## Tracy Krumm

Saint Paul, Minnesota b. 1963



## OPPOSITE

Striped: Woven (detail)
Crocheted copper, brass, and nickel, with flax paper thread and found steel;
51 × 69 × 4 inches (130 × 175 × 10 cm)

## ABOVE

Striped: Guate (detail) Crocheted copper, brass, and nickel, with flax paper thread and found steel "As a student of cloth, as an educator about cloth, as an artist with a creative practice based in cloth—this all started generations before me. Whenever we visited our elders, handwork was part of their daily routines. In order to spend time with them, we watched and learned. My great-grandmothers were quilters, their mothers were quilters; one grandmother tatted. I can still hear her tell me, 'Over and through, under and through,' as I sat on her lap. Both of my grandmothers crocheted. Great-aunties sewed and knitted, All of the women did embroidery. We learned to mend and repair. I grew up with preservation of skill and the understanding of cloth being an inherent part of life."

Tracy Krumm's first forays into knitting and crochet were at age six or seven. Born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, she grew this early love of craft to include weaving, beadwork, and sewing. She didn't know then that textiles and fiber art could be a professional pursuit. Krumm had the opportunity to study visual design and craftsmanship with Gail Tremblay at the Evergreen State College, and Tremblay encouraged Krumm's weaving skills. Via Tremblay, Krumm learned about the textile program at the California College of the Arts and moved to the Bay Area to

attend, receiving her BFA. Continuing her studies, she later earned an MFA in Visual Art from Vermont College of Fine Arts. Krumm loves science and math. Through intensive and intricate construction, her work often undertakes a computational, building-block approach where parts and pieces are planned and systematized. At other times, her practice is random and messy, where colors, patterns, and forms develop organically. She is director of artistic advancement at the Textile Center in Minneapolis and maintains her studio practice in Saint Paul.

