

Caterina Frongia was born in Oristano, Sardinia and at the age of eighteen moved to Bologna to study at DAMS, graduating in psychology of language with a thesis on cinema and psychoanalysis. For several years she worked as an assistant fashion designer at the studio of Massimo Osti, founder of Stone Island and C.P. Company. In 2020, she started working as a designer of tapestries and carpets, recovering a small family textile factory and creating her first 'biographical' works based on the lives of the clients themselves. In 2021 she won the edition of Edit Napoli in the Seminar section. In 2022, she was invited to participate in the group exhibition *Designers Atto I* in the Regional Museum of Textile Art in Samugheo, Sardinia. In 2023 she exhibits at Padiglione Tavolara in Sassari: *Faccio con la mente, penso con le mani*. She lives and works in Bologna.

	Working activity
2021	Owner of Caterina Frongia , a textile brand that produces handmade rugs and tapestries in Sardinia, Italy.
2009–2012	Fashion stylist assistant at Phosforica studio.
2004–2008	Fashion stylist assistant at Massimo Osti Studio.
	Gallery
2021	Chiarastella Cattana (Venice)
	Exhibitions
2023	Dutch Design Week (Eindhoven) — Nothing Happens if Nothing Happens, curated by Isola.
2023	Artemest Gallery (New York) — West Chelsea, curated by Dimorestudio.
2022–2023	Padiglione Tavolara (Sassari) — Faccio con la mente, penso con le mani.
2022	Murats (Samugheo, Sardinia) — Designers Atto I.
2022	Edit Napoli curated by Domitilla Dardi and Emilia Petruccelli. A personal Journey, modular tapestry.
2022	Milano Design Week (Milan) - Brera Design District, Chioistro di San Simpliciano, curated by Edit Napoli.
2021	Edit Napoli curated by Domitilla Dardi and Emilia Petruccelli. Gimme Shelter, tapestry among the winners of Premio Miglior Inedito at Seminario.
	Magazine
2022–2023	Elledecor, Archiproducts, Interni Magazine, Cielo e Terra Design, Cover, Donna Moderna.
	Education
1996	Graduation in DAMS Discipline delle Arti, della Musica e dello Spettacolo at Università di Bologna.

Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
A Personal Journey

Role:
Artist

Year:
2022

Client:
Edit Napoli

All my pieces are handmade in Sardinia using an ancient native weaving technique. With this modular rug each element can be distributed in as many different ways as desired. The single modules are equipped with brass snaps and are attached to each other by leather joints. Like all my works, this rug tells a story but reversing the order of adds the result changes so much!

Materials
Dimensions

80% Wool, 20% Cotton
L 210 × H 280 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaira



