

## Artist Statement

### **"Security Blanket"**

**S. L. Shaw**

Wrapped in secure blanket womb, the mother pushes her baby towards a hopeful future.

2009 Woven photo tapestry (cotton thread) with baby carriage

"Security Blanket" addresses child rearing as a universal experience, woven through an equation of parenting since the events of September 11, global instability has mandated a neo-maternalism that is threaded through generations by an undercurrent of anxiety.

The draped mother is a surrogate for the universal job description that is also our name, "Mom". Her presence woven in this blanket represents a familiar security, and shows the hours upon hours of feminine labor. Today a mother lives in two generations, one a new world of technology with the cell phone that connects her to the world. The second generation is the past, which muffles her speech by the barriers of gender. She cannot be heard yet it is her job to raise the next generation though this silence to have a voice to speak out for peace.