

Ida Holcomb, Final Project

For my project, I made a tissue box, with shibori-dyed handkerchiefs.

Texture is very important to how I exist in the world, so when I was starting my project, I thought about things in my everyday life that I touched as part of their function. Since I have constant allergies, I immediately thought of tissues. In times when sickness is at the forefront of our minds, I decided to make a tissue box, to elevate that.

I really wanted my box to be visually interesting, but also to be highly textural. For the visual element, I wanted to keep with the general size of a typical tissue box, but I made it into a more curvy s-shape, which I contrasted with a sharp diamond in the middle for the opening. For the texture, I carved intricate designs into the top and sides, with the top being flowy designs on a flat surface, and the sides being geometric designs on a curved surface. That in turn informed my glaze choices, since I needed a relatively thin, opaque glaze to keep the carvings intact. I chose chartreuse gloss for the outside, with scotch pine on the inside.

I also dyed handkerchiefs. I tried a lot of options, but in the end I stuck with the cotton handkerchiefs, because I would rather all of them be beautiful *and* functional, instead of one or the other. For most of them, I wrapped the cloth around a pole to create an organic, striped design.

















