

Yiyang Sun

The Elephant Treatment Bed, 2025

This work is an Elephant Treatment Bed designed for the project *"Puppet and Puppetreat"*. On this bed, Sun adopts the fable of *The blind people and the elephant* as the structural framework for her first puppet-based practice, investigating how puppets and personal puppet images participate in shaping the visual and psychological representations of one's own body. Through this process, she introduces the question of the "imagined body."

Since 2025, Sun has been trained in the Talmi working method®. Drawing on five years of experience in animation and puppet-making, she has gradually shifted toward a renewed inquiry into puppet ontology: How can bodywork oriented toward consciousness be carried out through play? What form might an embodied, **living sculpture** take?

For Sun, the body she shapes with her hands departs immediately after each therapeutic session. As a form of immaterial sculpture, the body exists in a continual state of emergence and dissolution. What, then, is the final condition left behind by such an **immaterial sculpture**?

Guided by this reflection on the "Immaterial Image", Sun sewed this "elephant skin" and conceived the treatment bed as a site where the human being's body functions as a living sculpture. Through the fabric as a mediating surface, viewers can sense the traces left by touch and, in the act of looking, imagine the presence of an elephant.



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Wood, leather, sewing thread, foam rollers, gray velvet fabric, a foldable therapy table

185cm x 60cm x 65cm

*“Once upon a time
There was a king.
She had an elephant.
But the king did not believe that it was an elephant,
So she found five blind people*

*The first blind person touched the elephant’s ears.
The second blind person touched the elephant’s
trunk.*

*The third blind person touched the elephant’s eyes.
The fourth blind person touched the elephant’s feet.
The fifth blind person touched the elephant’s tail.*

*After each of the them had touched the elephant.
Together, They told the king
The truth of the world.”*



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