



T E N T A C U L E

Velcro, motors, speakers, vinyl tubing, mechanical elements, wood, metal, electronics

Tentacle is a site-specific sound sculpture that examines the sonic materiality of Velcro as it is situated within the ASMR (autonomous sensory meridian response) and BDSM (bondage, dominance, slave, master) communities. This machine houses 10 speakers that are mechanically driven by Velcro extrications that occur on top of the speakers' paper cones. The kinetic dynamics of the velcro becoming hooked and unfastened is transmitted through large plastic tubes that resonate and transfer the acoustic energy into different parts of the space.

This "BDSMR" object complicates our awareness of sound and sensuality by casting materiality as an erotic fetish, one that derives from our darker, more lurid impulses where the imposing cephalopodic presence of the black machine suggests a cyborgian instrument somewhere in between an organ, a music box, and a Luigi Russolo noise machine.

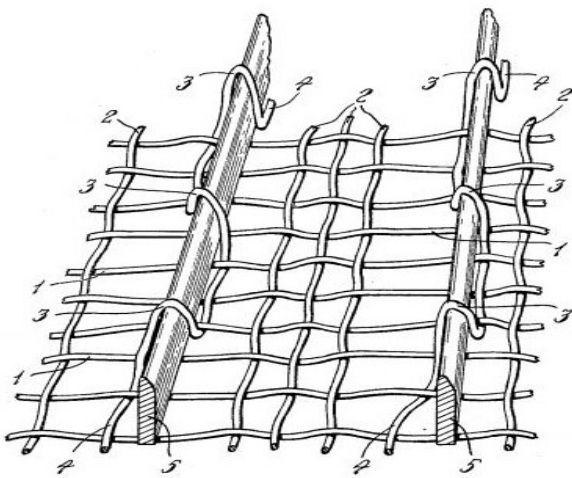
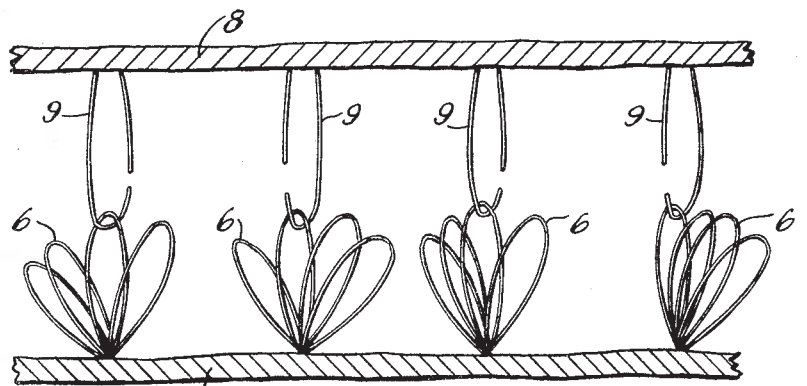


Fig. 1



concept draft: *velcro organ* prototype (2018)
nolan lem

