

Birth Ephemera Art Project

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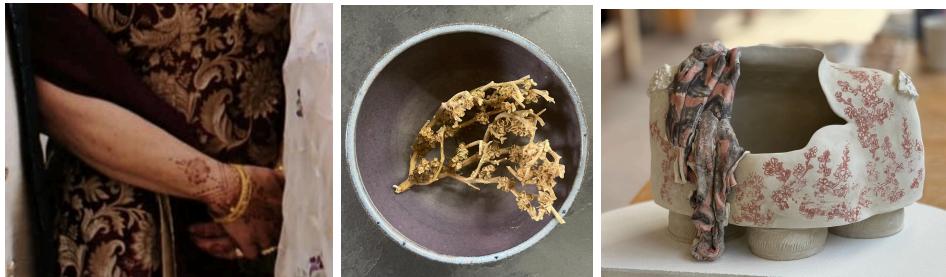
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Information & Consent to Participate

My Vision

As an artist who worked for years as a midwife, I wish to construct a series of artworks that evoke the varied and complex experiences of pregnancy, labor, and birth through shared personal stories and associated mementos and ephemera. I expect these artworks to also point to themes of uniqueness and universality, lifetimes, endurance and resilience, and perhaps even to social policies and cultures. All pregnancy stories are welcome: happy, tragic, ambivalent, triumphant, traumatic, empowering.



Birth Ephemera 1 (in process). Photo credit (3rd image) : Noel Heller

Your Participation

I will interview you about your experiences and the presence and significance of ephemeral objects in these memories. I would like to use images or other representations of personal objects and mementos in the work. Unless specific consent is given, your stories and ephemera would be used anonymously, and may be combined with those of other participants to form composite works.

Benefits

Sharing your story can provide satisfaction and give voice to your experience. In a time of renewed focus on respectful maternity care, your story has the potential to give voice to real experiences that may help to advocate for equitable, accessible, respectful, individualized, quality care.

Voluntary Participation

If you decide to participate but then have second thoughts, you can pause or stop your participation at any time by emailing the artist. There is no cost to participating in this project other than your time. Before you give your consent to participate, I am happy to answer any questions that you have to the best of my knowledge and ability.

Interviews

Our conversation (in-person, by phone, or online; recorded with your permission) can be scheduled so that it is mutually convenient. I estimate that the conversation might last a few minutes to a few hours; and occasionally may require follow up.

Ending the Conversation

You have the right to stop the conversation at any time for any reason. Any information collected before that point may be used in the project unless specifically requested to not be used.

Ephemera

I may ask you to submit a photograph of an ephemeral object associated with your experiences.

Anonymity

To protect anonymity, any reference to historical events, real people or real places will be changed to protect participant identity unless specific, written permission is given to use information that may identify a specific individual. Unless you want your name associated with your unique birth story, your name will not be recorded with the birth story. Any voice recordings used in the final project will be altered or re-recorded by a voice actor unless you explicitly consent, in writing, to the use of your recorded voice.

Interpretation

This is a work of art not research, and therefore is subject to artistic interpretation. The stories may be combined or edited as in any work of art. Any references to historical events, real people, or real places are not intended as documentation of true history, people, or places.

Possible Risks

Sharing your story may bring up memories or feelings that may be uncomfortable to you. Additionally, while I will make every effort to maintain confidentiality, it is possible that even complex passwords and virtual privacy networks can be hacked.

Payment and Future Revenue

There is no payment to you for participating in this art project. If this project does provide future revenue, the revenue will be used to pay my reasonable expenses and salary as an artist, and then to support charitable causes consistent with the philosophy of midwifery (<https://internationalmidwives.org/resources/definition-of-midwifery/>) at the sole discretion of the artist. Agreement to participate and contribute your story is a generous act of goodwill. Voluntary contribution of your story terminates your right to seek any future payment from this project.

Next steps if you choose to contribute your story

Please print and complete the consent form on the following pages and return to me by email. If you have questions, please reach out by email and we can schedule a time to chat so I can answer any questions you have. Email: dana.b.perlman@gmail.com

Consent and signature

I, _____, (please print full name clearly) consent to participate in the Birth Ephemera Project.

I have reviewed the information given to me in writing and have had the opportunity to have my questions answered to my satisfaction.

I understand that I will not be identified individually without providing my separate, specific written permission.

I understand that I will not be paid for participation in this art project now nor in the future.

I understand that I can withdraw my participation in this art project at any time by stating so in writing and communicating that via email to dana.b.pelrman@gmail.com

Participant's Email:

Participant's Phone:

Participant's Signature:

Participant's Initials:

Date (MM/DD/YYYY):

_____/_____/_____

(additional specific permissions follow on the next page)

Please tick the box and initial specific permissions that you grant to the artist:

Yes, I consent to be recorded for future transcription of this interview. _____

Yes, I consent for my actual voice recording in part or in whole to be used in the work with edits that do not affect meaning, but that may improve sound quality. For example, parts or the whole may be audible with the visual art. _____

Yes, I consent to being listed as a contributing participant by name. _____
Please provide your full name in the box below as you want it to appear in the list of contributors: