



*Chewed-Up Symbol*, 150 (diameter) x 49 cm (wide), 2005 (engraved tractor tire incrustated with pieces of flavored chewing gum). Artist's collection.



*Bread Is Destiny*, 65 x 15 cm, 1998 (car tire rim, wire mesh and bread). Edgardo Granado Collection.



*Tutti Frutti*, 60 x 15 cm, 2006 (gum). Artist's collection.



*For Sacred Paths II*, 62 x 15 cm, 2008 (rim, wire frame and feathers). Artist's collection.

## Hanging from a Thread

By Betsabeé Romero

Fragile skins of memory,  
tattooed and scarred,  
epithelia codified by the oldest rites,  
by the most atavistic symbols,  
stars, polygons, crosses and pointed  
arches of Gothic vaults,  
of Islamic arcades unfolded  
geometries dismembered stones  
multiplied, polyphonic  
pre-Hispanic idols  
with a polyhydic, baroque center.

Signs that, far from being  
forgotten, hurt us and shove  
us out into the cold,  
papers, fragile skins  
hanging by a thread.

Containers of long, hard stories.  
Like their cuts and their shadows.  
Drawings in the foreground  
shadows in the background.

Lattice of crossed slats of cultures,  
techniques and fragilities.

Meeting of such distant  
iconographies  
proving that in culture, dialogue is  
always possible,  
while in politics and the economy,  
what's worthwhile is dispute:  
the deformed gaze.