





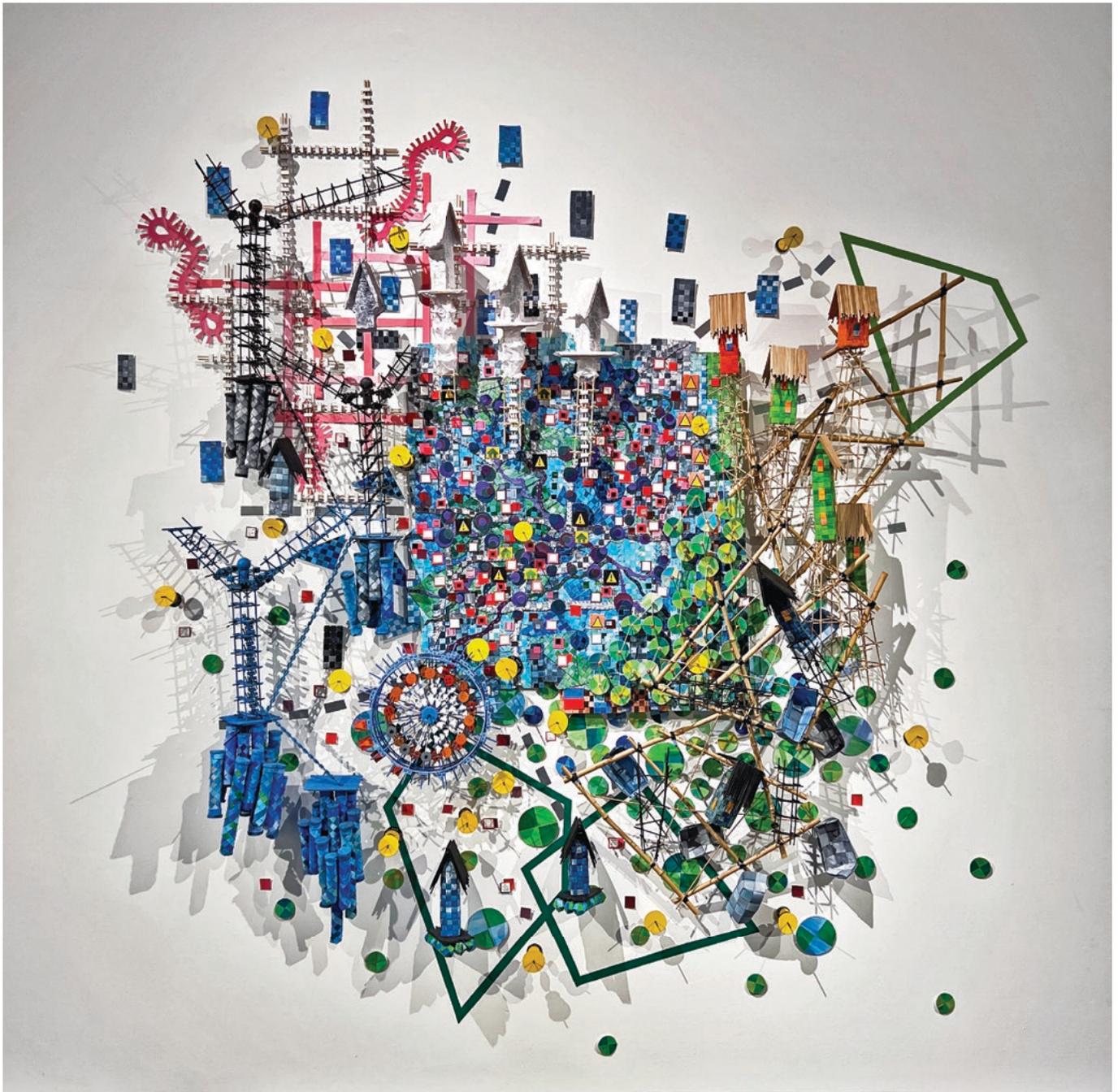
Sculpting *The Floods*

Nathalie Miebach explores how scientific data can be experienced through artistic processes. Her work engages with meteorology, ecology, and oceanography, translating data from these disciplines into woven sculptures and musical scores. Rather than visualizing data for clarity or communication, Miebach's goal is to provide a different way of *experiencing* data—to make the complexities of natural systems physically and emotionally perceptible.

