## ASK ME A QUESTION THAT HAS NO ANSWER

This work places echoes of the past in dialogue with the unknown future. The old Singer sewing machine references my grandmother, a Lebanese seamstress who worked in a sweatshop in New York. My feet on the treadle function as a sort of visual metronome. The rhythmic sounds are overlaid with recorded voices of people posing unanswerable questions. The sewing machine has taken on new relevance in our present domestic confinement, as have the suddenly more precarious lives of our elders.

Words by Annabel Daou

ask me a question that has no answer that's impossible

## what?

why? um I don't know I think you can answer everything in some way ask you a question that has no answer? now you're playing with me you're going to have me thinking about this all night why did the wheels fall off? why is everything so terrible right now? I can't think of anything you're looking at me like there should be an answer and ask me a question that has no answer maybe there is but I don't know it what does unconditional mean? when will I die? ask me a question that has no answer where is my father? ask me a question that has no answer how did it come to this? you gotta give me a second that's a hard one how can I escape death? ask me a question that has no answer ummmm ask me a question that has no answer do an open ended question that you know can is forever you can't answer it cause nobody fucking knows what happens after death is a good one yeah basic what the fuck am I going to say? what's a question you think about a lot? come on why does my back hurt? can't fix it I swear to god why can't I get my shit together? why am I a fucking idiot? that's a good question that's a good fucking question give me a little bit of time don't put me on the spot that has no answer? yeah what's the meaning of life? what is love? why can't I find it? what is the objective truth of life? sure what is the end of time? veah there would be an answer my mind is blank I can't do that

