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Title: *Métissage*: Materializing translanguaging through processes of weaving and printmaking

ABSTRACT

Sixty percent of the world population speaks two languages or more. Although most activities take place in monolingual environments, the reality is that the formation of knowledge for multilingual speakers is multifaceted. With growing globalization and increasing migration, it is imperative that we communicate and form relationships that account for simultaneous language multiplicity. Alexis Nouss defines *métissage* as “an assemblage of affiliations and identities which is never fixed once and for all and in which the different parts retain their identity and their history”. There are many studies on the slippages that occur in translation, however, there is yet to be a model that accounts for translanguaging. My research-creation takes place in my studio in a francophone city, while I engage in course work in English. I bring to my artistic practice prior studies in mathematics, languages and fine craft.

My methodology is arts-based research. The writing of my research is representative of the studio and its exploration through handweaving and printmaking. These are both practices defined by a series of specific gestures and manipulations of specialized tools. They are each a series of processes, a language of knowledge that has been compartmentalized and passed on. I construct cloth at the junction of these languages, merging manipulations from each field with fluidity along the way; natural dyeing, mechanical resists, weaving and unweaving, over dyeing and hand finishing. The purpose of this research is to produce a body of work which will result in an exhibit of artefacts from my material practice. Multiple voices are brought together to give a holistic outcome from a transdisciplinary studio practice.

How can we write the structure of cloth and the process of its making? What does the trace of the cloth reveal about translanguaging? How does *métissage* materialize?

Reference

Nouss, A. (2007). Translation and *métissage*. In St-Pierre, P. et al. (Eds.) *In Translation: Reflections, Refractions, Transformations* (Vol. 71), (pp. 245-252). John Benjamins Publishing.