



Care for Mixed Media Works

Collector FAQ—Salt, Raffia, Silkworm Cocoons and Natural Materials

This guide is designed to help collectors care for works that incorporate natural and organic materials. Each piece is created with archival intent, professional-grade sealing, and conservation-minded techniques to ensure longevity.

Are the materials archival and long-lasting?

Yes. Each work is created using professional-grade materials and sealed with a protective varnish. While elements like raffia, salt, and silkworm cocoons are organic, they are intentionally stabilized within the composition to ensure long-term preservation when properly cared for.

Will the materials deteriorate over time?

Natural materials may shift subtly over decades, but they are fixed and protected within the structure of the work. The varnish layer acts as a protective barrier against dust, moisture, and environmental fluctuations.

How should I display the artwork?

Avoid direct sunlight or prolonged UV exposure. Keep the work in a stable, indoor environment away from humidity extremes or rapid temperature changes. These are standard conservation practices for mixed media and textile-based works.

Can raffia or textured elements loosen or shed?

No. Materials are intentionally embedded and sealed as part of the work's construction. Any natural variation over time is part of the material language and does not affect structural integrity.

How should I clean or maintain the surface?

No cleaning is required. Avoid touching the surface. If necessary, a soft, dry brush may be used lightly by a professional art handler. Do not use water, sprays, or cleaning products.

Is this type of work collected by institutions?

Yes. Contemporary artists such as Simone Leigh and others working with organic materials are widely collected by major museums and private collections. These works are preserved using established conservation standards for mixed media.

Can the work be conserved or reframed in the future?

Yes. The piece can be assessed and conserved by professional art conservators if ever needed. Its structure is designed to remain stable over time while allowing for future care if required.

Each material is chosen with intention—for its symbolic meaning, tactile presence, and durability. These works are made to live with you over time, holding both story and structure.

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