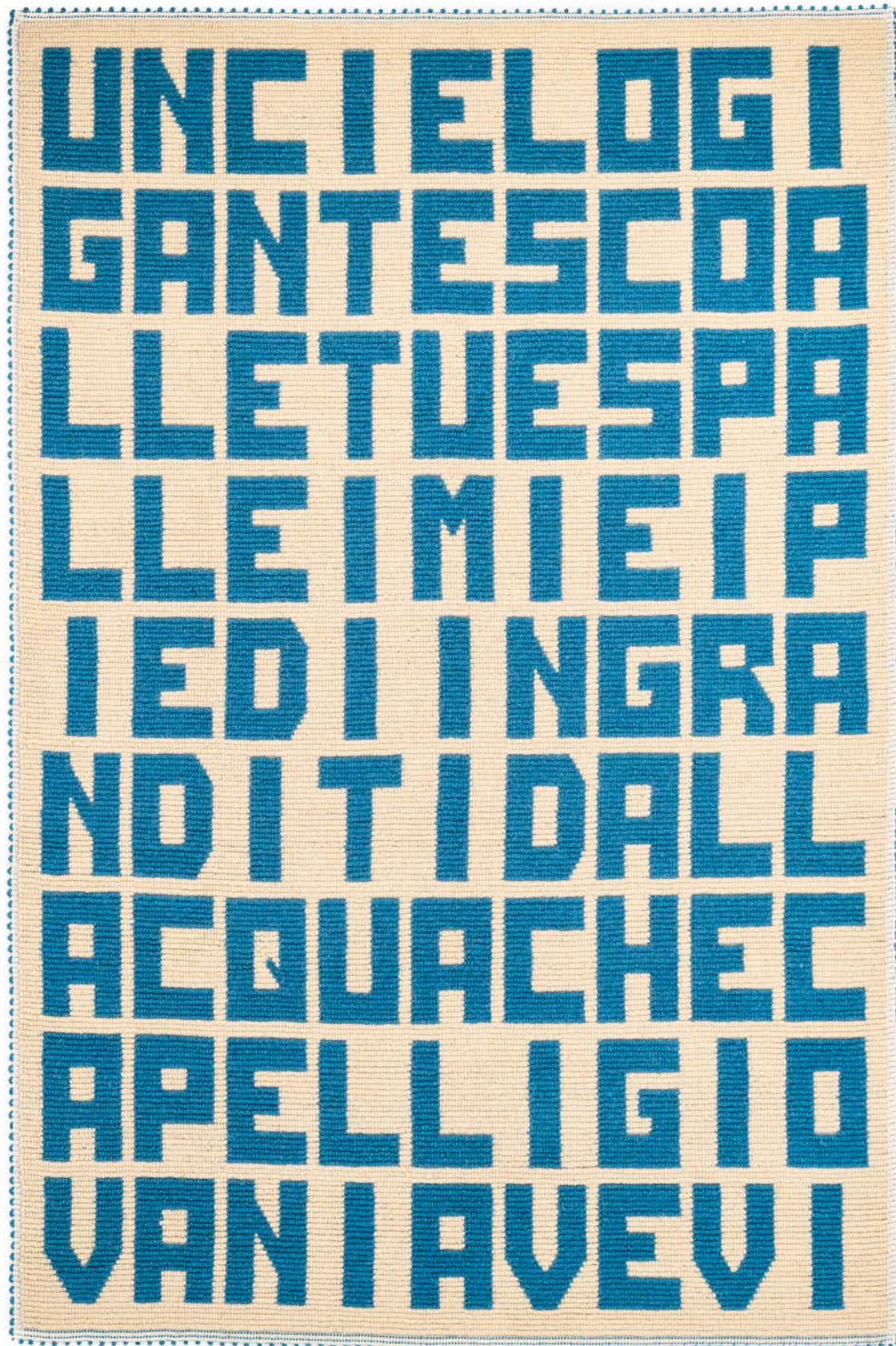
Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Lens

Role:
Artist

Year:
2022

Client:
Milan Design Week



“Un Cielo gigantesco alle tue spalle,
i miei piedi ingranditi dall’acqua,
che capelli giovani avevi.”

