

Unbound

Every culture has certain borders and limitations for what is considered acceptable behavior. We as inhabitants try to follow these rules in order to belong to the larger group because it benefits our living, or because we want to avoid sanctions. Despite of this, in the Western world, we like to think of ourselves as autonomous individuals acting with a free will. I ask myself, is it really possible to act freely, and if so, would we like to?

It seems to me that although those who act or live unrestrained by society's norms are few, they are indeed powerful - both in so-called free or restrained societies. The reason for the limited numbers might be that it does demand great courage and vision to transgress the accepted rules of a society. However, those individuals who courageously and disobediently act against the rules, have, today as in the past, a great impact on development and change in their society.

Inspired from these thoughts and observations, I've made a necklace that I call *Unbound*. It consists of many different sized iron chains inter-connected with a key.

I am interested in the processes in which being tied up can actually provoke pleasant, soothing or even sexual feelings. A crying baby for example, is comforted through swaddling, that is being wrapped into a stiff bundle. The weight of the chains burdens the wearer, but after a while, the tied up, imprisoned feeling becomes pleasant. When wearing *Unbound*, the wearer can, accordingly to his or her own choice, at any time, release him or herself by rotating the key. It is my aim that both the wearing and the release of the necklace will feel comfortable.