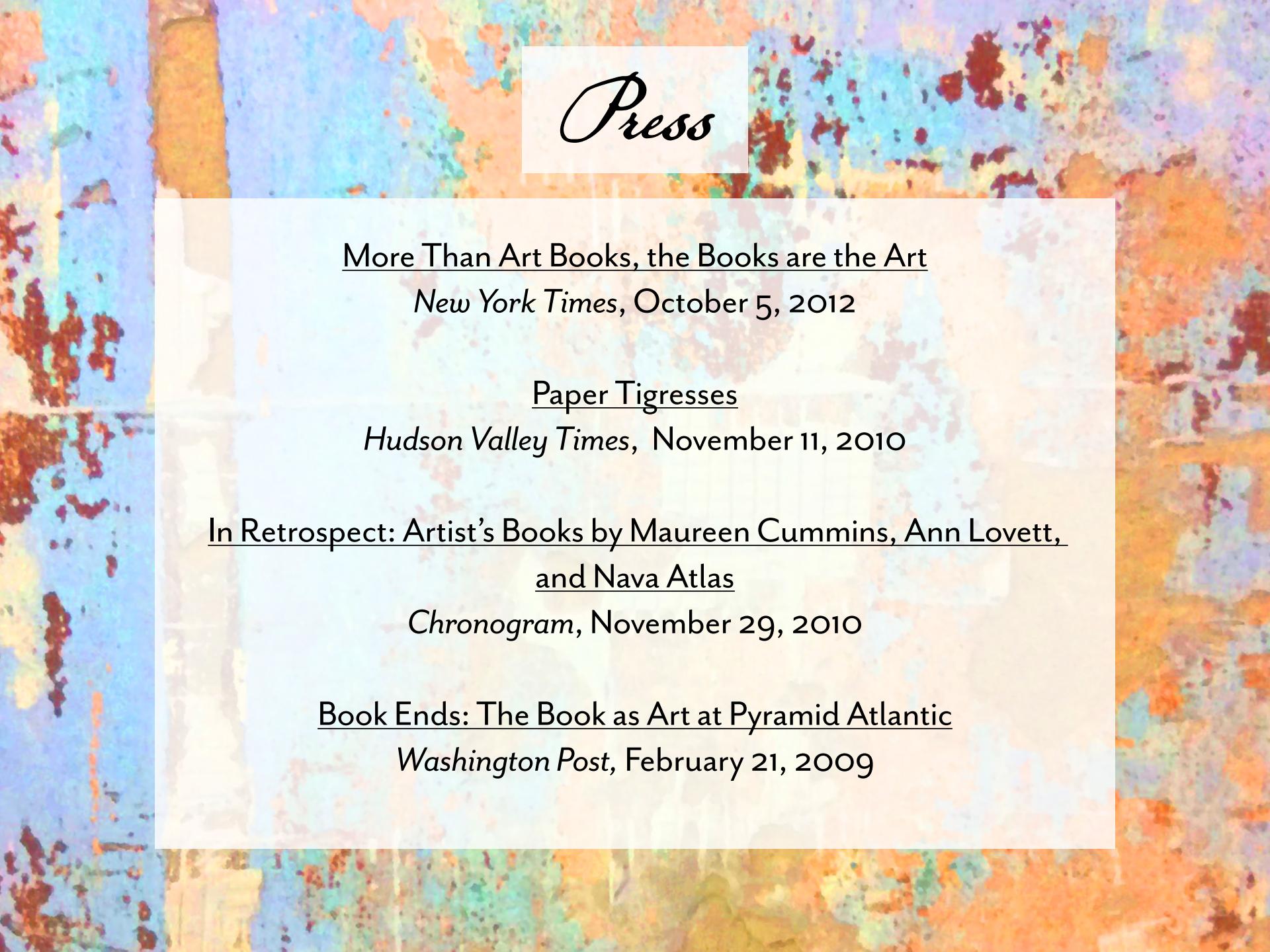
Nava's limited edition artist's books are housed in many collections of artists books, including those at the libraries of MOMA (NY), National Museum of Women in the Arts (Washington, DC), Brooklyn Museum, Boston Museum of Fine Art, and the Victoria and Albert Museum (London), plus dozens of artist's book collections at universities and colleges, too numerous to list.