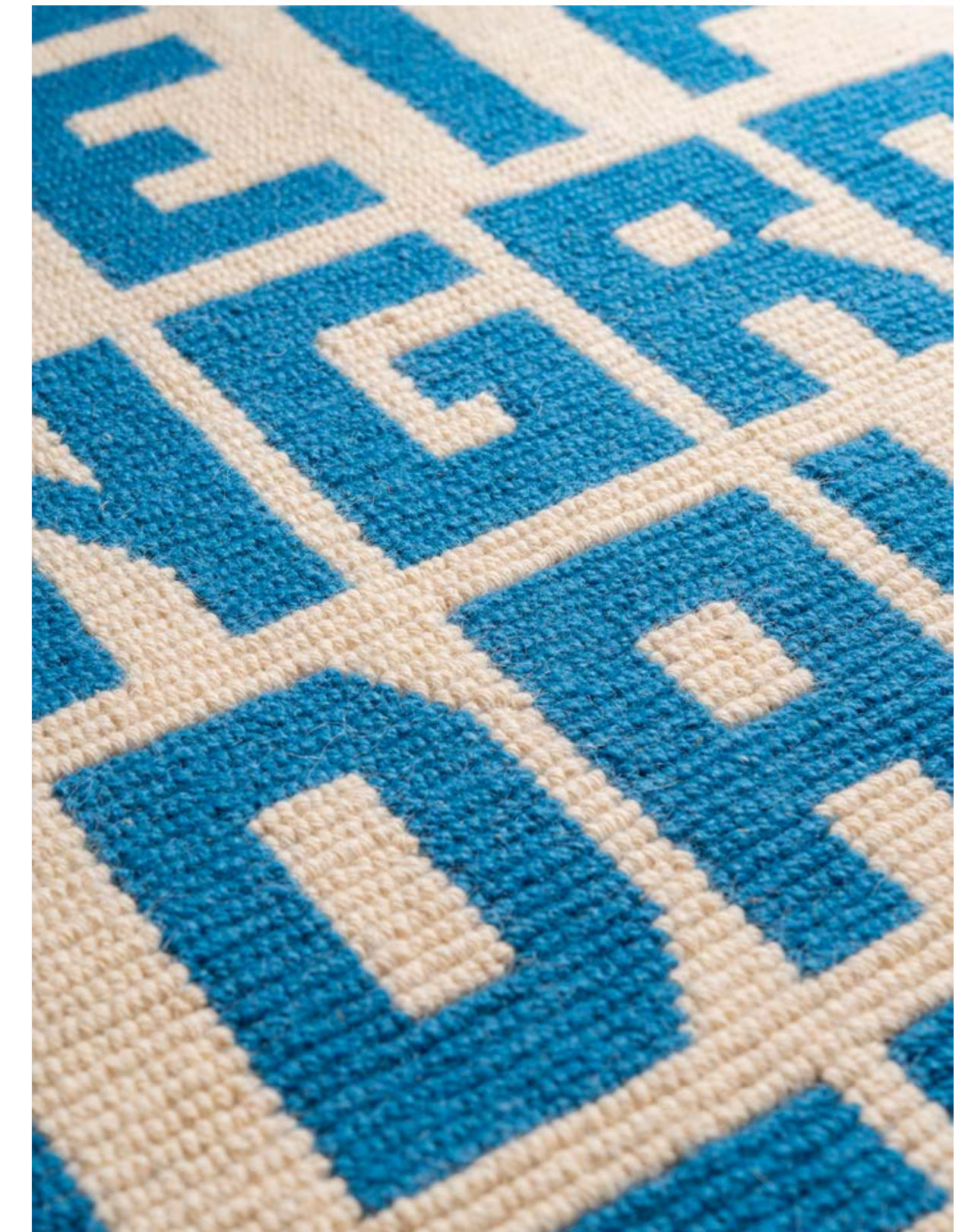
“A gigantic sky behind you,
my feet enlarged by water,
what young hair you had.”

This is the true description of a photograph taken on the rocks many years ago.

Materials
Dimensions

80% Wool, 20% Cotton
L 150 × H 200 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaita



Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Mani Vuote

Role:
Artist

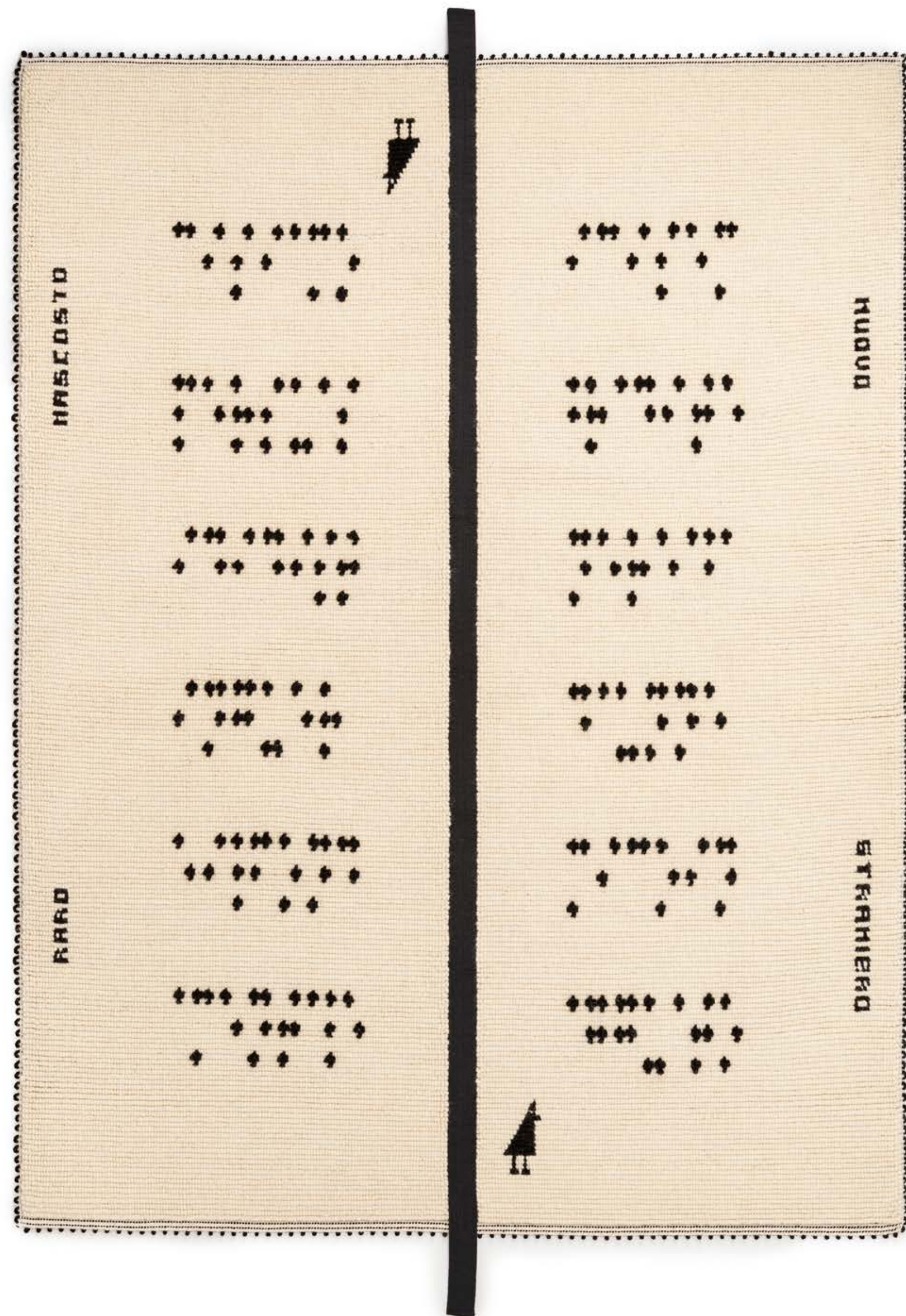
Year:
2022

Client:
Murats

The idea for this tapestry was born during the pandemic. It refers to the necessity of fighting barehanded and with dignity like in karate (with empty hands), while starting over again by getting rid of the superfluous. All the texts are written in Braille.

Materials 80% Wool, 20% Cotton
Dimensions L 150 × H 200 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaia



Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Gimme Shelter

Role:
Artist

Year:
2021

Client:
Edit Napoli

Tapestry awarded at Edit Napoli 2021. Each rug or tapestry is written, explicitly or cryptically on the history of the client. The observer is initially drawn towards all he can read, but the mind likes the invented, unreadable writings, and all of my rugs hide secrets. The yellow Braille characters conceal the meaning of the textile work.

Materials
Dimensions

80% Wool, 20% Cotton
L 132 × H 177 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaia



Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Tingri

Role:
Artist

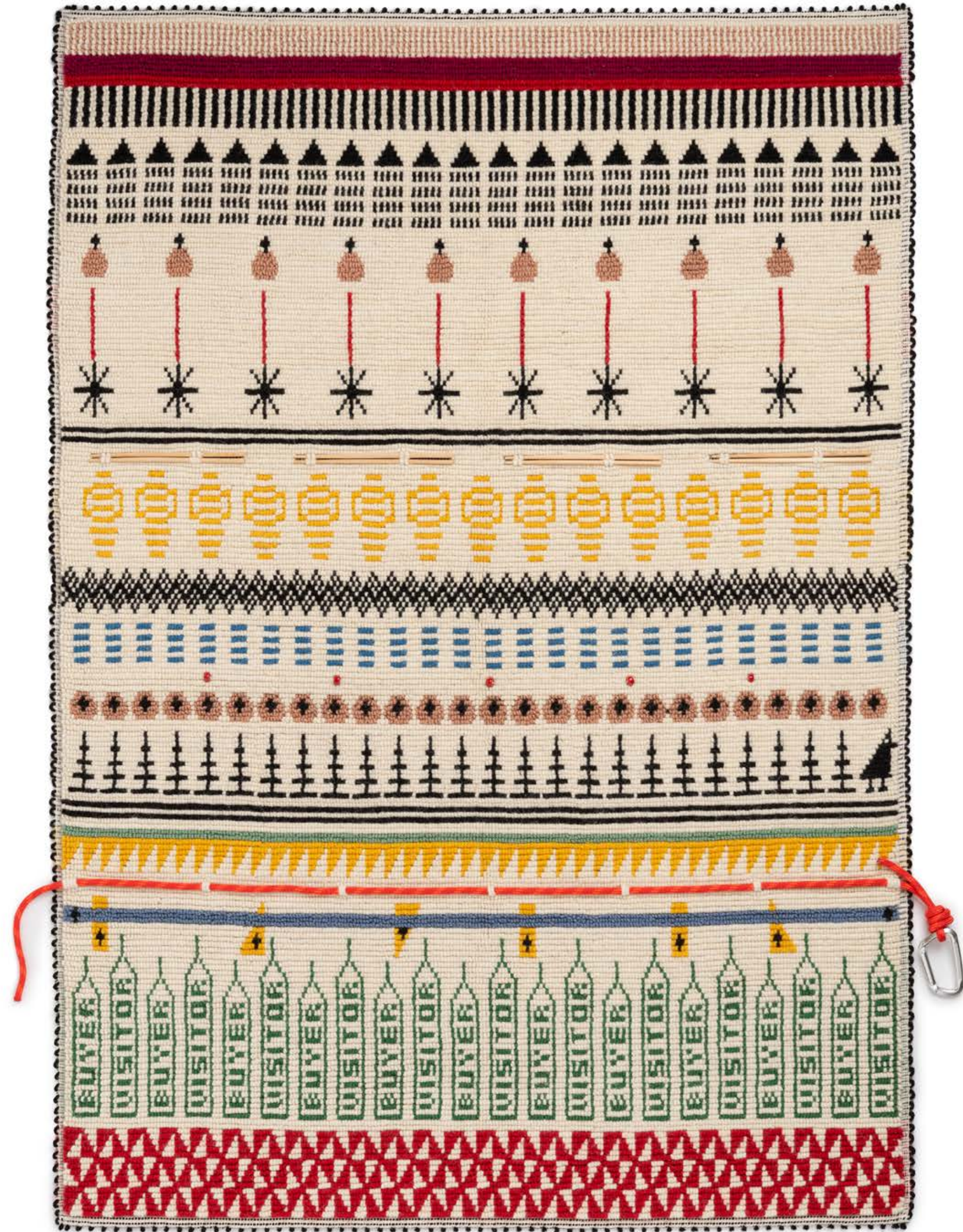
Year:
2021

Client:
Edit Napoli

Tingri is the name of a village in southern Tibet, the starting point for all climbers heading to Everest. The tapestry is woven together with some material elements (chopsticks, bamboo coral and rope) of one of the most spiritual countries of the world.

Materials 80% Wool, 20% Cotton
Dimensions L 132 × H 188 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaia



Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Leggere in fondo
all'anima

Role:
Artist

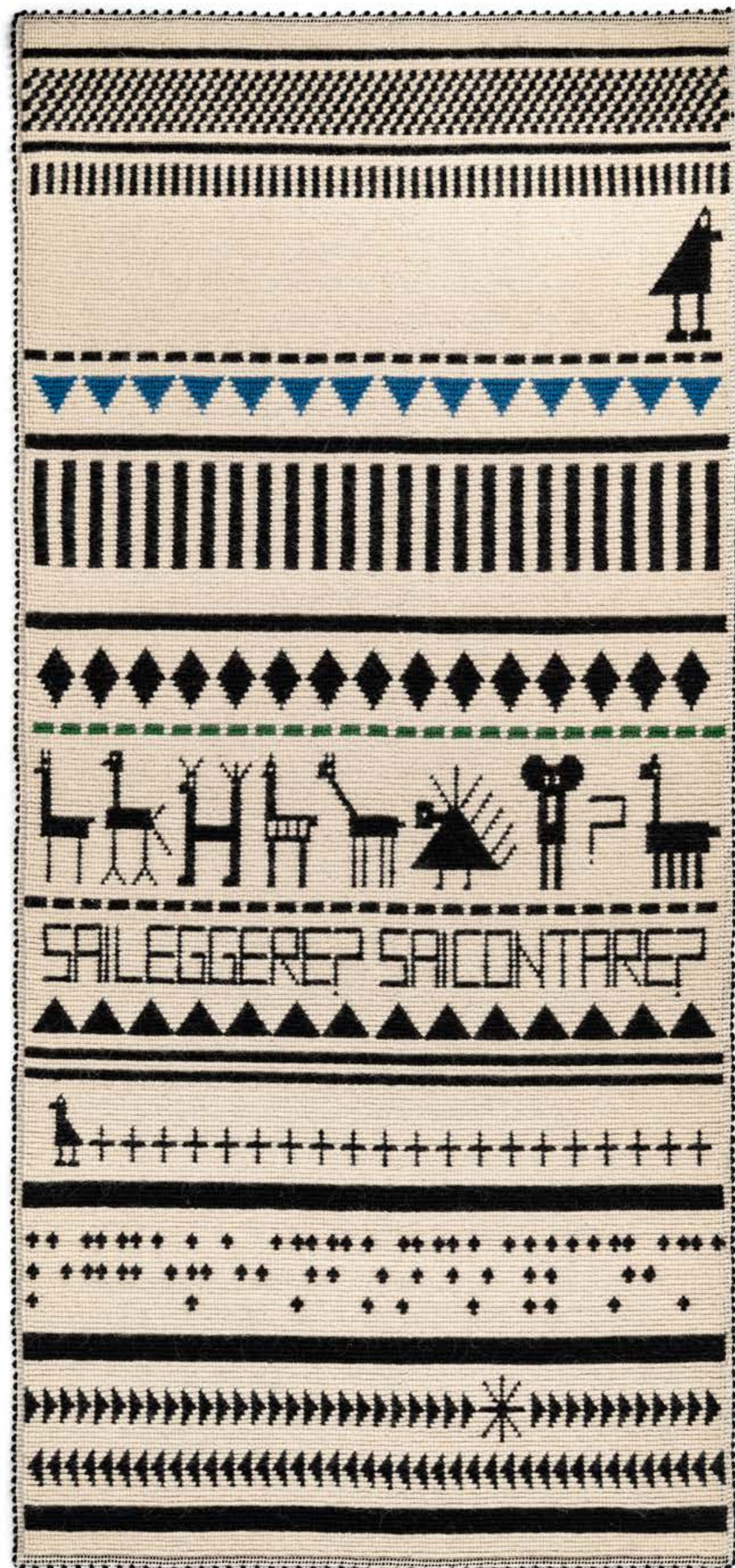
Year:
2020

Client:
Murats

The recurring shapes and colours become an integral part of a timeless language. The geometric symbols, which can be found in the most ancient weaving techniques, have been redesigned to emphasise the rug's timeless character. I like to write stories through these symbols, choosing my alphabet from time to time: Braille characters often conceal the meaning or the name of the textile artwork.

Materials 80% Wool, 20% Cotton
Dimensions L 100 × H 217 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaita



Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Ma Davvero?

Role:
Artist

Year:
2020

Client:
Private Client

“Ma davvero le pensavi tutte quelle cose?
Quel giorno, solo un giorno, quella bella luce negli occhi.”

