

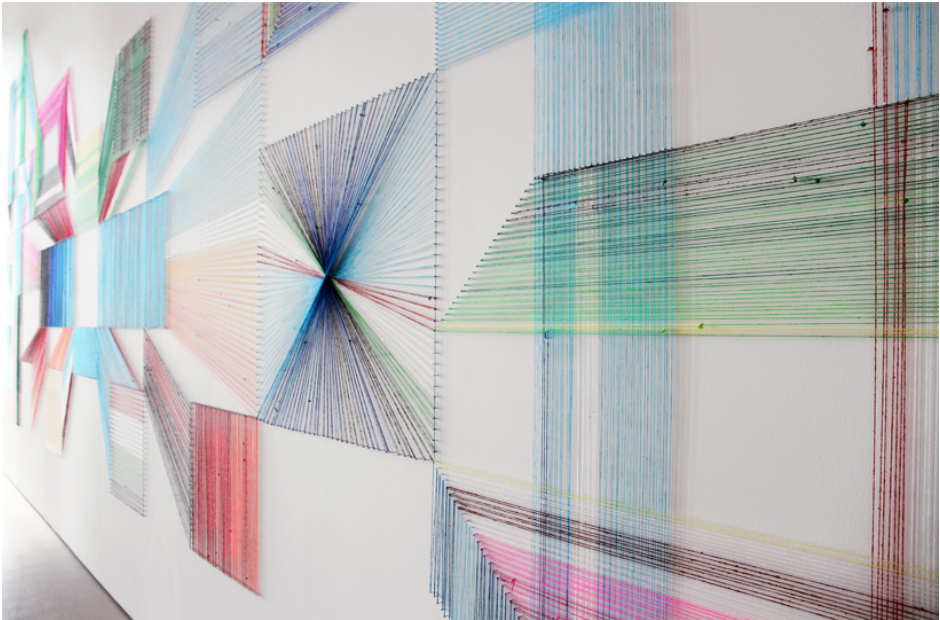
Adrian Esparza weaves and nails serape threads to the wall

By Nina Azzarello



Adrian Esparza, *Wake and Wonder*, 2013, serape and nails, image © designboom

With his new work commissioned by the Pérez Art Museum in Miami, Texas-based artist Adrian Esparza addresses his experience as a Mexican-American raised on the border of the neighboring lands. His exhibited piece 'wake and wonder' is formed from a serape blanket — a traditional craft object from Mexico — pulled apart at its threads and rewoven around nails hammered into the walls of the gallery it occupies. The engaging linear structure creates multi-dimensional, vibrantly colored layers within the space. Esparza considers this installation as an evolving self-portrait; the long shawls represent a tradition, and a cultural identity, which has been displaced or lost from its site of origin. At the same time, the geometric patterning and materials of the mounted wall-piece recall macramé and other handcrafts from the artist's childhood. The artwork is part of the exhibition 'Americana: Formalizing Craft' from now until May 2015.



Detail of the work strung along the walls of the Pérez Art Museum, image © designboom



Visitors interact with the encompassing artwork within the space, image © designboom