

Anna Ray
Loom
Facebook AIR Program
Facebook London Offices
2020



In March 2020 I completed a striking new commission 'Loom' for Facebook London Offices, part of the Facebook AIR Program of International Artists residencies. Siting work in central London has particular meaning and significance for me, as my family on both my mother and father's side are Londoners, and many of them were in creative occupations. On my father's side there is French Huguenot ancestry - some were silk weavers, fancy trimmings manufacturers, stationers, leather workers and cabinet makers, living and working in Spitalfields. The silk weaver Pierre Hoinville emigrated to the UK in 1740 from St. Pierre Le Vigier, near Dieppe. Working silk weavers proudly hung spindles outside their houses in order to identify themselves to passers by. The first to be named refugees, the Huguenots supported themselves by working for the Master Weavers and by selling handmade embellishments for clothing on the side - rosettes, birds and butterflies.