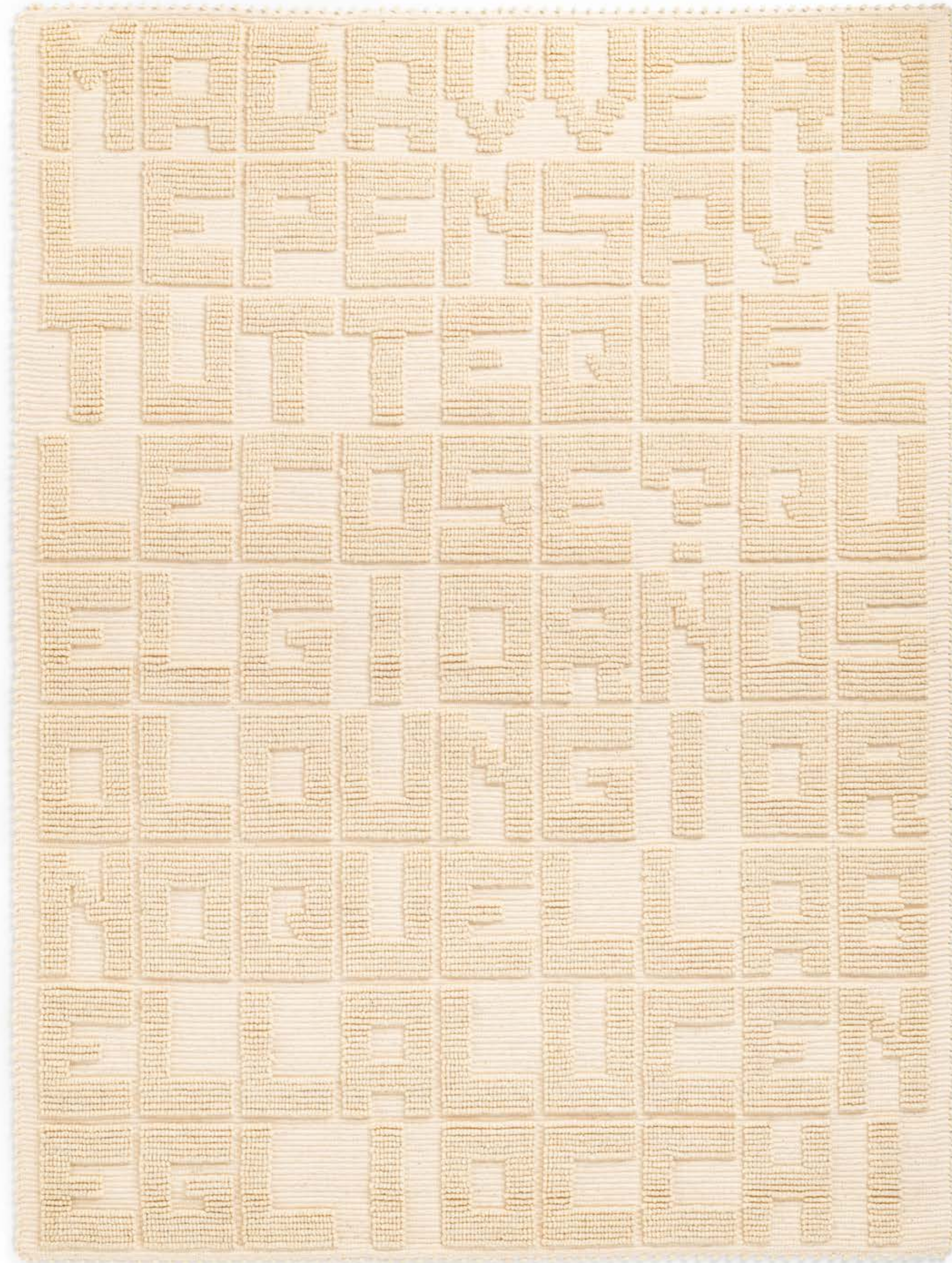
“But did you really think all those things?
That day, just one day, that beautiful light in your eyes.”

Writing and narrative have always fascinated me and are the body and soul of my work. I couldn't create anything without a story to tell. Each rug is written, sometimes explicitly and sometimes cryptically. The observer is initially attracted by what he can read, but the mind likes illegible writing, and all my carpets hide secrets.