A permanent, growing archive of her papers, detailing her career as an exhibiting artist, book artist, author, and food writer is housed at the Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture, a division of the Rubenstein Library at Duke University in Durham, NC.



Scientific American
Altered books and digital prints
10" w x 6" h x 6" d, 2017





Press

More Than Art Books, the Books are the Art

New York Times, October 5, 2012

Paper Tigresses

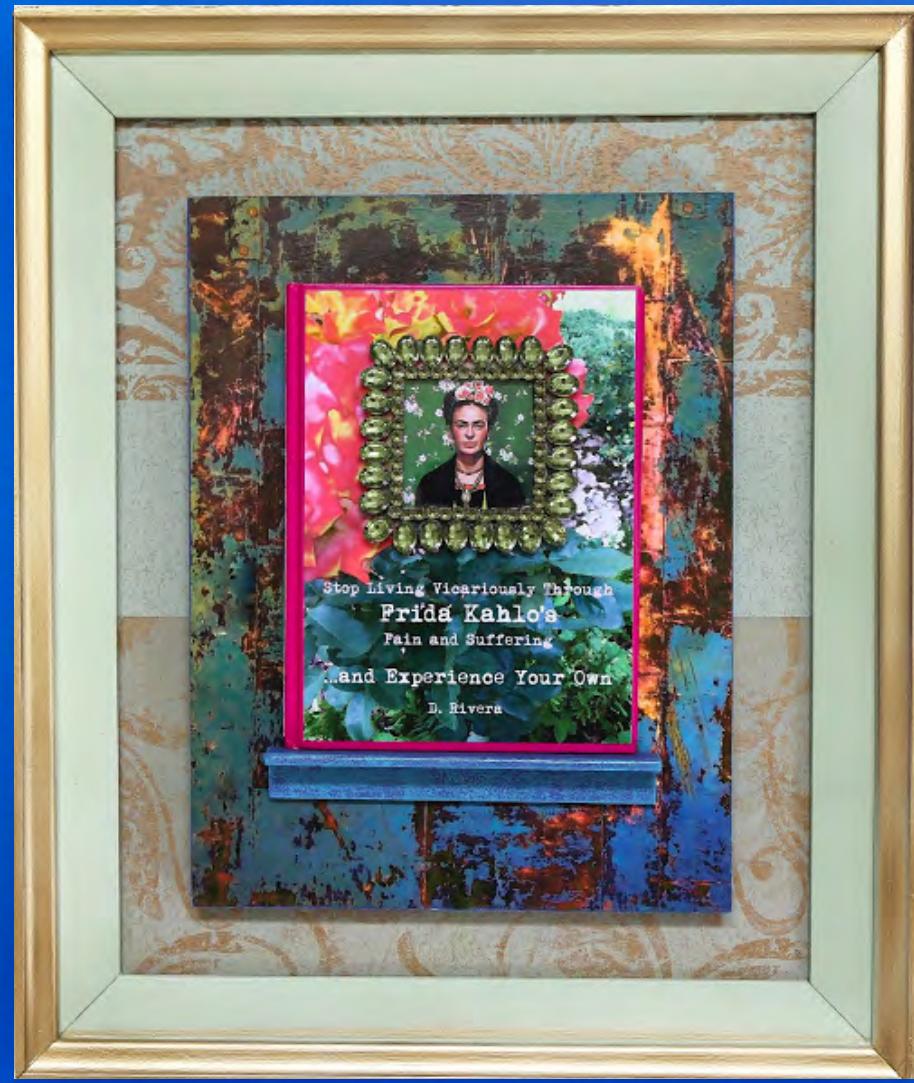
Hudson Valley Times, November 11, 2010

In Retrospect: Artist's Books by Maureen Cummins, Ann Lovett,
and Nava Atlas

Chronogram, November 29, 2010

Book Ends: The Book as Art at Pyramid Atlantic

Washington Post, February 21, 2009



Through Frida Kahlo's Pain
Found objects and digital prints
20" w x 24" h, 2016



Why in the World
Found objects, mixed media, and digital prints
26" w x 44" h, 2016



The space in which this is installed need not necessarily be blue; the vivid color helped create a feeling of enclosure in the artist's studio. The installation can become unique to each venue and occupy one large room or several contiguous ones.



Contact

Nava Atlas: navaatlas@mac.com

Studio visits, full CV, and more on other series
available upon request