

Dear friend,

*This is an invitation to participate in **Taking Care**, my letter- and thread-based project of listening. I believe that letters are not only a way of exchanging thoughts but also an offer to listen, almost a contractual agreement of care – a promise that I will listen to you if you take the time, take the risk, to share your words with me.*

***Taking Care** highlights how we receive and remember acts of care, large and small. Can you remember a time when you felt genuinely cared for by another person? I invite you to write me a letter, recounting in as much detail as you wish how you experienced this gesture of care. I will embroider your words as part of my listening, selecting particular phrases that evoke the giving and receiving of care, for this public installation. I feel it important to make these words visible in a concrete way – for we all know how often such caring labors remain unseen and undervalued.*

As I receive your stories of care from the past, I will also offer you, in exchange, some words of care for the future (so please include your mailing address if you wish to receive these by post).

Thank you for your time in listening to me and caring for my words. I hope to reciprocate the labors.

Take care,

Rachel