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# Temporary Shelter

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## **Renaë Barnard Artist Statement**

There is an undeniable relationship between biology and culture and I am interested in the potential and limits of these two forces. Identity is crafted and regulated by repetitive language and our realities are habitually shaped through social ideologies. My work considers the ways in which gender performance, desire and objectification are inter-related through power structures. I'm interested in indulging in the pleasure and tactility of making while exploring the network of interactions between perception, time and the inadequacy of language.

Many of my sculptures are worked within inches of collapse and reflect my attraction to the imperfect and the aged. These folded, twisted, and sewn objects are both destroyed by and reinforced with the repetitive gestures by which they are made. These works wrestle with demonstrations of femininity and normative methods of valuation while investigating concerns like anxiety, vulnerability, seduction and loss of control.