Basket weaving serves as her primary method for data translation. The weaving grid becomes a framework for organizing numerical information into three-dimensional form. This tactile process reflects both the precision and the subjectivity involved in interpreting data: Each structural or color decision embodies a relationship between measurement and meaning. Through this process, data becomes material—something to be shaped, bent, and held—inviting audiences to engage with information beyond the screen or graph.

The works featured here come from Miebach's ongoing series *The Floods*, which investigates extreme weather events linked to storms, precipitation, and sea-level rise. Each sculpture is based on data collected from specific flood events, integrating meteorological records with local observations and personal narratives. By juxtaposing scientific measurement with lived experiences, Miebach highlights the human dimensions of climate change—how data points correspond to disrupted communities, shifting coastlines, and the resilience of affected ecosystems.

Her approach underscores that understanding climate phenomena is not only a matter of analysis but also of perception. As policymakers, scientists, and citizens confront increasing environmental uncertainty, Miebach's work suggests that expanding how we *experience* data—through touch, form, and sound—can deepen engagement with the realities that data represents. It asks not how art can explain science, but how it can help us feel the systems we seek to understand.

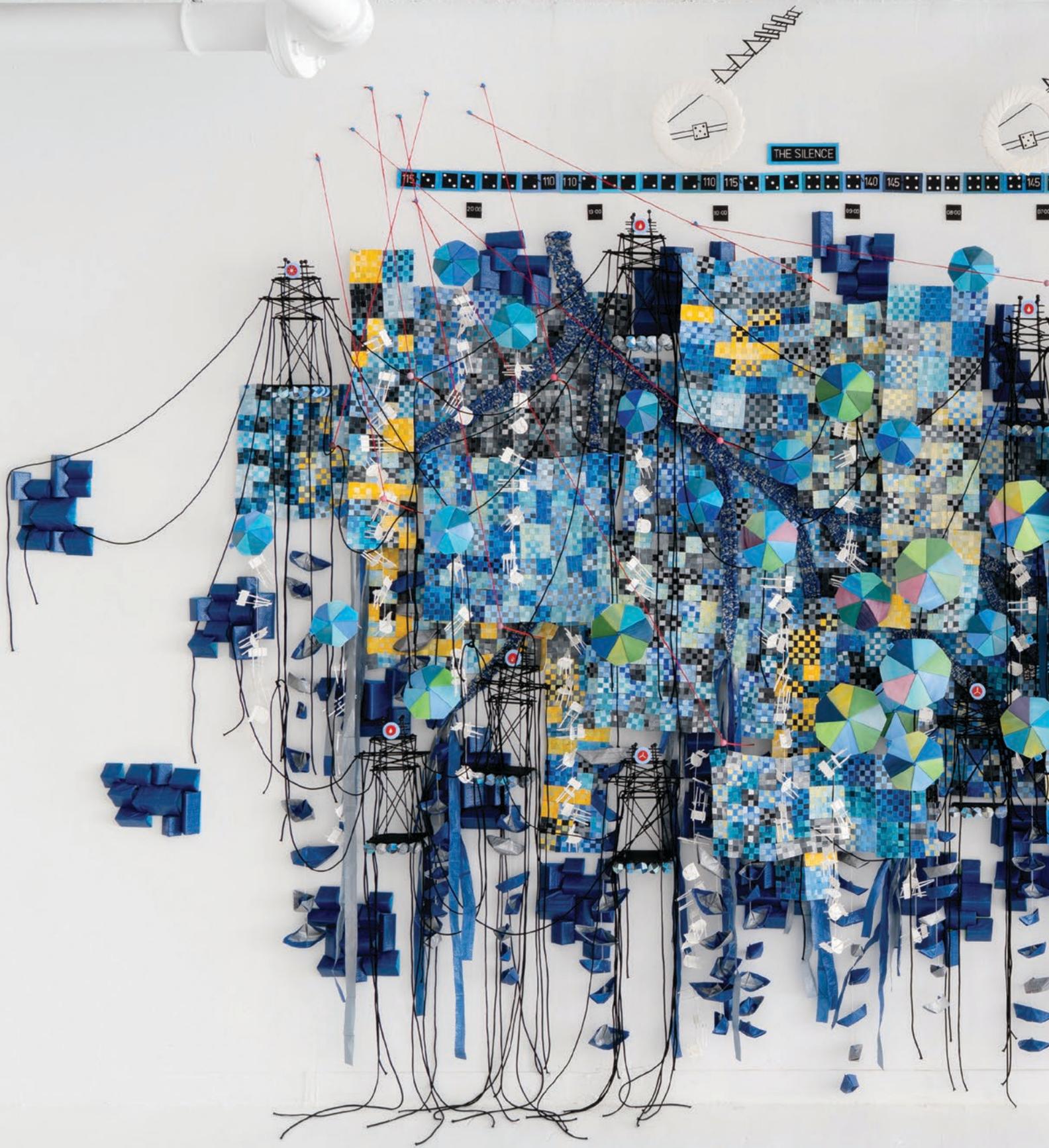


(Previous spread) NATHALIE MIEBACH, *Changing Lines*, 2023, paper, wood, data, 10 ft. x 9 ft. x 1 ft. The Gulf of Maine is one of the fastest-warming waters on the planet. This piece examines the chemical and biological changes in the gulf, with a particular focus on the Bay of Fundy.

(Above) NATHALIE MIEBACH, *Harvey Twitter SOS*, 2024, paper, wood, data, 7 ft. x 9 ft. x 1 ft. This piece translates data related to Twitter messages sent during Hurricane Harvey and the disaster that unfolded in the aftermath. It also speaks to the larger causes of persistent flooding in the city, which stems as much from problematic zoning laws as changing weather patterns.

