

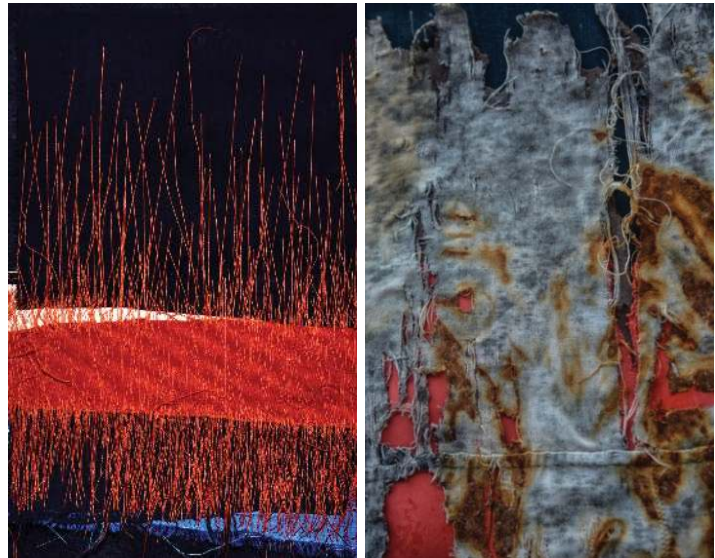
# Maria Grazia Tata



From Left to Right:

*Cartoline Italiane: Rosso sul mare, Donna cratere, Vento, Vulcano, Mare tempestoso / Italian Postcards: Red on the Sea, Crater Woman, Wind, Volcano, Stormy Sea, 2016*  
embroidery and mixed technique on fabric, unique work  
Courtesy of the artist, and co-curator John David O'Brien.

*Cronos - Betulla / Cronos - Birch, 2019*  
mixed technique with fabric and paper  
Courtesy of the artist, and co-curator John David O'Brien.



## Artist's Statement of Work:

Maria Grazia Tata is an artist who exalts the peculiarities of the various strictly natural materials that she often uses, enhancing the transformations they undergo over time and in the various atmospheric situations. Her themes are dominated by nature and the condition of women in relation to their deep connection with Mother Earth. From this point of view, we also place her embroidery interventions that also contextualize themselves, if not exclusively, as Fiber Art.

The mixed techniques with embroidery on fabric, in a sequence to constitute a bookscroll, and refer to Italian Postcards, more specifically to the postcards of the Aeolian archipelago in which the islands of Stromboli and Vulcano stand out. These are volcanic islands with an active presence of telluric phenomena, a highly suggestive environment that fascinates and frightens but that art, while emphasizing its strength, softens and, through the use of embroidery, makes domestic as well.

## Biography:

Maria Grazia Tata worked for years as an architect in her studio, in Rome. Later, she opened an experimental *atelier* for textile production in a loft of the historical San Lorenzo area of Rome, where she created unique artifacts ranging from apparel, to tapestry, to theatre costume (for the India Theatre, in Rome), simultaneously holding various on-site events. In 2009, she moved from Rome to Soriano del Cimino (Viterbo), where she lived and worked in a refurbished hay-loft, while focusing on her artistic research. In the country, she tuned into natural elements, utilizing even the poorest and apparently most insignificant. Wood, branches, bark, leaves, seeds, stones, mixed with discarded planks, iron, fabrics, paper, yarn and "stumbled upon" materials, generated hybrids referring to the world of nature with its archetypes, symbols, and myths, also drawing inspiration from poetry, literature, and everyday life. As the poet Franco Arminio wrote: in Tuscia, "Maria Grazia Tata sews the sky with the earth." She has taken part in personal and group exhibitions, created installations in galleries, historical palaces and museums on the occasion of cultural events, in Italy and abroad.

