Elena Patiño is a multinational artist living and working in Hélécine, Belgium. Born in Peru, Patiño has also lived in Latin America, the United States, Spain, and Italy. Informed by her own story of migration, the artist’s labor intensive practice has long centered around tracking a single unit’s movement. As singular units move among a larger group meticulous and multifarious surface interventions occur. These clusters of migrating units suggest the tracking of natural patterns like wind, weather, or the microbiology of the body.

Deeply invested in the materiality of her work, Patiño painstakingly produces handmade materials for some works, carefully selects mass produced materials for another, and in her most recent body of work (an ongoing investigation), utilizes human hair as a medium. Patiño’s work connects the political with the personal through the viscerality of her work and its broader societal significance.

Patiño holds a bachelor's degree in Studio Art from American University, and a Master of Fine Art From Maryland Institute College of Art. Her work has been exhibited internationally in group and solo presentations including Root Division, San Francisco, Delaware Art Museum, the Katzen Arts Center at American University, and the AMA Museum in Washington, DC.