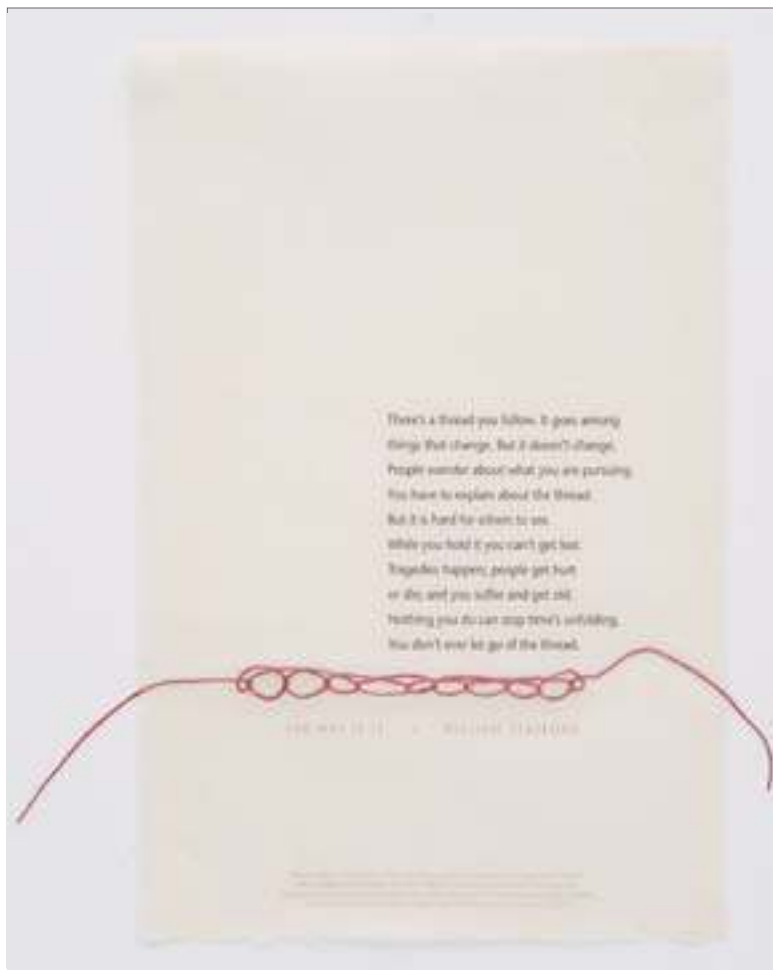


# The Way It Is



*Top Left:* positioning the string drawing on top of a freshly made sheet of abaca; *Top Right:* removing the jig; *Bottom Left:* couching a second layer of abaca, sandwiching the string between the two sheets; *Bottom Right:* the wet sheet of paper, ready to be pressed and dried.

**Artist Statement:** Threads are a frequent feature in my work, sometimes functioning as sculptural elements, sometimes embedded in sheets of paper or used to stitch or tie paper components together, and often creating metaphors for the physical, emotional and spiritual connections between people.

**Edition size:** 50

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**Artist:** Helen Hiebert; **Poet:** William Stafford

**Size:** 18" x 12"

**Medium/Materials:** handmade abaca paper with embedded string drawing, letterpress printing

**Letterpress Printing:** Sandy Tilcock, Lone Goose Press

**Image/Illustration Process:** actual string drawing sandwiched between sheets of handmade paper

**Book Structure/Binding Method:** broadside

## *The Way It Is* by William Stafford

*There's a thread you follow. It goes among things that change. But it doesn't change. People wonder about what you are pursuing. You have to explain about the thread. But it is hard for others to see. While you hold onto it, you can't get lost. Tragedies happen; people get hurt or die; and you suffer and get old. Nothing you do can stop time's unfolding. You don't ever let go of the thread.*

# Helen Hiebert Studio

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