

The Housewife's Lament/Useless Infatuation

Paloma Ayala & Genevieve Waller

Paloma and Genevieve are two Rochester, NY based artists who work together since 2009. Their common views of the women's world, objects, music, colors, sexual and emotional paraphernalia, brought them together in the making of the installation *Encantamiento Inutil/Useless Infatuation*(2010).

Their interest in domestic objects and craft materials combined with Genevieve's focus on Camp philosophies (heart of her PhD Thesis) and Paloma's background on soft sculpture; culminated in the production of many objects for this project.

The everyday cycles of accumulation and ordering on a housewife everyday life are what they draw on in their series of installations. Using objects like dishes, pillows, ironing boards, and sponges, Ayala and Waller create works that reference activities in the home like eating, sleeping, and housework. But they transpose these repetitive domestic tasks into obsessive arranging, amassing, and remodeling—transformations that often hinder the usual purposes of the props of the home.

For them, playing with the expression of household means taking its domestic nature to a decorative excess. Instead of useful, objects become 'pretty' and undue. They are decorated, accumulated, piled, turned sideways or upside down, cut holes into, given color and pattern.