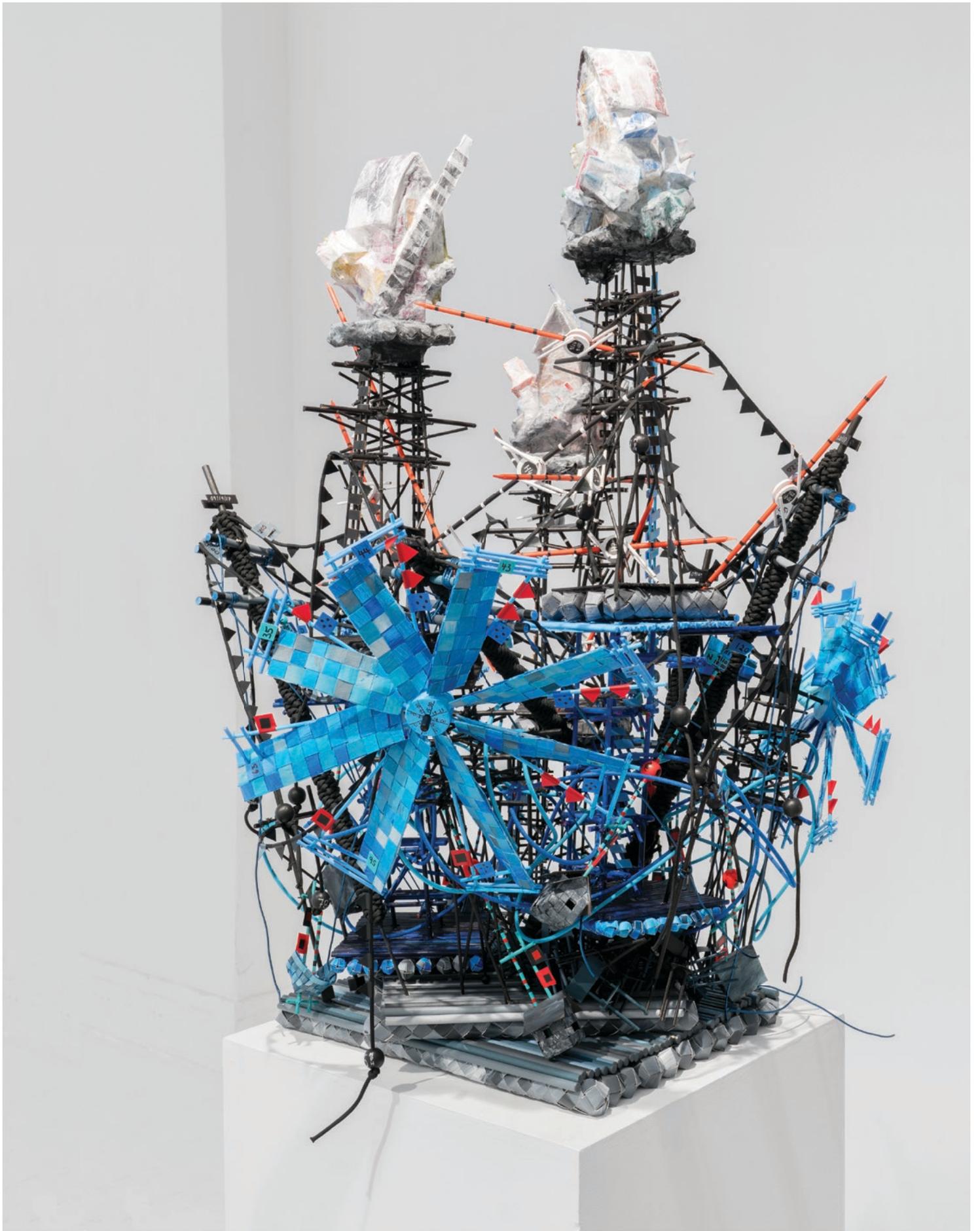
(Right) NATHALIE MIEBACH, *The Baton Rouge Flooding*, 2018, wood, rope, data, 24 in. x 23 in. x 23 in. Precipitation events can produce destructive floods. This work includes weather data from devastating rains in 2016 that caused major flooding in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Because it never developed into a hurricane, the storm didn't garner the level of media attention that Hurricane Harvey did a year later.







NATHALIE MIEBACH, *The Burden of Every Drop*, 2018, wood, paper, rope, data, 17 ft. x 10 ft. x 2 ft. This is a story about Hurricane Maria—about the fierceness of the wind and rain, about the data silence as electricity infrastructure broke down, about the vastly underestimated death toll, and about the exodus from Puerto Rico during the months following the storm. Read from right to left, the work is a map of overlapping quilts on which weather data from Hurricanes Maria and Irma are combined with anecdotal information from news reports about the aftermath of Maria.





(Left) NATHALIE MIEBACH, *A Storm Within A Storm Within A Storm Within*, 2018, wood, paper, rope, data, 38 in. x 31 in. x 31 in. Hurricane Maria was one of several storms and human-caused disasters that devastated Puerto Rico. This piece combines weather data from Hurricanes Maria and Irma, layering both atop a precarious tower of rafts. The title is a quote from an electrician doing repairs to the grid after the storm, speaking about how corruption and a lack of maintenance, as well as Hurricane Irma, all contributed to the destruction he was facing.

(Above) NATHALIE MIEBACH, *Restless Rivers*, 2024, paper, wood, data, 30 in. x 23 in. x 23 in. Recent flooding events have affected the San Diego and Los Angeles regions due to strong atmospheric rivers. This work asks how these events have changed people's understanding of home, shelter, and safety.