

BIO

Cecilia Levy creates sculptural objects in paper, mostly using old book pages.

Books are a medium of communication. Old book pages are bearers of many stories, not just the content itself. Finding the right paper for an intended object is most important; flaws, age and imperfections are openly displayed in the finished pieces, contributing to an expression of subtle grace. Visible traces from the passage of time and fragments of text create deliberate or random patterns.

Paper is a versatile material but has a life and will of its own. The work process is both intuitive and carefully planned beforehand. Inspiration is found in nature and trivial household items.

Transforming well-known objects into paper sculptures leads to a change in perception. The original purpose is lost, and new thoughts and meanings emerge.

Levy cuts or tears book pages into smaller pieces and then casts her objects by pasting the paper pieces in layers using wheat paste and papier maché technique. Memories and feelings are encapsulated during the slow, repetitive work process. The shredded pages are reassembled into delicate, eggshell-thin objects, fragile yet remarkably steady. The two-dimensional becomes three-dimensional. The story lives on but in a different shape.

Formerly a graphic designer and bookbinder, Levy has worked as a paper artist since 2010. Her work is exhibited nationally and internationally and is included in private and permanent collections, including the Swedish National Museum, Uppsala Art Museum and the Public Art Agency Sweden.

In 2018, her public art commission “In Fusion – Contemplation Pieces” was installed in the main entrance of Stockholms New Karolinska University Hospital, NKS, with twenty plinths holding more than 30 unique paper sculptures.

Cecilia Levy (born 1963 in Stockholm, Sweden) works in her studio at Ateljéföreningen Hospitalet in Uppsala or from her home studio in Sigtuna, which she shares with her husband.

Cecilia Levy, 2024