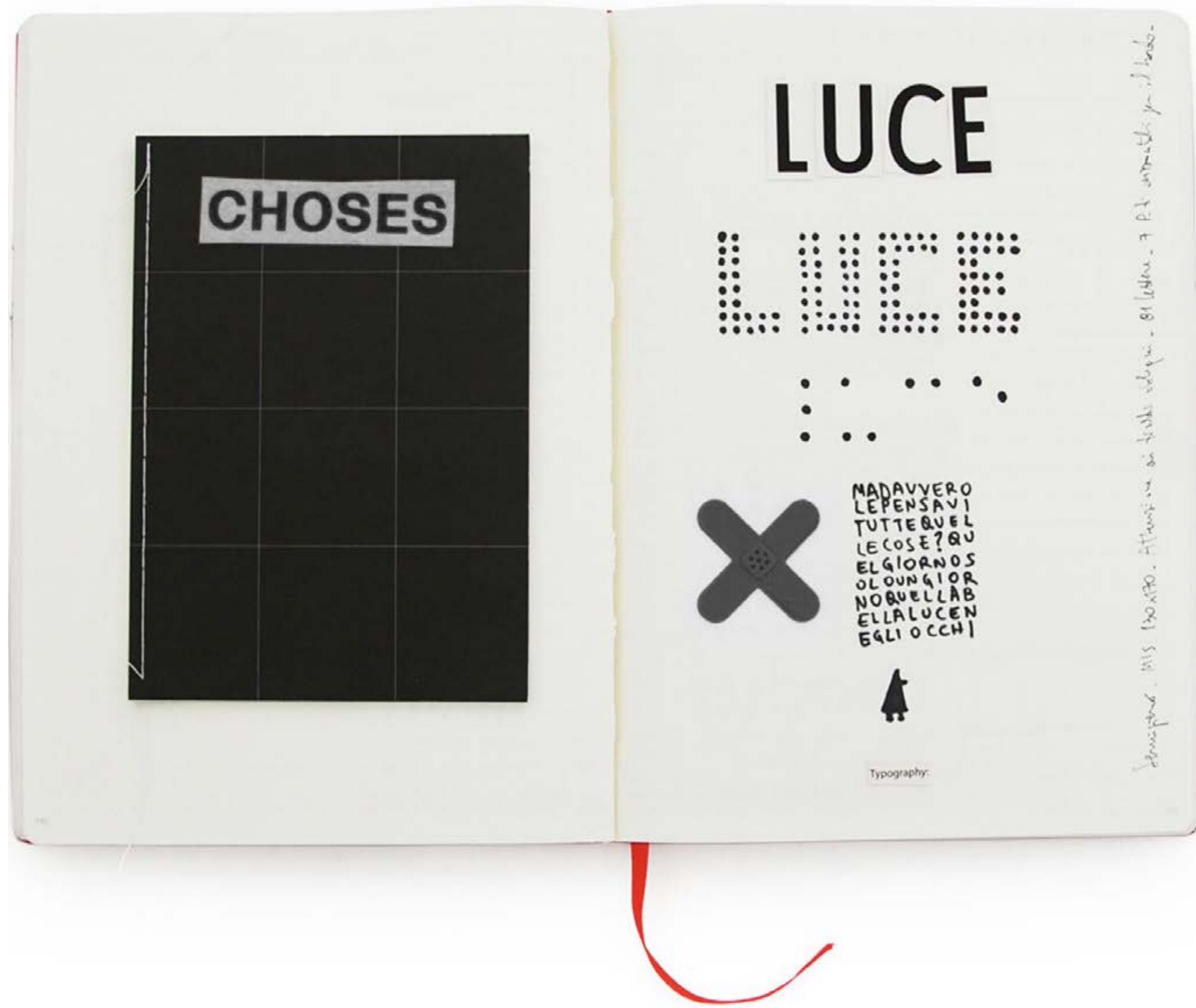
Materials
Dimensions

80% Wool, 20% Cotton
L 128 × H 177 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaita



As often happens, each rug begins in a notebook and the whole project is a six-handed work: the client telling his story, me translating into my invented alphabet, the weaver executing in a masterly manner.



Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Object Things

Role:
Artist

Year:
2021

Client:
Private Client

The name of this rug was inspired by Hella Jongerius and Louise Schouwenberg Manifesto's "Beyond the new", in which they talk about making a useful design and not design for it's own sake: you have to make top quality design accessible to everyone, using both ancient and developed methods of production. Things vs objects: Jongerius and Schouwenberg raise questions on the gap between how we experience design in daily life and how we read the meaning and value of those same objects in the context of a museum display.

Materials 80% Wool, 20% Cotton
Dimensions L 126 × H 177 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaia



Drawing by Nathalie du Pasquier

Caterina Frongia
Artist

Project:
Archetipi

Role:
Artist

Year:
2023

Client:
Chiarastella Cattana

Jung believed that the collective unconscious is expressed through twelve ways of being. Archetypes are signs, symbols, or patterns of thinking and/or behaving that are inherited from our ancestors.

1. Ruler
2. Creator
3. Sage
4. Innocent
5. Explorer
6. Rebel
7. Hero
8. Wizard
9. Jester
10. Everyman
11. Lover
12. Caregiver

Materials
Dimensions

80% Wool, 20% Cotton
L 200 × H 330 cm

Photo credit: © Francesco Corlaia

