

Amalgamation

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Mixed Media: Ceramic, Micron pen, wire rope

It is impossible to quantify the pathways and structures it takes to make the human body function. Muscles are able to contract because of the fascicles within them, each containing several muscle fibers. Inside these fibers are filaments that use actin and myosin to contract and relax when signaled to do so by neurotransmitters. Organs are made up of groups of cells that specialized themselves based on the instructions encoded in their DNA. Their tissues are only able to stay alive because of the blood that circulates from the heart to the arteries and through the capillaries in the alveoli within the lungs. Once oxygenated, the blood then travels through the veins to carry that oxygen to yet more capillaries that reach every square inch of the entire body. These are just a few of the infinite inner workings that have been developed over the course of millions of years of evolution to create not only their physical manifestation, but also their amalgamation of sentient existence. The rules we follow, the values we hold, the civilizations we have created, and even the capacity to study science can be traced back far before our human lineage, to the organs and structures within us, the cells that make them up and the organelles that make up those cells. *Amalgamation* is my artistic representation of the many individual units that layer atop one another in an infinite sequence to create the human form and function.